

New Honors Diploma Requirements

High school students can gain state recognition for exceeding Ohio's graduation requirements through an Academic Honors Diploma. High-level coursework, college and career readiness tests and real-world experiences challenge students.

Students must meet **all but one** of the following criteria. Each of these criteria go beyond the [standard requirements for a diploma for the classes of 2023 and beyond](#). Students must meet general graduation requirements and complete the requirements outlined below to qualify for honors diplomas. Students may replace one requirement of either 4, 5 or 6 with a "Student Strength Demonstration." The [previous requirements](#) to earn an honors diploma are also available for students in the classes of 2023-2025.

ACADEMIC HONORS DIPLOMA

Requirements	State Minimum
1 Math	Fourth math must be > Algebra 2
2 Science	One additional unit Advanced Science
3 Social Studies	One additional unit Social Studies
4 World Languages	Three sequential units of one world language, or no less than 2 sequential units of two world languages studied
5 GPA	3.5 on a 4.0 scale
6 ACT/SAT	ACT: Score of 27 or higher, SAT: Score of 1280 or higher
7 Seal Requirement	Earn two additional diploma seals, not including Honors Diploma Seal
8 Experiential Learning	Field Experience, OhioMeansJobs Readiness Seal*, Portfolio or Work-Based Learning

*Students can use OMJ Readiness Seal in 2 additional seals requirement if it is not used in Experiential Learning.

Student Strength Demonstration Replacement

Students can use the Student Strength Demonstration to replace one of either the **ACT/SAT, GPA or World Language** requirement for any Honors Diploma. The Student Strength Demonstration options are listed below. The same options exist for each of the six honors diplomas* but, where relevant, should reflect coursework or experiences relevant to the theme of the Diploma. For example, a student earning the Academic Honors Diploma and using the College Credit Plus option to replace another requirement for the diploma should have College Credit Plus courses relevant to the Academic Honors diploma.

OPTIONS:

College Credit Plus: 12 total College Credit Plus credit hours

Advanced Placement: three courses with score of 3 or higher on AP tests

Career-Technical Assurance Guide (CTAG): 12 total credits

Apprenticeship/Pre-Apprenticeship: Completion or Evidence of Acceptance if required to be older than 18

WorkKeys: Score of 6 or higher on all tests (*void for Career-Tech Honors Diploma)

Armed Services Vocational Battery: Score of 50 or above on the ASVAB

Work-Based Learning: 250 total hours of work-based learning

Additional Information

To be eligible, students must complete units, or credits, in specific subjects (see above chart). They can use Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, [College Credit Plus](#) and [Credit Flexibility](#) coursework to meet the coursework requirements of an honors diploma. A single course can meet multiple criteria if it fits under multiple subject areas.

Students also can design their own independent study courses. This requires that someone with proper licensure in the subject area must teach or co-teach the courses used for an honors diploma.