

Curriculum: *Required Instruction*

Required core curriculum—

The District's curriculum shall at least meet the minimum requirements of state law and State Board rules. Those minimum requirements are to contain the essential elements of each subject at appropriate grade levels. The essential elements represent the core knowledge, skills, and competencies all students should learn to be effective and productive members of society. The District may add elements at its discretion, but shall not delete or omit instruction in the essential elements.

In addition, the District shall provide character education in connection with regular schoolwork, through an integrated curriculum approach. Instruction in this area shall emphasize honesty, temperance, morality, courtesy, obedience to law, respect for and an understanding of the constitutions of the United States and the state of Utah, the essentials and benefits of the free enterprise system, respect for parents and home, and the dignity and necessity of honest labor and other skills, habits, and qualities of character which will promote an upright and desirable citizenry and better prepare students for a richer, happier life.

As required by statute, the District shall report to the lieutenant governor and the Commission on Civic and Character Education each year by December 30 a report summarizing how civic and character education are achieved in the District through an integrated school curriculum and in the regular course of school work.

[Utah Code § 53A-13-109\(6\) \(2011\)](#)

K-6 core curriculum—

The general core curriculum in grades K-6 shall consist of:

1. Grades K-2:
 - a. Reading/Language Arts
 - b. Mathematics
 - c. Integrated Curriculum
2. Grades 3-6
 - a. Reading/Language Arts
 - b. Mathematics
 - c. Science
 - d. Social Studies
 - e. Arts;

- i. Visual Arts;
- ii. Music;
- iii. Dance;
- iv. Theatre
- f. Health Education
- g. Physical Education
- h. Educational Technology
- i. Library Media

[Utah Admin. Rules R277-700-4.B \(December 8, 2104\)](#)

Informal assessment will occur on a regular basis to ensure continual student progress. State-approved summative adaptive assessments will be used to assess student mastery of reading, language arts, mathematics, science and (in grade five) effectiveness of written expression.

[Utah Admin. Rules R277-700-4.E, F \(December 8, 2014\)](#)

Grades 7-8 core curriculum—

In grades 7-8, students shall take a minimum of 12 total units. The District shall teach, and each student shall take, the following units:

1. Language Arts – 2 units.
2. Mathematics – 2 units.
3. Science – 1.5 units.
4. Social Studies – 1.5 units.
5. The Arts – 1.0 units.
 - a. Visual Arts
 - b. Music
 - c. Dance
 - d. Theatre
6. Physical Education – 1.0 units.
7. Health Education – 0.5 units.
8. Career and Technical Education, Life, and Careers – 1.0 units.

[Utah Admin. Rules R277-700-5.B \(December 8, 2014\)](#)

State-approved summative adaptive assessments will be used to assess student mastery of reading, language arts, mathematics, effectiveness of written expression (in grade eight) and science (in grades seven and eight).

[Utah Admin. Rules R277-700-4.F \(December 8, 2014\)](#)

[Utah Admin. Rules R277-700-5.F \(December 8, 2014\)](#)

Grades 9-12 core curriculum—

The minimum number of core curriculum credits required for students in grades 9-12 shall be 18, as follows:

1. Language Arts – 4 units, including
 - a. Ninth grade level (1 unit);
 - b. Tenth grade level (1 unit);
 - c. Eleventh grade level (1 unit); and
 - d. Applied or advanced language arts credit (1 unit), consistent with the student's SEOP, from a list of courses approved by the Board of Education and the State Office of Education, which courses
 - i. Are within the field/discipline of language arts, with a significant portion of instruction aligned to language arts content, principles, knowledge, and skills;
 - ii. Provide instruction that leads to student understanding of the nature and disposition of language arts;
 - iii. Apply the fundamental concepts and skills of language arts;
 - iv. Provide developmentally appropriate content; and
 - v. Develop skills in reading, writing, listening, speaking, and presentation.
2. Mathematics – 3 units.
 - a. This requirement shall be met minimally through successful completion of the foundation or foundation honors courses Secondary Mathematics I, Secondary Mathematics II, and Secondary Mathematics III.
 - b. With a written request from the student's parent or guardian, a student may opt out of Secondary Mathematics III. In that case, the student shall successfully complete another mathematics course from among the advanced and applied mathematics courses on the State Board of Education's list of approved mathematics courses.
 - c. 7th and 8th grade students may earn credit for one of the mathematics foundation courses before 9th grade, consistent with the student's SEOP and if at least one of the following criteria are met:
 - i. The student is identified as gifted in mathematics on at least two different USOE-approved assessments;
 - ii. The student is dual enrolled at the middle school/junior high school and the high school;

- iii. The student qualifies for promotion one or two grade levels above the student's age group and is placed in 9th grade; or
 - iv. The student takes the USOE competency test in the summer prior to 9th grade and earns high school graduation credit for the course.
 - d. For other students (than those in the prior section) who earn credit for a foundation course before 9th grade, the student shall still fill the required 3 units of credit by successful completion of other mathematics courses approved by the State Board of Education, consistent with the student's SEOP, which courses
 - i. Are within the field/discipline of mathematics with a significant portion of instruction aligned to mathematics content, principles, knowledge, and skills;
 - ii. Provide instruction that leads to student understanding of the nature and disposition of mathematics;
 - iii. Apply the fundamental concepts and skills of mathematics;
 - iv. Provide developmentally appropriate content; and
 - v. Include the five process skills of mathematics: problem solving, reasoning, communication, connections, and representation.
 - e. Students who are gifted and students who are advanced may also
 - i. Take the honors courses at the appropriate grade level; and
 - ii. Continue taking higher level mathematics courses in sequence through Grade 11, resulting in a higher level of mathematics proficiency and increased college and career readiness.
 - f. A student who successfully completes a Calculus course has completed mathematics graduation requirements, regardless of the number of mathematics credits earned.
 - g. Students should consider taking additional credits during their senior year which align with their postsecondary career or college expectations. Those students who desire a four year college degree in a science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM) career area should take a calculus course.
3. Science – 3 units, including
- a. 2 units from the four science foundation areas:
 - i. Earth Systems Science – 1.0 units
 - ii. Biological Science – 1.0 units
 - iii. Chemistry – 1.0 units
 - iv. Physics – 1.0 units; and

- v. Computer Science; and
- b. 1 unit, consistent with the student's SEOP, from the foundation courses or a list of applied or advanced science courses approved by the Board of Education and State Office of Education, which courses
 - i. Are within the field/discipline of science with a significant portion of instruction aligned to science content, principles, knowledge, and skills;
 - ii. Provide instruction that leads to student understanding of the nature and disposition of science;
 - iii. Apply the fundamental concepts and skills of science;
 - iv. Provide developmentally appropriate content;
 - v. Include the areas of physical, natural, or applied sciences; and
 - vi. Develop students' skills in scientific inquiry.
- 4. Social Studies – 3.0 units including:
 - a. Geography for Life – 0.5 units
 - b. World Civilizations – 0.5 units
 - c. U.S. History – 1.0 units
 - d. U.S. Government and Citizenship – 0.5 units
 - e. General Financial Literacy – 0.5 units
- 5. Arts – 1.5 units from any of the following areas:
 - a. Visual Arts
 - b. Music
 - c. Dance
 - d. Theatre
- 6. Physical and Health Education – 2.0 units including:
 - a. Health – 0.5 units
 - b. Participation Skills – 0.5 units
 - c. Fitness for Life – 0.5 units
 - d. Individualized Lifetime Activities (0.5 units) or team sport/athletic participation (maximum of 0.5 units with school approval)
- 7. Career and Technical Education – 1.0 units from among the following areas:
 - a. Agriculture
 - b. Business
 - c. Family and Consumer Sciences

- d. Health Science and Technology
 - e. Information Technology
 - f. Marketing
 - g. Technology and Engineering Education
 - h. Trade and Technical Education
8. Educational Technology – 0.5 units as follows:
- a. Computer Technology (0.5 units from a State-approved list of courses) or
 - b. At the school's discretion, for successful completion of a state-approved competency examination
- 9) Library Media skills (integrated into the subject areas)

[Utah Admin. Rules R277-700-7 \(December 8, 2014\)](#)

Elective credits—

In addition to the 6 credits beyond the 18 units of required core curriculum credit, students must earn ____ additional credits to qualify for graduation.

[Note: Because students must earn at least 24 credits to graduate, including the 18 core curriculum credits, the students must earn at least 6 elective credits. However, the Board of Education may require more than 24 credits to graduate, thereby increasing the number of elective credits. This section will need to be tailored depending on whether the Board requires more than 24 credits.]

[Utah Admin. Rules R277-700-7E, F \(December 8, 2014\)](#)

Assessment of student mastery of core standards—

The Board of Education is responsible to provide students with access to courses in the basic academic subjects of the core standards for Utah public schools established by the State Board of Education, and for students' mastery of those standards. Student mastery of the core standards shall be evaluated through District participation in U-PASS testing as directed by the State Board of Education. Students who have not achieved mastery of the core standards will be provided remediation assistance as provided for by State statute and State Board of Education regulations.

[Utah Admin. Rules R277-700 \(December 8, 2014\)](#)

[Utah Code § 53A-1-603 \(2013\)](#)

[Utah Code § 53A-13-104 \(2013\)](#)