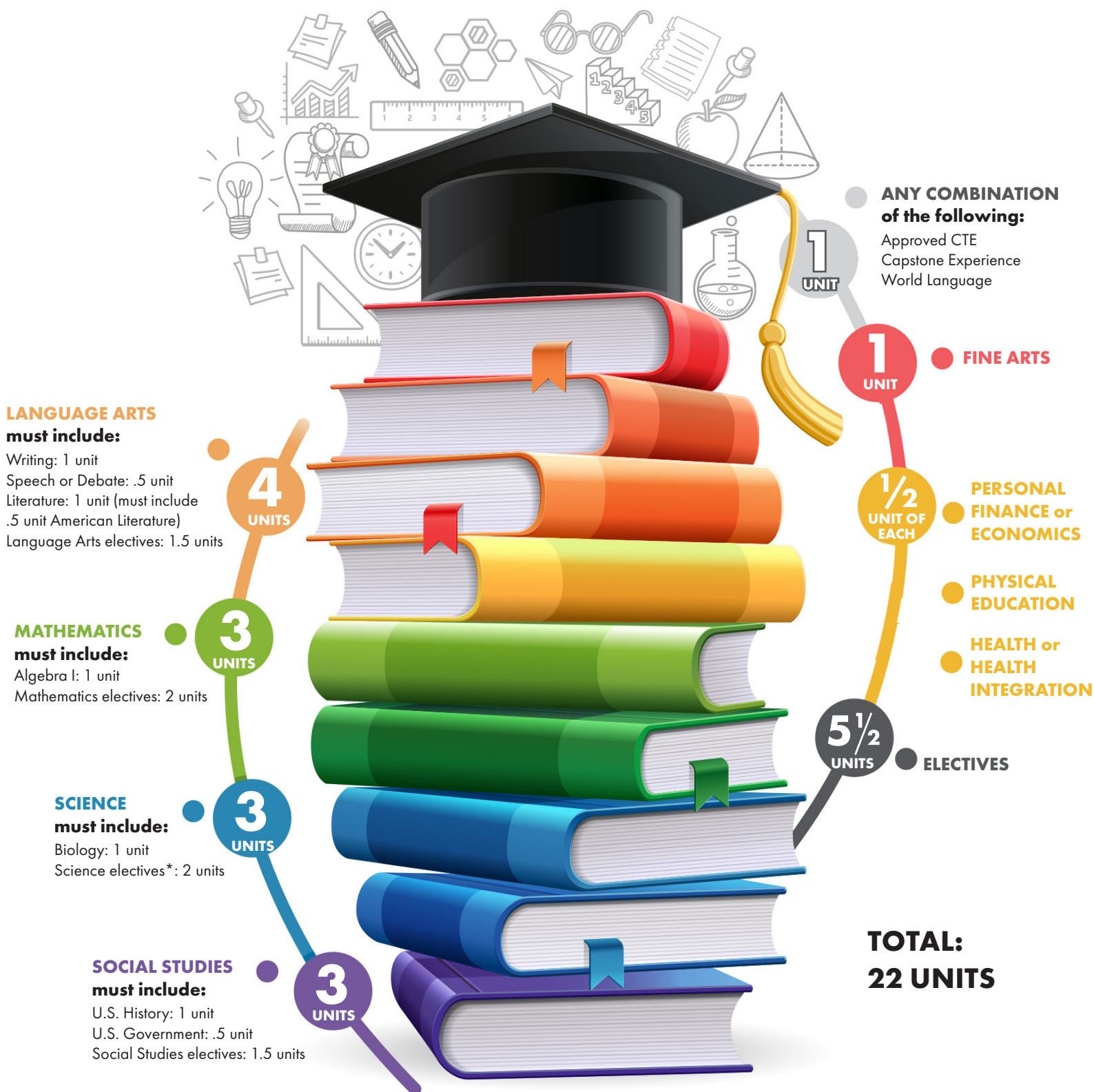


South Dakota High School Graduation Requirements

Approved by the South Dakota Board of Education Standards in July 2018



*A state-approved advanced computer science course may be substituted for one unit of a science elective, but may not replace Biology. A list of approved courses is available at <http://doe.sd.gov/gradrequirements>.

Students are required to meet the above High School Diploma requirements, also known as the 'base diploma'. Students may earn advanced endorsements with their high school diploma. A student's personal learning plan must document a minimum of 22 credits that include the above requirements.

****Advanced Endorsements Available**

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ADVANCED ENDORSEMENTS

In addition to the base requirements for the High School Diploma, students may earn advanced endorsements that are in alignment with the student's personal learning plan. Advanced endorsements outline specific coursework within the base diploma requirements to denote specific emphases. Students may earn one or more of three advanced endorsements: Advanced Endorsement, Advanced Career Endorsement and Advanced Honors Endorsement.

The requirements beyond the base high school diploma requirements are in red text in each advanced endorsement section below.

ADVANCED ENDORSEMENT REQUIREMENTS <i>Indicates a student has pursued coursework consistent with entrance requirements for postsecondary education at a university.</i>		ADVANCED CAREER ENDORSEMENT REQUIREMENTS <i>Indicates a student has career experience in a concentrated area, based on academic and/or workplace experience and a related credential.</i>	
4 UNITS OF LANGUAGE ARTS must include:	1 UNIT OF FINE ARTS	4 UNITS OF LANGUAGE ARTS must include:	1 UNIT OF FINE ARTS
• Writing: 1 unit • Speech or Debate: .5 unit • Literature: 1 unit (must include .5 unit American Literature) • Language Arts electives: 1.5 units		• Writing: 1 unit • Speech or Debate: .5 unit • Literature: 1 unit (must include .5 unit American Literature) • Language Arts electives: 1.5 units	
3 UNITS OF MATHEMATICS must include:	½ UNIT OF PERSONAL FINANCE or ECONOMICS	3 UNITS OF MATHEMATICS must include:	½ UNIT OF PERSONAL FINANCE or ECONOMICS
• Algebra I: 1 unit • Geometry: 1 unit • Algebra II: 1 unit		• Algebra I: 1 unit • Mathematics electives: 2 units	
3 UNITS OF SCIENCE must include:	½ UNIT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION	3 UNITS OF SCIENCE must include:	½ UNIT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION
• Biology: 1 unit • Other Lab Sciences: 2 units		• Biology: 1 unit • Science electives: 2 units (a state-approved computer science course may be used as 1 unit elective)	
3 UNITS OF SOCIAL STUDIES must include:	½ UNIT OF HEALTH or HEALTH INTEGRATION	3 UNITS OF SOCIAL STUDIES must include:	½ UNIT OF HEALTH or HEALTH INTEGRATION
• U.S. History: 1 unit • U.S. Government: .5 unit • Social Studies electives: 1.5 units		• U.S. History: 1 unit • U.S. Government: .5 unit • Social Studies electives: 1.5 units	
1 UNIT OF ANY COMBINATION of the following:	5 ½ UNITS OF ELECTIVES	2+ UNITS OF ANY COMBINATION of the following:	4 ½ UNITS OF ELECTIVES
• Approved Career & Technical Education • Capstone Experience • World Language		• Approved Career & Technical Education units from the same career cluster OR • Capstone Experience AND Attainment of an industry-recognized credential or National Career Readiness Certificate of Silver or higher	

ADVANCED HONORS ENDORSEMENT REQUIREMENTS <i>Indicates a student has pursued advanced rigorous, academic coursework consistent with §13-55-3.1 (High school course requirements for opportunity scholarship eligibility).</i>			
All high school coursework completed with a "C" or higher			
4 UNITS OF LANGUAGE ARTS must include:	1 UNIT OF FINE ARTS	3 UNITS OF SOCIAL STUDIES must include:	½ UNIT OF HEALTH or HEALTH INTEGRATION
• Writing: 1.5 units • Speech or Debate: .5 unit • Literature: 1.5 unit (must include .5 unit American Literature) • Language Arts electives: .5 unit		• U.S. History: 1 unit • U.S. Government: .5 unit • World History: .5 unit • Geography: .5 unit • Social Studies electives: .5 unit	
4 UNITS OF MATHEMATICS must include:	½ UNIT OF PERSONAL FINANCE or ECONOMICS	2 UNITS OF ANY COMBINATION of the following:	2 ½ UNITS OF ELECTIVES
• Algebra I: 1 unit • Geometry: 1 unit • Algebra II: 1 unit • Advanced Mathematics: 1 unit (details at sdos.sdbor.edu/require/require.html)			
4 UNITS OF SCIENCE must include:	½ UNIT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION	• Approved Career & Technical Education OR • Modern or Classical Language (including American Sign Language); must be in the same language	
• Biology: 1 unit • Any Physical Science: 1 unit • Chemistry or Physics: 1 unit • Science elective: 1 unit			

A **state-approved advanced computer science course** may be substituted for 1 unit of a science elective in the High School Diploma and Advanced Career Endorsement. It may not replace Biology. It may not count for the Advanced and Advanced Honors Endorsements. A list of approved courses is available at <http://doe.sd.gov/gradrequirements>.

Academic core content may be earned for an **approved career and technical education course**. Approval to offer credit must be obtained through a CTE for Core Content application with the Department of Education. Visit <http://doe.sd.gov/cte/corecontentcredit.aspx> for application details.

A district may offer credit for extracurricular **Fine Arts** activities. Students may be granted up to one credit in Fine Arts for participation in extracurricular activities. A maximum .25 credit may be granted for each activity in each school year.

Students are required to take .5 unit of **Health** at any time during grades 6-12. A district may choose to integrate Health across the curriculum at the middle or high school level in lieu of a stand-alone course.

“Double dipping” is not allowed. Courses may not be counted more than once to fulfill high school graduation requirements. For example, Economics cannot meet both the Social Studies elective credit requirement and the Personal Finance or Economics credit requirement. It can only meet one of the requirements. A course may count to meet both the base high school diploma and advanced endorsement(s) requirements. For example, Algebra I can meet both the high school diploma requirement and any or all of the advanced endorsement requirements.