



## High School Graduation Guide for Private School Students

## Graduation Requirements

Overseeing the education of a student is an important task that should not be taken lightly at any stage. The high school years are the ones that will follow a person throughout his or her life. These words are not intended to strike fear in the hearts of parents or students but to emphasize the necessity to:

- 1) Understand the requirements,
- 2) Develop a plan,
- 3) Review that plan yearly, and
- 4) Execute that plan with rigor.

High school credits in Florida are awarded on the basis of a half credit for passing a semester unit of work. Wellmont Academy follows the Florida standard that 68 seat hours of instruction in academic content earns one half credit. For most students, this is done over 90 days in a semester. There are courses and subjects areas that are specifically required for graduation, including the total number of credits which are detailed in this guide. There shall be no substitution or waiver of these requirements for any student except as provided under the alternative programs for graduation or upon written statement from a licensed physician certifying that the course will be physically or mentally harmful to the student.

The normal timeline for high school graduation is four years, the details of which are explained below. Some students are enrolled in high school for more than the traditional four years. Graduation requirements change based on the option taken (Standard track, College Prep track, etc.) and when a student enters high school.

\*Credits below a “C” in core academic areas are not accepted for credit toward standard high school graduation or promotion to subsequent grades by Wellmont Academy enrolled students. The exception to this policy is based on the student demonstrating mastery in that core subject area by earning a letter grade of “C” or higher in a sequential course.

The demonstrating mastery exception does not apply to the “College Preparatory” graduation track. For that designation all core courses must have a grade of C or higher.

In addition to the standard core course requirements, Wellmont Academy high school students are required to complete a Bible class each year. Students will receive one elective credit each year for these courses

## Earning Credits in Middle School

Middle school students can take a limited number of high school courses for high school credit while in middle school. Those courses are limited to the core subject areas of Mathematics, Science and Foreign Language.

In the event a middle school student does not do well in the high school course earning a grade of “C,” “D,” or “F”, the school's grade forgiveness policy allows the replacement of the grade with a grade of “C” or higher, earned subsequently in the same or comparable course. \*\*These courses have pre-requisites that need to be met.

**\*\*Math at the Algebra I level and above, as in:**

- 1200310 ALGEBRA I
- 1200320 ALGEBRA I HONORS
- 1206310 GEOMETRY
- 1206320 GEOMETRY HONORS
- 1200330 ALGEBRA II
- 1200340 ALGEBRA II HONORS

**\*\*Science courses at the Physical Science level and above, as in:**


- 2003310 PHYSICAL SCIENCE
- 2003320 PHYSICAL SCIENCE HONORS
- 2000310 BIOLOGY I
- 2000320 BIOLOGY I HONORS
- 2003340 CHEMISTRY I
- 2003350 CHEMISTRY I HONORS

**High School level Foreign Language courses such as:**


- 0708340 SPANISH I
- 0708350 SPANISH II
- 0717300 AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE I
- 0717310 AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE II


Students in grade 8 may take (HOPE) through Wellmont Academy at the to earn high school credit.


## GPA Requirement

	Scholars Track	Standard Track	Career Track
	Twenty-Four Credit	Twenty-Four Credit	Twenty-Four Credit
<b>GPA Requirement</b>	3.5 on a 4.0 Scale using the 16 core academic credits. Up to three additional “core” credits can be used for the GPA calculation. Students may not have any grades below “C” in any of the 24 credits used for graduation.	3.0 on a 4.0 Scale using all credits. No grades below “C” in a core academic area can be counted for credit unless the student has demonstrated mastery in a subsequent semester course.	2.5 on a 4.0 Scale using all credits. No grades below “C” in a core academic area can be counted for credit unless the student has demonstrated mastery in a subsequent semester course.

## Graduation Tracks

	<u>Scholars Track</u> Twenty-Four Credit	<u>Standard Track</u> Twenty-Four Credit	<u>Career Track</u> Twenty-Four Credit
<b>English</b>	Four Credits	Four Credits	Four Credits **Lower level English courses are acceptable
<b>Mathematics</b>	Four Credits **Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II and then a higher math or dual enrollment, College Algebra	Four Credits **Must include Algebra I and Geometry	Three Credits **Math I and II, Business Math, Consumer Math are acceptable
<b>Science</b>	Three Credits **Must include Biology and Chemistry or Physics. Must have two with laboratory	Three Credits **Must include Biology and two must have laboratory	Three Credits **Must include Biology and two must have laboratory
<b>History</b>	Two Credits **World History and US History	Two Credits **World History and US History	Two Credits **World History and US History

	<u>Scholars Track</u> Twenty-Four Credit	<u>Standard Track</u> Twenty-Four Credit	<u>Career Track</u> Twenty-Four Credit
<b>Social Studies</b>	One Credit **American Government (.5) and Economics (.5)	One Credit **American Government (.5) and Economics (.5)	One Credit **American Government (.5) and Economics (.5)
<b>HOPE</b>	One Credit **Health (.5) and Physical Education (.5)	One Credit **Health (.5) and Physical Education (.5)	Not required
<b>Fine Art</b>	One Credit **(.5) may be a practical art	One Credit **(.5) may be a practical art	Not required
<b>Electives</b>	Six Credits **Mandatory Bible each year and one higher level elective recommended, but not required, through dual enrollment	Eight Credits **Mandatory Bible each year	Eight Credits **Mandatory Bible each year
<b>Foreign Language</b>	Two Credits **must be sequential	Not required	Not required

	<u>Scholars Track</u> Twenty-Four Credit	<u>Standard Track</u> Twenty-Four Credit	<u>Career Track</u> Twenty-Four Credit
<b>Career or Vocational</b>	Not required	Not required	Three Credits **vocational course should be in a career field that provides advancement in their chosen career

## Bright Futures Eligibility

### Initial Eligibility (FAS or FMS):

Florida high school students who wish to qualify for the Florida Academic Scholars (FAS) award or the Florida Medallion Scholars (FMS) award must meet the following initial eligibility requirements:

- Graduate high school from a Florida public high school with a Florida Standard Diploma (high school graduation requirements), graduate from a registered Florida Department of Education private high school, earn a GED, complete a Home Education program, or graduate from a non-Florida high school (OOS);
- Complete the required high school coursework;
- Achieve the required minimum high school grade point average (GPA);
- Achieve the required minimum score on either the ACT® or SAT® college entrance exam; and
- Complete the required number of service hours.

Student's High School Graduation Year	High School Weighted GPA	Required SAT/ ACT to earn FAS Award	Required SAT/ ACT to earn FMS Award	Service Hour Requirements	16 High School Course Credits
2016/2017	FAS = 3.50 FMS = 3.00	1290 SAT / 29 ACT	1170 SAT / 26 ACT	FAS = 100 Hours FMS = 75 Hours GSV/GSC = 30 Hours	4 - English (must include writing) 4 - Mathematics (at or above Algebra I level) 3 - Natural Science (two Laboratory) 3 - Social Science 2 - World Language (sequential in same language)
2015/2016	FAS = 3.50 FMS = 3.00	1290 SAT / 29 ACT	1170 SAT / 26 ACT	FAS = 100 Hours FMS = 75 Hours GSV/GSC = 30 Hours	

## Scholarship Award Information

### Service Hours:

Students must complete volunteer service hours during high school and by high school graduation. Service hours may include, but are not limited to, a business or governmental internship, work for a nonprofit community service organization, or activities on behalf of a candidate for public office. The hours must be documented in writing, and signed by the student, the student's parent or guardian, and a representative of the organization. Each public school district and private school establishes approved activities and the process for documentation of service hours.



## Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars (GSV):

The Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars (GSV) can only be used to fund a career education or certificate program. Florida high school students who wish to qualify for the Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars (GSV) award must meet the following initial eligibility requirements:

- Meet the General Requirements for Bright Futures;
- Achieve the required weighted minimum 3.0 GPA in the non-elective high school courses;
- Take at least 3 full credits in a single Career and Technical Education program;
- Achieve the required minimum 3.5 unweighted GPA in the career education courses;
- Achieve the required minimum score on the ACT®, SAT®, or Florida Postsecondary Education Readiness Test (P.E.R.T.) exams (see table below); and
- Complete 30 service hours.

### College Entrance Exams

Exam types cannot be combined; a student must qualify based on each sub-test score for a single exam type. Sub-test scores from different test dates may be used to meet the test requirement. Scores taken through June 30 of the student's senior year (for a regular graduate, or January 31 for a mid-year graduate) will be accepted for Bright Futures evaluation. There is no limit to the number of times a student may retake the test prior to June 30 of the student's graduation year. Request test scores be sent to one of Florida's 12 state universities, Florida state colleges (public community colleges), or public high schools when the student registers for the ACT®/SAT® so that test scores will be sent to the FDOE repository.

Exam Type Sub-test Required Score

ACT®

English 17

Reading 19

Math 19

SAT® Reading 440

Math 440

P.E.R.T. (Only applies to the GSV Scholarship)

Reading 106

Writing 103

Math 114

## Award Amounts

Please visit the website below to view the different award amounts:

<http://www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org/SSFAD/PDF/BFHandbookChapter2.pdf>