



## Students Entering Grade Nine in the 2013-2014 School Year

### SEMINOLE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL'S DIPLOMA PATHWAYS

In the spring of 2013 the Florida Legislature created new diploma options for the students of Florida. In doing so, they have offered students more choice as well as an opportunity to align their education to their future college and career plans. In Seminole County we refer to these new choices as Diploma Pathways. We call them Pathways because we believe that students should use their time in high school to embark on their own personal Pathway to success. Students may now choose a Pathway that will result in a standard high school diploma, a high school diploma connected with industry certification, or a diploma designed to rigorously prepare them for the university setting.

In the following charts, you will find the Diploma Pathways and the corresponding expectations associated with each one. In addition to those offered by the state of Florida, Seminole County also offers the **Scholars with Distinction Pathway**. This very rigorous Pathway will challenge even the most talented and dedicated students to an even higher level of academic accomplishment.

Seminole County will start each and every student on the Scholars Pathway. We want to ensure that students are setting their academic goals high as they begin high school. Through performance and self-selection, students and their families may opt to change Pathways as they progress through high school. Our goal is to have all students qualify to earn a Scholars Pathway diploma. In the end, whether it is a Standard Pathway diploma, a Merit Designation Pathway (Industry Certification) diploma, a Scholars Pathway diploma, or a Scholars' with Distinction Pathway diploma, we want every student in Seminole County to exit our school system as a graduate.

Your administrators and guidance counselors are available to provide further guidance on what each of the Pathways requires.

### Merit Diploma Pathway

#### REQUIREMENTS OF STANDARD DIPLOMA PLUS:

\*Attain one or more Industry Certifications from the list established under S. 1003.492 F. S

\*\*\*\*Industry Certification Courses which lead to college credit may be substituted for up to two math credits and/ or one science credit excluding Algebra I, Geometry and Biology\*\*\*

Additional Testing Requirements	SAME AS THE STANDARD DIPLOMA
---------------------------------	------------------------------

### Standard Diploma Pathway

Total Credits = 26

Minimum Grade Point Average = 2.0

Credits	Requirements ( <i>must include (1) online course</i> )
4	Credits English Language Arts (ELA)
4	Math Credits Grades (9-12) (must include Algebra 1 & Geometry).
4	Science Credits (must include Biology and (3) courses must contain a lab component).
3	Social Studies (must include US History, World History, 0.5 US Government & 0.5 Economics with Financial Literacy).
1	Fine or Performing Arts, Speech & Debate or Practical Art.
1	1/2 Personal Fitness and 1/2 PE Elective.
9	Elective Credits.
Testing Requirements	Passing Score on FCAT 2.0 Grade 10 Reading and Algebra 1 EOC (Level 3).

### Scholars Diploma Pathway

#### REQUIREMENTS OF A STANDARD DIPLOMA PLUS:

- \*Earn (1) credit in Algebra 2
- \*Earn (1) credit in Statistics or equally rigorous mathematics course
- \*Earn (1) credit in Chemistry or Physics
- \*Earn (1) credit in science course equally rigorous to Chemistry or Physics
- \*Earn (2) credits in the same foreign language course
- \*Earn (1) credit in Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, an Advanced International Certificate of Education, Dual Enrollment Course

Additional Testing Requirements	Passing Score on the Biology EOC & US History EOC. (A student is exempt from the Biology I or U.S. History assessment if the student is enrolled in an AP or IB Biology I or U.S. History course and the student takes the respective AP or IB assessment and earns the minimum score to earn college credit.)
---------------------------------	---

### Scholars With Distinction Diploma Pathway

#### REQUIREMENTS OF A SCHOLARS DESIGNATION PATHWAY PLUS:

- \*Cumulative Weighted Grade Point Average of 3.75 or higher
- \*(3) Consecutive years in the same World Language
- \*(6) credits in AP or IB classes earning a grade of A or B or (4) AP or IB and (2) Dual Enrollment Credits
- \*(1) credit in Experimental Research or equivalent with a grade of A or B or (1) Extended Essay, Senior Portfolio or 4th year of World Language or (1) extra AP, IB or Dual Enrollment Credit.

Additional Testing Requirements	SAME AS THE SCHOLARS DESIGNATION
---------------------------------	----------------------------------

### ***What are the state assessment requirements\*?***

Students must pass the following statewide assessments:

- Grade 10 ELA (or ACT/SAT concordant score)
- Algebra I end-of-course (EOC) if Algebra I is taken after 2010–2011 or a comparative score on the Postsecondary Education Readiness Test (P.E.R.T.)

Students must participate in the following EOC assessments:

- Algebra I\*
- Biology I
- Geometry \*
- U.S. History
- Algebra II (if enrolled)\*

\*Special Note: 30% not applicable if enrolled in the 2014-2015 school year

### ***Equivalent Accelerated English Courses***

- (1001320) English 1 Honors
- (1001350) English 2 Honors
- (1001380) English 3 Honors
- (1001410) English 4 Honors
- (1005300) World Literature
- (1005310) American Literature
- (1005330) Contemporary Literature (Semester Class)
- (1005340) Classical Literature (Semester Class)
- (1020810) American Literature Honors
- (1020820) British Literature Honors
- (1020830) Classical Literature Honors (Semester Class)
- (1020840) Contemporary Literature Honors (Semester Class)
- (1020850) World Literature Honors
- (1020860) Great Books Honors

### ***Equally Rigorous Math Courses (Honors Level)***

- (1201300) Math Analysis (Semester Class)
- (1201310) Analysis of Functions (Semester Class)
- (1202300) Calculus Honors
- (1202340) Pre-Calculus Honors
- (1206330) Analytic Geometry (Semester Class)
- (1210300) Probability & Statistics with Applications Honors
- (1211300) Trigonometry Honors (Semester Class)
- (1202310) AP Calculus AB
- (1202320) AP Calculus BC
- (1210320) AP Statistics
- (1201320-121310) IB Math Program offered at select high schools

### ***Equally Rigorous Science Courses***

- (2000360) Anatomy and Physiology
- (2000440) Genetics Honors
- (2001310-2001320) Earth Space & Earth Space Honors
- (2020910) Astronomy Solar Galactic Honors
- (2002510 & 2002530) Marine Science Honors 1 & 2
- (2000500- 2000520) Bioscience Honors 1 - 3
- (2002340-2002370) Experimental Science (1-4)
- (2002540 & 2002550) Solar Energy Honors 1 & 2
- (2002400-2002430) Integrated Science & Honors 1 & 2
- (2003410) Physics Honors 2
- (2001380) AP Environmental
- (2003360 & 2003370) Chemistry Honors 2 & AP Chemistry
- (2003420 & 2003425) AP Physics B & C
- (2003310) Physical Science
- (2001800-2003860) IB Science Program at Selected Schools

### ***The Florida College System***

The 28 state colleges offer career-related certificates and two-year associate degrees that prepare students to transfer to a bachelor's degree program or to enter jobs requiring specific skills. Many also offer baccalaureate degrees in high-demand fields. Florida College System institutions have an open door policy. This means that students who have earned a standard high school diploma, have earned a high school equivalency diploma or have demonstrated success in postsecondary coursework will be admitted to an associate degree program. <http://www.fldoe.org/schools/higher-ed/fl-college-system/index.shtml>

### ***SUS (State University System)***

Admission into Florida's public universities is competitive. Prospective students should complete a rigorous curriculum in high school and apply to more than one university to increase their chance for acceptance. To qualify to enter one of Florida's public universities, a first-time-in-college student must meet the following minimum requirements:

- High school graduation with a standard diploma
- Admission test scores
- 16 credits of approved college preparatory academic courses
- 4 English (3 with substantial writing)
- 4 Mathematics (Algebra I level and above)
- 3 Natural Science (2 with substantial lab)
- 3 Social Science
- 2 World Language (sequential, in the same language)
- 2 approved electives

<http://www.flbog.edu/forstudents/planning>

### ***Where is information on Bright Futures Scholarships located?***

The Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program rewards students for their academic achievements during high school by providing funding to attend a postsecondary institution in Florida. For more information, visit <http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/SSFAD/bf/>.

### ***Where is information on financial aid located?***

The Office of Student Financial Assistance State Programs administers a variety of postsecondary educational state-funded grants and scholarships. To learn more, visit <http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/>.

### ***Career and Technical Centers***

Florida also offers students 46 accredited career and technical centers throughout the state, which provide the education and certification necessary to work in a particular career or technical field. Programs are flexible for students and provide industry-specific education and training for a wide variety of occupations.