210:35-9-31. Program of studies and graduation requirements

Every student at every high school shall have the opportunity to acquire all the competencies to matriculate at a comprehensive graduate institution of the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education without the necessity of enrolling at the university in secondary-level courses. Each student will have the opportunity to attain proficiency in the Priority Academic Student Skills.

(1) Effective with the school year 2000-2001 through 2001-2002 a high school student must demonstrate competency in at least 21 units of credit or sets of competencies in Grades 9-12 which must include the state-mandated curriculum (Priority Academic Student Skills) and meet all other state and local mandates to be eligible for graduation.

(A) Language Arts: 4 units or sets of competencies
(B) Science: 2 units or sets of competencies
(C) Mathematics: 3 units or sets of competencies
(D) Social Studies: 2 units or sets of competencies (must include American History and Oklahoma History)
(E) The Arts: 2 units or sets of competencies (Visual Art and General Music)
(F) Total minimum Core Curriculum: 13 units or sets of competencies
(G) Total minimum Elective courses: 8 units or sets of competencies
(H) Total minimum graduation requirements: 21 units or sets of competencies

(2) Beginning with students graduating from high school in the school year 2002-2003, graduation requirements specified in subsection (1) of this section are superseded by requirements specified in this subsection. Units of credit required for high school graduation with a Standard Diploma (effective 2002-2003 and thereafter) are:

(A) Language Arts: 4 units or sets of competencies, to consist of 1 unit or set of competencies of grammar and composition, and 3 units or sets of competencies which may include, but are not limited to, the following courses: American Literature, English Literature, World Literature, Advanced English Courses, or other English courses with content and/or rigor equal to or above grammar and composition;
(B) Mathematics: 3 units or sets of competencies, to consist of 1 unit or set of competencies of Algebra I or Algebra I taught in a contextual methodology, and 2 units or sets of competencies which may include, but are not limited to, the following courses: Algebra II, Geometry or Geometry taught in a contextual methodology, Trigonometry, Math Analysis or Precalculus, Calculus, Statistics and/or Probability, Computer Science, or other mathematics courses with content and/or rigor equal to or above Algebra I. Provided credit may be granted for Applied Mathematics I and II and Computer Science whether taught at the comprehensive high school or at a career and technology center;
(C) Science: 3 units or sets of competencies, to consist of 1 unit or set of competencies of Biology I or Biology I taught in a contextual methodology, and 2 units or sets of competencies in the areas of life, physical, or earth science or technology which may include, but are not limited to, the following courses: Chemistry I, Physics, Biology II, Chemistry II, Physical Science, Earth Science, Botany, Zoology, Physiology, Astronomy, Applied Physics, Principles of Technology, qualified agricultural education courses, or other science courses with content and/or rigor equal to or above Biology I. Provided, credit may be granted for Applied Biology/Chemistry, Physics, and Principles of Technology whether taught at the comprehensive high school or at a career and technology center;
(D) Social Studies: 3 units or sets of competencies, to consist of 1 unit or set of competencies of United States History, 1/2 to 1 unit or set of competencies of United States Government, 1/2
unit or set of competencies of Oklahoma History, and 1/2 to 1 unit or set of competencies which may include, but are not limited to, the following courses: World History, Geography, Economics, Anthropology, or other social studies courses with content and/or rigor equal to or above United States History, United States Government, and Oklahoma History; and 

(E) Arts: 2 units or sets of competencies which may include, but are not limited to, courses in Visual Arts and General Music.

(F) Personal Financial Literacy Passport.

(i) Effective with the 2008-2009 school year and beginning with the seventh grade, students shall fulfill the requirements for a Personal Financial Literacy Passport in order to graduate from a public high school accredited by the State Board of Education with a standard diploma. The requirements for a Personal Financial Literacy Passport shall be the satisfactory completion and demonstration of satisfactory knowledge in all 14 areas of instruction during grades seven through twelve. The fourteen (14) areas of instruction are:

   (I) understanding interest, credit card debt, and online commerce;
   (II) rights and responsibilities of renting or buying a home;
   (III) savings and investing;
   (IV) planning for retirement;
   (V) bankruptcy;
   (VI) banking and financial services;
   (VII) balancing a checkbook;
   (VIII) understanding loans and borrowing money, including predatory lending and payday loans;
   (IX) understanding insurance;
   (X) identity fraud and theft;
   (XI) charitable giving;
   (XII) understanding the financial impact and consequences of gambling;
   (XIII) earning an income; and
   (XIV) understanding state and federal taxes.

(ii) Instruction in these fourteen areas must align and meet the Personal Financial Literacy PRIORITY ACADEMIC STUDENT SKILLS (PASS) as adopted by the Oklahoma State Board of Education.

(iii) School districts shall have the option of determining when each of the 14 areas of instruction listed above shall be presented to students in Grades 7-12. Options include integration into one or more existing courses of study, a separate Personal Financial Literacy course, and/or use of State Department of Education PERSONAL FINANCIAL LITERACY online modules of learning. The Oklahoma State Department of Education online modules of learning and the assessments shall be available to all students as determined by the local school district.

(iv) In order to facilitate the monitoring of student progress towards achieving the Personal Financial Literacy Passport, districts shall maintain a Personal Financial Literacy Passport cumulative record. The Personal Financial Literacy Passport cumulative record shall be a uniform document used by all school districts within the state. The State Department of Education shall provide an electronic version of the Personal Financial Literacy Passport cumulative record to the districts. Completion of the 14 areas of instruction of Personal Financial Literacy shall be documented on the student’s high school transcript. The Personal Financial Literacy Passport cumulative record shall accompany the student when transferring to a new district.

(v) Dependent districts, PK-8, may enter into a vertical articulated curriculum agreement with an independent district, PK-12, for facilitating and sharing of the personal financial literacy curriculum and instruction.

(vi) Teachers providing instruction in personal financial literacy shall be certified. 70 O.S. § 11-103.6h

(G) Total minimum Core Curriculum: 15 units or sets of competencies
(H) Total minimum Elective courses: 8 units or sets of competencies
(I) Total minimum graduation requirements: 23 units or sets of competencies

(3) No student shall receive credit for high school graduation more than once for completion of the same unit or set of competencies to satisfy the core curriculum requirements.

(4) "Qualified agricultural courses" means courses that have been determined by the State Board of Education to offer the sets of competencies in the Priority Academic Student Skills (PASS) for one or more science content areas and which correspond to academic science courses. Qualified agricultural education courses shall include, but are not limited to, Horticulture, Plant and Soil Science, Natural Resources and Environmental Science, and Animal Science.

(5) A "unit" means a Carnegie Unit which is given for the successful completion of a course that meets the equivalent of 120 clock hours within the school year.

(6) As a condition of receiving accreditation from the State Board of Education, students in grades nine through twelve shall enroll in a minimum of six periods, or the equivalent in block scheduling, of rigorous academic and/or rigorous vocational courses each day, which may include arts, vocal and instrumental music, speech classes, and physical education classes.

(7) Each high school's academic program shall be designed to prepare all students for employment and/or postsecondary education. The secondary academic program shall be designed to provide the teaching and learning of the skills and knowledge in the Priority Academic Student Skills. Beginning with 1999-2000 school year all high schools accredited by the State Department of Education shall offer the core curriculum required for the Standard Diploma during a student's high school career. To meet graduation requirements, local options may include courses taken by advanced placement, concurrent enrollment, correspondence courses or courses bearing different titles.

(8) The secondary academic programs may also provide the traditional units of credit to be offered in Grades 9-12 with each secondary school offering and teaching at least 38 units or their equivalent each school year. Four (4) of these units may be offered on a two-year alternating plan with 34 units or their equivalent to be taught in the current school year. In schools with other than a four-year organization, these units shall be offered and taught in conjunction with the affiliated schools containing those grade levels. Career and technology center courses in which secondary students are enrolled may count toward the 38 required units of credit or their equivalent.

(9) District boards of education can make exceptions to state high school graduation requirements for students who move to this state from another state after their junior year of high school.

   (A) After a student from another state enrolls in an accredited Oklahoma high school the school board can make an exception to the high school graduation requirements of Section 11-103.6 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Individual exceptions can only be made when there are differing graduation requirements between the two states and completing Oklahoma graduation requirements will extend the student's date of graduation beyond the graduation date for the student's class.

   (B) The district must report all exceptions made to state graduation requirements for these senior students to the State Department of Education each school year. All exceptions made at each district high school will be forwarded to the State Department of Education on or before July 1 of each year. Districts may report the information on the Annual Statistical Report. This reporting provision does not include students who have individualized education programs pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and who satisfy graduation requirements through the individualized education program.

(10) In order for a course offered by a supplemental educational organization to be counted for purposes of student academic credit and towards graduation requirements the local board of education must verify that the course meets all requirements in 70 O.S. § 11-103.6.

(11) Upon verification the local school board of education's request for course approval shall be submitted to the State Board of Education for final approval.