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, a diploma designed to rigorously prepare them for the university setting, a diploma option in world languages, or an Advanced Placement diploma option.

Seminole County offers the Florida Seal of Biliteracy, which recognizes a high school graduate who has attained a high level of competency in one or more world languages in addition to English. Beginning with the 2016-2017 school year, the Gold Seal/Silver Seal of Biliteracy will be awarded to high school students who earn a standard diploma and who earn four world language course credits in the same world language with a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale and achieve a qualifying score on a world language assessment.

The Advanced Placement Capstone Diploma is now being offered in partnership with College Board. Students who specialize in Advanced Placement courses and satisfactorily complete the AP Seminar, AP Research and four additional AP courses as determined by College Board are eligible for the AP Capstone Diploma. This diploma option is being offered at all Seminole County Public High Schools with the exception of Crooms Academy of Information Technology.

In the subsequent chart 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 AP Capstone Pathway and Scholars with Distinction Pathway. These very rigorous Pathways 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, regardless of the 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.
# DIPLOMA PATHWAY REQUIREMENTS

## CLASS OF 2018-2021

### STANDARD DIPLOMA PATHWAY

**REQUIREMENTS (must include (1) online course):**

- **English Credits** (English 1 – English 4 or equivalent accelerated course) (4 Credits)
- **Math Credits** Grades (9-12) (must include Algebra 1 & Geometry) (4 Credits)
- **Science Credits** (must include Biology and (3) courses must contain a lab component) and 2 Equally Rigorously Courses (4 Credits)
- **Social Studies** (must include US History, World History, 0.5 US Government & 0.5 Economics with Financial Literacy) (3 Credits)
- **Fine or Performing Arts, Speech & Debate or Practical Art** (1 Credit)
- **½ Personal Fitness and ½ PE Elective** (1 Credit)
- **Elective Credits** (9 Credits)

**TESTING REQUIREMENTS:**

- Passing Score on: Grade 10 ELA & Algebra 1 EOC or concordant/comparison score
- EOC’s in Algebra 1*, Geometry*, Biology & US History will count as 30% of the students overall grade
- *Special Note: 30% not applicable if enrolled in the 2014-2015 school year
- **A passing industry certification may take the place of a science or math credit.**

Industry certifications that lead to college credit may substitute for up to two mathematics credits (except for Algebra I and Geometry).

An industry certification that leads to college credit substitutes for up to one science credit (except for Biology I).

### 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

**TEST REQUIREMENTS:**

- Class of 2018-2020: Passing Score on Grade 10 ELA, Algebra 1 EOC, Biology EOC, US History EOC, and Geometry EOC

### 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 1, Geometry and Biology***

**TEST REQUIREMENTS:**

- SAME AS THE STANDARD DIPLOMA

### 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 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.

**TEST REQUIREMENTS:**

- SAME AS THE SCHOLARS DESIGNATION PATHWAY

### BILITERACY DIPLOMA

**REQUIREMENTS OF STANDARD DIPLOMA PLUS:**

- Earn four world language course credits in the same world language
- Earn a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale
- Earn a qualifying score on a world language assessment

**TEST REQUIREMENTS:**

- SAME AS THE STANDARD DIPLOMA PLUS
  - Qualifying score on a world language assessment

### ADVANCED PLACEMENT CAPSTONE DIPLOMA

**REQUIREMENTS OF STANDARD DIPLOMA PLUS:**

- Satisfactory completion of the AP Seminar course as determined by College Board
- Satisfactory completion of the AP Research course as determined by College Board
- Satisfactory completion of four AP courses as determined by College Board

**TEST REQUIREMENTS:**

- SAME AS THE STANDARD DIPLOMA PLUS
  - Satisfactory completion of AP courses as determined by the College Board
# Standard Diploma High School Graduation Options
**(Students Entering 9th Grade in 2014-2015 and After)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>26 credit standard diploma option available to all students, including students with disabilities</th>
<th>26 credit standard diploma option available only to students with disabilities: <strong>No access courses permitted</strong></th>
<th>26 credit standard diploma option available only to students with disabilities, who take <strong>access courses</strong> and the alternate assessment. *</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• ELA I, II, III, IV</td>
<td>• Must earn credits for all of the courses listed in the first column</td>
<td>• Must earn credits for all of the courses listed in the first column</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• ELA honors, Advanced Placement (AP), Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE), International Baccalaureate (IB) and dual enrollment courses may satisfy this requirement.</td>
<td>• May substitute a CTE course with content related to English for <strong>English IV</strong></td>
<td>• May substitute access courses for general education courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Industry certifications that lead to college credit may substitute for up to two mathematics credits (except for Algebra I and Geometry)</td>
<td></td>
<td>• May substitute a CTE course with content related to mathematics for one mathematics credit (except for EOC courses: Algebra I and Geometry)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• An identified rigorous Computer Science course with a related industry certification substitutes for up to one science credit (except for Biology)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## 4 Credits English Language Arts (ELA)

- **4 Credits English Language Arts**
  - 1 credit World History
  - 1 credit in U.S. History
  - .5 credit in U.S. Government
  - .5 credit in Economics with Financial Literacy

## 4 Credits Mathematics

- **4 Credits Mathematics**
  - One of which must be Biology I, two of which must be equally rigorous science courses.
  - Two of the three required credits must have a laboratory component
  - An Industry certification that leads to college credit substitutes for up to one science credit (except for Biology I)
  - An identified rigorous Computer Science course with a related industry certification substitutes for up to one science credit (except for Biology)

## 4 Credits Science

## 3 Credits Social Studies

## 1 Credit Fine and Performing Arts, Speech and Debate, or Practical Arts**

## 9 Elective Credits

## 1 Credit Physical Education to include the integration of health

Students must earn a 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale and pass statewide assessments (FSA ELA 10th grade and Algebra 1 EOC) unless a waiver of assessment results is granted by the IEP team.

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*Parental consent is required before a student may take access courses.

**Eligible courses and eligible course substitutions are specified in the Florida Course Code Directory.