



# Diploma Options and Graduation Requirements

Student Services

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# Introductions



Alix Tate, School Counseling Specialist, School  
Counseling Services

Leigh Bennett, Supervisor, Assessment Services

Jenna Arndt, Supervisor, Special Education



# Diploma Types



# Types of Diplomas

- Advanced Studies Diploma
- Standard Diploma
- Applied Studies Diploma



# Advanced Studies Diploma



# Advanced Studies Diploma

*For students entering the 9th grade in 2018-2019 and beyond*

- 26 Credits
- 5 Verified Credits



## Advanced Studies Diploma Course Requirements (8VAC20-131-51) for Students Entering the Ninth Grade for the First Time in 2018-2019 and Beyond

Subject Area	Standard Credits	Verified Credits	Specifications
English	4	2	N/A
Mathematics	4	1	Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include at least three different course selections from among: algebra I, geometry, algebra II, or other mathematics courses above the level of algebra II. The board shall approve courses to satisfy this requirement. Per the Standards of Quality, a computer science course credit earned by students may be considered a mathematics course credit.
Laboratory Science	4	1	Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include course selections from at least three different science disciplines from among: earth sciences, biology, chemistry, or physics or completion of the sequence of science courses required for the International Baccalaureate Diploma and shall include interdisciplinary courses that incorporate Standards of Learning content from multiple academic areas. The board shall approve additional courses to satisfy this requirement. Per the Standards of Quality, a computer science course credit earned by students may be considered a science course credit.
History and Social Sciences	4	1	Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include Virginia and U.S. history, Virginia and U.S. government, and two courses in either world history or geography or both. The board shall approve additional courses to satisfy this requirement.
World Language	3	0	Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include three years of one language or two years of two languages.
Health and Physical Education	2	0	N/A
Fine Arts or Career and Technical Ed	1	0	Per the Standards of Quality, a computer science course credit earned by students may be considered a career and technical credit.
Economics & Personal Finance	1	0	N/A
Electives	3	0	Courses to satisfy this requirement shall include at least two sequential electives as required by the Standards of Quality.
Total Credits	26	5	N/A





# Advanced Studies Diploma

Additional Requirements for Graduation *for students entering the ninth grade for the first time in 2018-2019 and beyond*

- **AP, Honors, IB, Dual Enrollment, Work-Based Learning, or CTE Credential**
- **Virtual Course**
- **First Aid, CPR, and AED Training**
- **Demonstration of the five Cs**



# Standard Diploma



# Standard Diploma

*For students entering the 9th grade in 2018-2019 and beyond*

- 22 Credits
- 5 Verified Credits



## Standard Diploma Course Requirements (8VAC20-131-51) for Students Entering Ninth Grade for the First Time in 2018-2019 and Beyond

Subject Area	Standard Credits	Verified Credits	Specifications
English	4	2	N/A
Mathematics	3	1	Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include at least two different course selections from among: algebra I, geometry, algebra functions, and data analysis, algebra II, or other mathematics courses approved by the board to satisfy this requirement. Per the Standards of Quality, a computer science course credit earned by students may be considered a mathematics course credit.
Laboratory Science	3	1	<p>Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include course selection from at least two different science disciplines: earth sciences, biology, chemistry, or physics, or completion of the sequence of science courses required for the International Baccalaureate Diploma and shall include interdisciplinary courses that incorporate Standards of Learning content from multiple academic areas. The board shall approve courses to satisfy this requirement. Per the Standards of Quality, a computer science course credit earned by students may be considered a science course credit.</p> <p>Students who complete a career and technical education program sequence and pass an examination or occupational competency assessment in a career and technical education field that confers certification or an occupational competency credential from a recognized industry, or trade or professional association, or acquires a professional license in a career and technical education field from the Commonwealth of Virginia may substitute the certification, competency credential, or license for either a laboratory science or history and social science verified credit when the certification, license, or credential confers more than one verified credit. The examination or occupational competency assessment must be approved by the board as an additional test to verify student achievement.</p>
History and Social Sciences	3	1	<p>Courses completed to satisfy this requirement shall include Virginia and U.S. history, Virginia and U.S. government, and one course in either world history or geography or both. The board shall approve courses to satisfy this requirement.</p> <p>Students who complete a career and technical education program sequence and pass an examination or occupational competency assessment in a career and technical education field that confers certification or an occupational competency credential from a recognized industry, or trade or professional association, or acquires a professional license in a career and technical education field from the Commonwealth of Virginia may substitute the certification, competency credential, or license for either a laboratory science or history and social science verified credit when the certification, license, or credential confers more than one verified credit. The examination or occupational competency assessment must be approved by the board as an additional test to verify student achievement.</p>
Health and Physical Education	2	0	N/A
World Language, Fine Arts or Career and Technical Education	2	0	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.
Economics & Personal Finance	1	0	N/A
Electives	4	0	Courses to satisfy this requirement shall include at least two sequential electives as required by the Standards of Quality.
Total	22	5	N/A



# Standard Diploma

Additional  
Requirements for  
Graduation *for  
students entering the  
ninth grade for the first  
time in 2018-2019 and  
beyond*

- AP, Honors, IB, Dual Enrollment, Work-Based Learning, or CTE Credential
- Virtual Course
- First Aid, CPR, and AED Training
- Demonstration of the five Cs



# Applied Studies Diploma

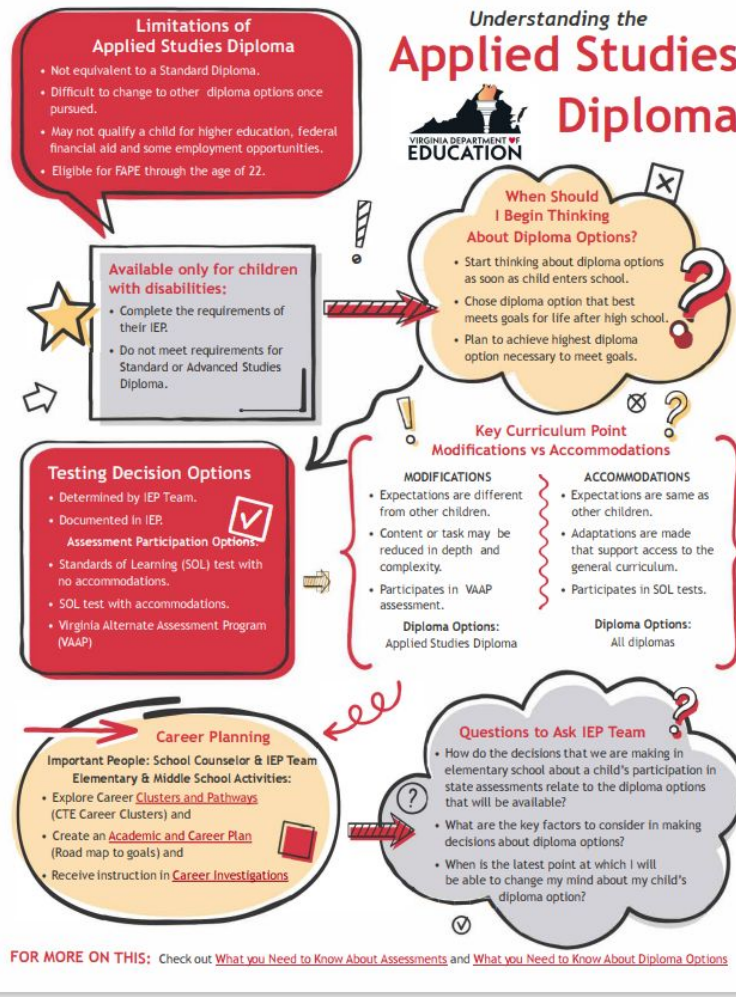


# Applied Studies Diploma

The Applied Studies Diploma is a diploma option available to students identified as having a disability who complete the requirements of their individualized education programs (IEPs) and meet certain requirements prescribed by the Board of Education pursuant to regulations, but do not meet the requirements for any named diploma.



# Applied Studies Diploma





# Assessment Information



# Assessment Requirements

Students only need to take an SOL test if they require the resulting verified credit for their diploma or the test is federally mandated.

There are two accountability systems: State and Federal

## Federally Mandated:

EOC Reading

EOC Math

EOC Science

## State Required:

EOC Reading

EOC Math

EOC Science

EOC Writing

EOC History



# Federal Accountability

ESSA requires that states identify one specific high school test that will be used to calculate federal pass rates and student participation per reported content area. This data is reflected in the School Quality Profile on VDOE's website.

## Virginia Selected:

EOC Reading

EOC Math (Algebra I or Algebra II or Geometry) or AP, IB, SAT, ACT\*

EOC Science (Biology)

There is an expectation that all high school students will take the Biology SOL test even if they have already earned the verified credit they require from passing the Earth Science SOL test.

There is an expectation that all 9<sup>th</sup> grade students will take an EOC Math SOL test even if they have already earned the verified credit they require from passing the Algebra I SOL test while in middle school.



# Federal Accountability Cont'd.

- If a middle school student successfully completes a high school level math course (in middle school) and passes the SOL test, they have earned the 1 verified credit they require in mathematics for a standard or advanced studies diploma.
- Per the Standards Of Accreditation, the student would not have to take any more math SOL tests because they earned the necessary verified credit.
- However, per ESSA, the student must still be assessed in mathematics once they enter high school.
- The student would be expected to take the EOC Math SOL test that corresponds to their math course in grade 9.
- If a student completed Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II in middle school, they would be expected to use their SAT or AP test to meet federal accountability requirements.



# Assessment Options

## Review:

- In order to earn a verified credit, students must pass an SOL test, must earn a qualifying score on a Board-approved substitute test, and/or earn a locally awarded verified credit (limited to 1\*), which generally requires a score of 375 or higher on an SOL test
- Students may remediate and retest (for SOLs) during the fall, winter, spring and/or summer test windows set by VDOE
- Students may retest once within the same test window if they earn a score of 375 or there is a reasonable expectation that a retest will result in a score of 375 or higher

Required SOL	How The Student Met the Verified Credit
EOC Reading	Met VDOE cut score on the Workplace Documents test
EOC Math (Algebra I)	Met VDOE cut score on the Math section of the PSAT NMSQT
EOC Science (Biology)	Student used their 1 LAVC after failing the Biology SOL test twice
EOC History	Student passed the World History I Performance Assessments
EOC Writing	Student earned a passing score on the Writing SOL test



# Accommodations

- Available for state and federally required tests
- Intended to allow for meaningful engagement with an assessment, not enhance performance
- Should be implemented instructionally prior to use in assessment
- VDOE/Vendor does set rules for eligibility that must be followed, but there may be a pathway for unique accommodations
- The College Board must review and approve test accommodations –SSD Coordinator at your high school, also varies for CTE tests/certifications
- Should be discussed at least annually during the IEP/504/EL Team meeting and documented
- Contact your School Test Coordinator and/or your child's Case Manager for more information

**Effective June 2023**  
**8th grade students**  
**MUST apply for test**  
**accommodations for**  
**the PSAT 8/9 by June 1 if**  
**they are needed!**



# Credit Accommodations



# Credit Accommodations

Credit accommodations provide alternatives for students with disabilities in earning the standard diploma and verified credits required to graduate with a ***Standard Diploma***.

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
- ☐ Adjusted cut scores on tests for earning verified credits
- ☐ Allowance of work-based learning experiences through career and technical education (CTE) courses

[Resource Document](#)





# Credit Accommodations at a Glance:

Accommodation	Available to All Students	Students with Disabilities (IEP and 504) who Qualify for Credit Accommodations
Expanded Score Range for Expedited Retake	N/A	Students with a scaled score between 350-374 are eligible for an expedited retake on that test with the exception of English Writing. No expedited retakes are available in English Writing.
Expanded Use of Locally Awarded Verified Credit (LAVC)	<p>Mathematics, English Reading and Writing, Science and History/Social Sciences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students who entered the ninth grade for the first time prior to 2018-2019 are limited to three LAVC in any subject that may be applied toward a Standard Diploma.</li> <li>Students entering the ninth grade for the first time in 2018-2019 and beyond are limited to one LAVC in any subject that may be applied toward a Standard or Advanced Studies Diploma.</li> </ul>	<p>Students eligible for credit accommodations shall not be subject to the limitations on the number of verified credits that may be awarded through this process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students who entered the ninth grade for the first time prior to 2018-2019 that require more than three LAVC in any subject must have the eligibility criteria for credit accommodations properly documented in the IEP or 504 Plan.</li> <li>Students entering the ninth grade for the first time in 2018-2019 and beyond that require more than one LAVC must have the eligibility criteria for credit accommodations properly documented in the IEP or 504 Plan.</li> </ul> <p>Special Permission Locally Awarded Verified Credit Accommodation (SPLAVC-A): Participate in subject/course related SOL- non-modified curriculum, test and score below 375; meet requirements stated in the Eligibility Criteria Request for Review; and follow local school division's LAVC appeal process.</p>
Economics and Personal Finance	Economics and Personal Finance (6120)	Personal Living and Finances (3120) substitutes for Economics and Personal Finance (6120) (must have earned three standard credits in History/Social Sciences)
Courses Taught in Two Parts	One elective credit and one standard credit	Two standard credits for one sequence in a content area. **



\*\* Examples using mathematics: Algebra I Part 1 = 1 standard credit, Algebra I Part 2 = 1 standard credit; Geometry 1 Part 1 = 1 elective credit, Geometry I Part 2 = 1 standard credit; OR Algebra I = 1 standard credit; Geometry I Part 1 = 1 standard credit, Geometry I Part 2 = 1 standard credit

# Special Permission Credit Accommodation (SPCA) for Locally Awarded Verified Credit

- The Special Permission Credit Accommodation for Locally Awarded Verified Credit was added to provide those students with disabilities who previously might have used the Virginia Substitute Evaluation Program (VSEP) with a pathway to earn the necessary locally awarded verified credits to obtain a ***standard diploma***.



# Process to Consider Credit Accommodations for students with IEPs/504 Plans

A student is struggling with course content and requires significant support. The student's IEP/504 Plan has a standards-based goal for this content area.

IEP/504 Team meets and determines student is eligible for a credit accommodation in the content area. The team completes the eligibility form and a copy is placed in the student's Scholastic Record.

As a result of eligibility, the student can now earn a verified credit if they test twice, fail both SOL tests and score between 375-399 OR the student can earn a retake if they test once and fail with a score between 350-374 OR they can pursue an alternate test OR they can take the next course in 2 parts

Student Services



# Special Permission Credit Accommodation Resources

Local eligibility form

SPCA local training

Local LAVC Committee document

SPCA FAQ

The course content teacher must be endorsed in the content area and their license number is required for application

Questions? [Leigh.Bennett@lcps.org](mailto:Leigh.Bennett@lcps.org)



# Credit Accommodations for the Advanced Studies Diploma

There is **one credit accommodation available for the advanced studies diploma**. This alternative for students to meet the world language requirement is available to students with an individualized education program (IEP) that specifies a credit accommodation for world languages.

§ 22.1-253.13:4. Permit a student who is pursuing an Advanced Studies Diploma and whose individualized education program specifies a credit accommodation for world language to substitute two standard units of credit in computer science for two standard units of credit in a world language. For any student that elects to substitute a credit in computer science for credit in world language, his or her school counselor must provide notice to the student and parent or guardian of possible impacts related to college entrance requirements.

<https://www.doe.virginia.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/788/637943782494370000>

Credit Accommodations at a Glance

List of approved Computer Science courses for World Language credit accommodations



# Permissible Credit Accommodations for Standard Credits

1. Local school boards may deliver the Personal Finance course (3120) to include the 22 Work Readiness Skills (WRS) for the Commonwealth. This augmented course **may be used to meet the Economics and Personal Finance requirement when the student has earned at least 3 standard credits in history and social science.** Upon completion of the augmented Personal Finance course, the student may take the WRS assessment to earn the Board-approved WRS credential. This approach would satisfy the graduation requirements for economics and personal finance, history/social science, and the workplace credential.
2. Parts I and II of certain required courses may be used to each earn a standard credit towards the total number required in the subject area. **Students must complete both parts of the course in order to earn the standard credits. They may earn no more than three content area standard credits by taking these two-part courses. The remaining credit could be used as an elective credit.**



# VDOE CREDIT ACCOMMODATION INFORMATION

## Credit Accommodations for Students with Disabilities | Virginia Department of Education

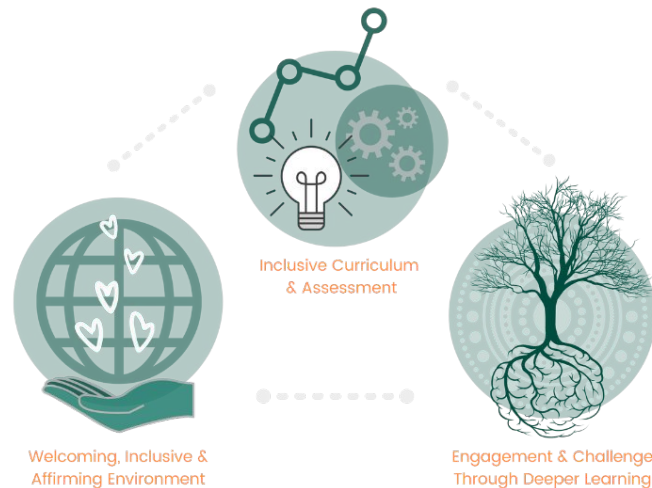
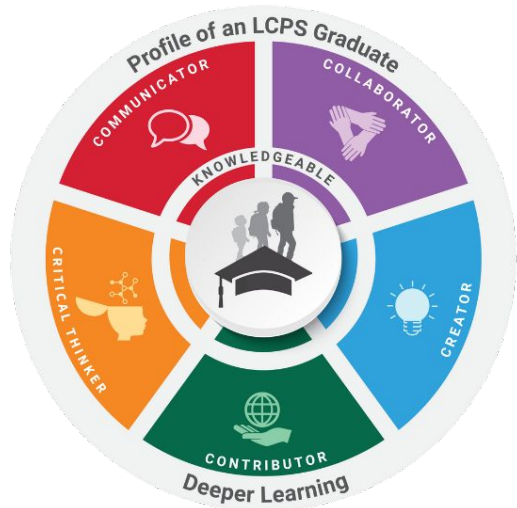


# Planning Together

- Make an appointment with your child's counselor and case manager
- Utilize Transition Teachers at each high school
- Ask for Academic and Career Plan, if you have not seen it
- Ask about plans for each school year
- Ask about course selection options each school year
- Ask about credit accommodations







# Thank you for attending!





# Diploma Options and Graduation Requirements

Student Services

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