

**Summary of Changes to VDOE Graduation Requirements  
2013-2014 to Present**

Began 9 <sup>th</sup> grade in...	2013-2014 to 2017-2018 8VAC20-131-50	Beg w/2018-2019 (Class of 2022) 8VAC20-131-51
<b>STANDARD DIPLOMA</b>	22 Credit Diploma	22 Credit Diploma
<b>Verified Credits</b>	<b>6</b> (3 – LAVC's R, W, M, Sc, H)	<b>5</b> (only 1 LAVC allowed) [credit accommodations allowed] <b>Students need to take only one VC per subject area in HS</b>
English	4	4
Math	3	3
	<i>Beginning in 2015-2016 AP Computer Science may provide a standard credit for math or lab science.</i>	<i>Beginning in 2015-2016 AP Computer Science may provide a standard credit for math or lab science.</i>
Science	3	3
History	3	3
Health/PE	2	2
WL, Fine Arts, or CTE (ii)	2	2
Econ & Personal Fin	1	1
Electives (sequential)	4	4
CTE credential (i)	Yes	Must have one AP, Honors, or IB course OR a CTE certification
Virtual Experience	Yes	Yes
CPR Certification	Beginning in 2016-2017 (Class of 2020): Yes	Yes
Five C's	No	Students shall acquire and demonstrate foundational skills in critical thinking, creative thinking, collaboration, communication, and citizenship in accordance with the Profile of a Virginia Graduate approved by the board.
<b>ADVANCED DIPLOMA</b>	26 Credit Diploma	26 Credit Diploma
<b>Verified Credits</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b> (only 1 LAVC allowed) <b>Students need to take only one VC per subject area in HS</b>
English	4	4
Math	4	4
	<i>Beginning in 2015-2016 AP Computer Science may provide a standard credit for math or lab science.</i>	<i>Beginning in 2015-2016 AP Computer Science may provide a standard credit for math or lab science.</i>
Science	4	4
History	4	4
Health/PE	2	2
Fine Arts or CTE (ii)	1	1
World Languages	3	3
Econ & Personal Fin	1	1
CTE credential (i)	No	Must have one AP, Honors, or IB course OR a CTE certification
Virtual Experience	Yes	Yes
CPR Certification	Beginning in 2016-2017 (Class of 2020): Yes	Yes
Five C's	No	Students shall acquire and demonstrate foundational skills in critical thinking, creative thinking, collaboration, communication, and citizenship in accordance with the Profile of a Virginia Graduate approved by the board.

Notes: (i) A CTE Credential constitutes completion of an industry certification, a state licensure examination, a national occupational competency assessment, or the Virginia Workplace Readiness assessment.

(ii) Per the Standards of Quality, credits earned for this requirement shall include one credit in fine or performing arts or career and technical education. Per the Standards of Quality, a computer science course credit earned by students may be considered a career and technical course credit.

**Credit accommodations for students with disabilities may include:**

- Alternative courses to meet the standard credit requirements
- Modifications to the requirements for locally awarded verified credits
- Additional tests approved by the Board of Education for earning verified credits
- Adjusted cut scores on tests for earning verified credits
- Allowance of work-based learning experiences through career and technical education (CTE) courses

**DIPOMA SEALS**

1. The **Governor's Seal** shall be awarded to students who complete the requirements for an Advanced Studies Diploma with an average grade of "B" or better and successfully complete college-level coursework that shall earn the student at least nine transferable college credits in Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), Cambridge, or dual enrollment courses.
2. The **Board of Education Seal** shall be awarded to students who complete the requirements for a Standard Diploma or an Advanced Studies Diploma with an average grade of "A."
3. The **Board of Education's Career and Technical Education Seal** shall be awarded to students who earn a Standard Diploma or an Advanced Studies Diploma and complete a prescribed sequence of courses in a career and technical education concentration or specialization that they choose and maintain a "B" or better average in those courses or (i) pass an examination or an occupational competency assessment in a career and technical education concentration or specialization that confers certification or occupational competency credential from a recognized industry, trade, or professional association or (ii) acquire a professional license in that career and technical education field from the Commonwealth of Virginia. The board shall approve all professional licenses and examinations used to satisfy these requirements.
4. The **Board of Education's Seal of Advanced Mathematics and Technology** shall be awarded to students who earn either a Standard Diploma or an Advanced Studies Diploma and (i) satisfy all of the mathematics requirements for the Advanced Studies Diploma with a "B" average or better and (ii) pass an examination in a career and technical education field that confers certification from a recognized industry, or trade or professional association; acquire a professional license in a career and technical education field from the Commonwealth of Virginia; or pass an examination approved by the board that confers college-level credit in a technology or computer science area. The board shall approve all professional licenses and examinations used to satisfy these requirements.
5. The **Board of Education's Seal for Excellence in Civics Education** shall be awarded to students who earn either a Standard Diploma or an Advanced Studies Diploma and (i) complete Virginia and United States history and Virginia and United States government courses with a grade of "B" or higher; (ii) have good attendance and no disciplinary infractions as determined by local school board policies; and (iii) complete 50 hours of voluntary participation in community service or extracurricular activities. Activities that satisfy the requirements of clause (iii) of this subdivision include (a) volunteering for a charitable or religious organization that provides services to the poor, sick, or less fortunate; (b) participating in Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, or similar youth organizations; (c) participating in JROTC; (d) participating in political campaigns or government internships, or Boys State, Girls State, or Model General Assembly; or (e) participating in school sponsored extracurricular activities that have a civics focus. Any student who enlists in the United States military prior to graduation shall be deemed to have met this community service requirement.
6. The **Board of Education's Seal of Biliteracy** shall be awarded to students who demonstrate proficiency in English and at least one other language and meet additional criteria established by the board.
7. The **Board of Education's Seal for Excellence in Science and the Environment** shall be awarded to students who earn either a Standard Diploma or Advanced Studies Diploma and (i) complete at least three different first-level board-approved laboratory science courses and at least one rigorous advanced-level or postsecondary-level laboratory science course, each with a grade of "B" or higher; (ii) complete laboratory or field-science research and present that research in a formal, juried setting; and (iii) complete at least 50 hours of voluntary participation in community service or extracurricular activities that involve the application of science such as environmental monitoring, protection, management, or restoration.

## 8VAC20-131-60. Transfer Students

Beginning = First 20 hours of instruction

During = After the first 20 hours of instruction

		2018-2019			2019-2020			2020-2021			2021-2022	
		Reg	St	Adv	Reg	St	Adv	Reg	St	Adv	Reg	St & Adv
<b>9th Grade</b>	<b>Beg</b>	131-51	2 Engl 1 Math 1 Science 1 History		131-51	2 Engl 1 Math 1 Science 1 History		131-51	2 Engl 1 Math 1 Science 1 History		131-51	2 Engl 1 Math 1 Science 1 History
	<b>During</b>	131-51			131-51			131-51			131-51	
<b>10th Grade</b>	<b>Beg</b>	131-50	2 Engl 1 Math 1 Science 1 History 1 Select	2 Engl 2 Math 2 Science 2 History 1 Select	131-51	2 Engl 1 Math 1 Science 1 History		131-51	2 Engl 1 Math 1 Science 1 History		131-51	2 Engl 1 Math 1 Science 1 History
	<b>During</b>	131-50	1 Engl 1 Math 1 Science 1 History	2 Engl 1 Math 1 Science 1 History 1 Select	131-51			131-51			131-51	
<b>11th Grade</b>	<b>Beg</b>	131-50	1 Engl 1 Math 1 Science 1 History	2 Engl 1 Math 1 Science 1 History 1 Select	131-50	1 Engl 1 Math 1 Science 1 History	2 Engl 1 Math 1 Science 1 History 1 Select	131-51	2 Engl 1 Math 1 Science 1 History		131-51	2 Engl 1 Math 1 Science 1 History
	<b>During</b>	131-50	1 Engl 1 Select	1 Engl 3 Select	131-50	1 Engl 1 Select	1 Engl 3 Select	131-51	1 Engl 1 Math		131-51	1 Engl 1 Math
<b>12th Grade</b>	<b>Beg</b>	131-50	1 Engl 1 Select	1 Engl 3 Select	131-50	1 Engl 1 Select	1 Engl 3 Select	131-50	1 Engl 1 Select	1 Engl 3 Select	131-51	1 Engl 1 Math
	<b>During</b>	131-50 & 131-51	Students transferring after 20 instructional hours per course of their senior or twelfth grade year shall be given every opportunity to earn a diploma following the graduation requirements prescribed in 8VAC20-131-50 for students entering prior to the 2021–2022 school year.								Students transferring after 20 instructional hours per course of their senior or twelfth grade year shall be given every opportunity to earn a diploma following the graduation requirements prescribed in 8VAC20-131-51 for students entering the 2021–2022 school year or thereafter.	

1. Students transferring above the tenth grade from schools or other education programs that do not require or give credit for health and physical education shall not be required to take these courses to meet graduation requirements.
2. Students transferring into a Virginia public school from other than a Virginia public school shall earn no fewer than the number of verified units listed in subdivision G 1 or G 2 of this section. The school division shall accept the following tests from the sending state, country, private school, or Department of Defense Educational Activity school for the purpose of awarding verified units of credit in courses previously completed at another school or program of study, for the purpose of awarding a Virginia high school diploma:
  - a. End-of-course tests required for graduation by the sending state;
  - b. Exit tests required for graduation by the sending state; and
  - c. National norm-referenced achievement tests. When students transfer to a Virginia public school from a state that requires a national norm-referenced achievement test, and that state education agency has set a "cut score" or passing score for the purpose of graduation, the school division shall accept the test for the purpose of awarding a verified credit if the test includes some content in a subject for which a verified credit may be awarded. If that state education agency has not set a cut score for the norm-referenced test, the test may not be used for the purpose of awarding a verified credit or earning a high school diploma.
  - d. Any substitute test approved by the board for verified credit shall be accepted in lieu of the applicable SOL tests if the applicable standard credit has been earned by the student.
  - e. The sending state's test must include content in the subjects for which verified credit is awarded. The test does not have to be comparable to a Virginia SOL test, so long as the test includes some content in the subject area. If the test includes some content from more than one subject, verified credits shall be awarded for every subject area covered by the test.