

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

DEMONSTRATION REQUIREMENTS

The Lincoln Board of Education adopted graduation demonstration requirements to ensure that all students who graduate from high school are skilled in reading, writing, and math. A graduation demonstration is evidence that a student has reached an expected level of achievement. Listed below are ways in which students may meet the three graduation demonstrations.

Reading Graduation Demonstration

A student must demonstrate the ability to read and comprehend newspapers such as the Lincoln Journal Star and the Omaha World Herald.

A student may meet the demonstration by:

Scoring at a satisfactory level on the Reading Graduation Demonstration Exam.

OR

Scoring at or above the 70th percentile rank on the reading subtest on the ninth grade Metropolitan Achievement Test.

OR

Scoring at or above the 70th percentile rank on the reading subtest of the tenth grade PLAN test.

OR

Attaining a C+ or better in the course "Reading Advancement." (juniors or seniors)

Writing Graduation Demonstration

A student must demonstrate that he/she has the knowledge and skills necessary to write consistently at a predetermined standard.

A student may meet the demonstration by:

Scoring at a satisfactory level on the Writing Graduation Demonstration Exam.

OR

Meeting certain requirements for writing in the course "Composition," "General English or General Communications."

Math Graduation Demonstration

Beginning with the graduating class of 2010, students must take and pass Algebra.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Graduation from Lincoln Public Schools will require the accumulation of 230 credit hours in grades 9-12, subject to the following:

Within the 230 credit expectation for graduation from high school (grades 9-12), certain areas of study totaling 152.5 credit hours will be required of students. The credits listed are to be earned by taking courses.

Credit Area	Courses and Special Conditions	Credits
Applied Arts	Business, Family and Consumer Sciences, Industrial Technology and Dance, dramatic arts, music and visual arts	15 total (with at least 5 credits in Fine Arts & 5 credits in Applied Arts)
Fine Arts		
Educational and Career Planning		2.5
Economics		5
English		30
Oral Communication		5
Human Behavior		5
Mathematics (students graduating in 2010 will need to complete Algebra)		20
Physical Education		7.5
Health		2.5
Science (including 5 hours each of earth science, life science, and physical science)		20
Social Studies	Civics Geography Government & Politics Global Studies U.S. History	5 5 5 5 10
Technology		10

In addition to accumulating the required number of credit hours, students will also be required to demonstrate that they have necessary math, reading and writing skills. Demonstrations and standards for successful completion of these skill areas will be developed. Demonstrations may be completed in a particular class or through testing.

Credit Area	Graduation Demonstration
Mathematics	Demonstrate the knowledge and skills necessary to apply basic computational skills to problem-solving situations, numeracy, statistics, correlation and cause/effect, recognize how numbers are used to influence decisions, and demonstrate the skills of first-year algebra.
Reading	Demonstrate the ability to read and comprehend newspapers such as the Lincoln Journal Star and Omaha World-Herald .
Writing	Demonstrate the knowledge and skills necessary to write consistently at a predetermined standard.

Course of Study Statements for Graduation Requirements

The course of study statements, listed below, are for students who will graduate from high school. They are provided for planning purposes. As planning proceeds, please keep the following in mind:

1. Students must accumulate 230 credits* to graduate from high school. Of the 230 credits, 152.5 must be earned from required courses; 77.5 credits may be selected from a wide variety of electives.
2. Not every course option in 9th grade through 12th grade, is listed in the course of study statements. Rather, courses that students typically take are listed in each graduation requirement area.
3. University of Nebraska entrance requirements are listed in the areas of science, social studies, math and English. LPS graduation requirements and UNL entrance requirements are not the same. UNL requires more credits in the core (English, social studies, science, math and world language) subject areas.
4. A graduation demonstration must be completed sometime in grades 9 through 12 in the areas of mathematics, reading, and writing.
5. Some LPS courses provide advanced standing or advanced placement at Southeast Community College or other colleges/ universities. Check with your counselor for a list of these courses.
6. For more information on any course, sequence of courses, or a particular graduation requirement see the appropriate section of this Course Description Guide.
7. Always check with your counselor before making final plans or changing any plans related to courses.

* A full year course grants 10 credits, a semester course grants 5 credits, and a quarter course grants 2.5 credits.

Fine Arts and Applied Arts

LPS Graduation Requirement: 15 credits, at least 5 credits in Fine Arts and 5 credits in Applied Arts.

Course of Study: Students take the required credits in Fine and Applied Arts in the curriculum areas of: Drama and Theater, Dance, Music, Art, Industrial Technology, Business Education, and Family and Consumer Sciences. A short description of each area is below:

Drama and Theatre

Course of Study: Courses are open to students by interest, by previous coursework or by instructor approval. Follow the sequence of courses in Theatre or enroll in Theatre courses requiring no previous theatre experience.

9th					12th
Theatre (I)	Advanced Theatre (II)	Theatre Production (III)	Advanced Theatre Production (IV)	Advanced Theatre Company (all-city class)	
Technical Theatre					
Illusion Theatre (all-city class)					

Art

Course of Study: Students enroll in one of the 9th grade choices and then follow in grades 10-12 with other courses of interest.

9th	10th-12th
2-D Design OR 3-D Design OR Beginning Drawing	Many course options are available to students in the areas of: Drawing Painting Photography Commercial Art Jewelry Pottery Sculpture

Music

Course of Study: Students may choose from a wide variety of offerings in both instrumental and vocal music. Courses are open to students by grade level, by audition, or by instructor approval.

	9th	10th-12th
Instrumental	Band OR Orchestra OR Ensemble	Audition or instructor approved courses available to instrumental students include: Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, and Jazz Band.
Vocal	Chorus	Many instructor approved or audition courses are available for 10-12 grade vocal students. Check with your counselor for more information.

Business Education

Course of Study: Students may enroll in one of the recommended 9th grade courses and then follow in grades 10-12 with other courses of interest.

9th	10th-12th	
World of Business	Business Management Business Law	Marketing Advanced Marketing
Keyboarding	International Business Business Coop	Promotional Marketing Sports &
Computer App.	Keyboarding Accounting Office Technology College Accounting	Entertainment Marketing Marketing Coop Marketing Applications

Family and Consumer Sciences

Course of Study: Students enroll in one of the recommended 9th grade courses and then follow in grades 10-12 with other courses of interest.

9th-10th	11th-12th
Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS Indiv)	Infants and Toddlers Preschool and School Age Children Child Development Practicum
Teen Issues	Relationships Foods and Wellness Cultural Foods Food Service
Creative Clothing and Design	Interior Design
Foods and Wellness	Independent Living Creative Clothing and Design Culinary Baking Science of Food

Industrial Technology

Course of Study: Students may enroll in one of the recommended 9th grade courses and then follow in grades 10-12 with other courses of interest.

9th	9th-12th		
Intro Woods/Construction Furniture/Construction Design	Intro Woods/Construction Furniture/Construction Design	Applied Residential	Applied Cabinet and Finish Construction
CAD Tech. Design	CAD Tech. Design CAD Engineering CAD Architecture	Applied Architecture/Engineering CAD	Trades COOP
Manufacturing and Welding	Manufacturing and Welding	Applied Machine Tool Mfg. and/or Applied Welding	
Small Engine Technology	Automotive Technology Graphic Communications	Applied Automotive Technology and/or Applied Small Engines and Motorcycles	

Career and Educational Planning

LPS Graduation Requirement: 2.5 credits
Course of Study: In 10th grade, students take the course Career and Educational Planning to complete this requirement.

Economics

LPS Graduation Requirement: 5 credits
Course of Study: In grades 10-12, students may choose from the economics courses listed below:
 Economics, AP Economics, Differentiated Economics, Economics Perspectives, and /or Applied Economics
UNL Entrance Requirement: Economics credit is included as a part of the UNL social sciences entrance requirement.

English Language Arts

LPS Graduation Requirement: 30 credits
Course of Study: Students take 10 credits of English during both 9th grade and 10th grade. Students also take an additional 10 credits in literature and /or writing electives.
LPS Graduation Demonstration: Students must demonstrate reading and writing proficiency sometime in grades 9-12 in order to graduate. Alternatives will be provided each year for students to demonstrate reading and writing proficiency.
UNL Entrance Requirement: 40 credits. All credits must include intensive reading and writing experiences.

English 9	English 10	A literature /composition course (10 credits) OR A literature course (5 credits) and writing course (5 credits)
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Oral Communication

LPS Graduation Requirement: 5 credits
Course of Study: Students take the class Oral Communication in grades 9-12 to complete this requirement.

Health

LPS Graduation Requirement: 2.5 credits
Course of Study: Students will enroll in 2.5 credits of health education during grade 10.

Human Behavior

LPS Graduation Requirement: 5 credits
Course of Study: In grades 10-12, students may choose from the courses listed below to complete this requirement.
 Psychology, Advanced Psychology, AP Psychology, AP Advanced Psychology, Applied Psychology, Sociology, Human Behavior, or Families and Crises.
UNL Entrance Requirement: Human Behavior credits are included in the UNL social sciences entrance requirements.

Mathematics

Graduation Requirement: 20 credits
Course of Study: Students graduating in 2010 must successfully complete Algebra.
LPS Graduation Demonstration: Students must demonstrate math proficiency sometime in grades 9-12 in order to graduate. Alternatives will be provided each year for students to demonstrate math proficiency.
UNL Entrance Requirement: 40 credits, beginning with algebra.

9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
Algebra EXT 1	Algebra EXT 2	Geometry EXT 1	Geometry EXT 2
Algebra	Geometry	Advanced Algebra	Precalculus or Pre-college Math or Statistics /Discrete
Geometry Geometry D	Advanced Algebra D	Calculus AP Precalculus D	AP Calculus D or Calculus

Physical Education

Graduation Requirement: 7.5 credits
Course of Study: Students will enroll in Fitness for Life in 9th grade. Remaining credits including elective courses, will be taken in grades 9-12.

Science

LPS Graduation Requirement: 20 credits
Course of Study: 20 hours including the following:
 • 5 credits in earth science
 • 5 credits in life science
 • 5 credits in physical science
 In order to take courses in the three areas of science required for graduation, it is recommended that 9th grade students enroll in Geoscience and Physical Science, 10th graders enroll in Biology, and 11th and 12th graders enroll in Chemistry, Physics, and Science Electives.
UNL Entrance Requirement: 30 credits (at least 20 credits selected from biology, chemistry, physics and earth sciences).

9th Grade*	10th Grade*	11-12th Grade*	
Geoscience Geoscience D Physical Science Physical Science D	Biology Biology D Biology Applied	Chemistry Chemistry D Chemistry Applied Physics Physics D Physics Applied Astronomy Advanced Chemistry Advanced Physics Basic Geoscience Basic Physical Science Basic Life Science Basic Body Systems	Anatomy & Physiology Anatomy & Physiology D Animal Behavior Botany Earth Systems Environmental Studies Forensic Science Genetics Marine Biology Zoology

Social Studies

LPS Graduation Requirement: Civics 5 hours
 Global Studies 5 hours
 U.S. History 2nd Semester 5 hours
 Government and Politics 5 hours
 Geography 5 hours
Course of Study: Students take Civics and Geography in 9th grade and follow in grades 10-12 with World History or Human Geography, United States History and Government and Politics.
UNL Entrance Requirement: 30 credits, 10 credits from American or World History, 10 credits in History and /or Geography, and 10 credits from other social studies courses.

9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
Civics and Intro to Geography	World History OR Human Geography	United States History	Government Politics

Technology-Computer

LPS Graduation Requirement: 10 credits
Course of Study: Students enroll in one of the 9th grade choices and then follow in grades 10-12 with other courses of interest.

9th Grade	• • • • • • • • • • 10th-12th • • • • • • • • • •
Computer Applications	A number of courses are available in several different subject areas which allow students to complete this requirement. Courses such as: Advanced Computer Applications, Desktop Publishing, BASIC, CAD Tech Design, and Web Page Programming.