## Illinois graduation requirements

**105 ILCS 5/27-22, 27-22.05, 27-22.10**

### Table of Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Description of Requirement</th>
<th>SY 2016-2022</th>
<th>SY 2022-2023</th>
<th>SY 2023-2024</th>
<th>SY 2024-2025 thru 2027-2028</th>
<th>SY 2028-2029 (and beyond)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Arts</td>
<td>4 years: 1 year must include a writing-intensive English course.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing-Intensive</td>
<td>2 years: 1 year must be in an English course; 1 year can be embedded as part of any course offered. Can be counted toward the fulfillment of other graduation requirements.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>3 years: Algebra I or integrated equivalent (1 year); non-specified course, including geometry content (1 year); Advanced Placement (AP) computer science is eligible.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Literacy</td>
<td>One year of a course that includes intensive instruction in computer literacy, which may be English, social science, or any other subject and which may be counted toward the fulfillment of other graduation requirements. (PA 101-0654)</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>2 years: no content specified.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 years of laboratory science: no content specified.*</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Science</td>
<td>2 years: Must include 1 year of U.S. History or a combination of U.S. History and American government; 1 semester of civics.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IL/US Constitution</td>
<td>American patriotism, principles of representative government, and proper use and display of the flag (105 ILCS 5/27-3 and 27-4). Passing score on examination required for high school graduation.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World/Foreign Languages</td>
<td>2 years of world languages, may include American Sign Language.*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>1 year selected from art, music, world languages (may include American Sign Language), or career and technical education (CTE).</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 year selected from art, music, world languages (may include American Sign Language), CTE, or forensic speech (speech and debate).</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 year selected from art, music, CTE, or a third year of world languages (may include American Sign Language), or forensic speech (speech and debate).*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)</td>
<td>File a FAFSA with the U.S. Department of Education or, if applicable, an application for state financial aid or file a waiver with school district. (See 105 ILCS 5/22-87 for details.)</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Does not apply to students with disabilities whose course of study is determined by an Individualized Education Program (IEP).

### Note

Any diploma conferred during the 2019-20 school year, including during the summer of 2020, under graduation requirements that were modified by an Executive Order, emergency rule-making, or school policy prompted by a gubernatorial disaster proclamation as a result of COVID-19 is deemed valid and is not subject to challenge or review due to a failure to meet minimum requirements otherwise required by this code, administrative rule, or school board policy. (PA 101-0643)

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December 2021
### Mathematics: 3 Years
**Department:** Standards and Instruction  
**Contact:** ILTeachTalkLearn@isbe.net
- One year of Algebra 1.
- One year of geometry content. A mathematics course that includes geometry content may be offered as an integrated, applied, interdisciplinary, or career and technical education course that prepares a student for a career readiness path.
- Advanced Placement (AP) computer science course is eligible. The description for an AP computer science course shall indicate that the course is equivalent to a high school mathematics course and qualifies as a mathematics-based, quantitative course for purposes of the fulfillment of state graduation requirements in mathematics. *(Section 27-22 (f-5) of the School Code.)*

### Language Arts: 4 Years
**Department:** Standards and Instruction  
**Contact:** ILTeachTalkLearn@isbe.net
- Two years of writing-intensive coursework, one of which must be in an English language arts course.
- One year of language arts may be a transitional English course.
- Spanish language arts is eligible.

### Science: 2 Years
**Department:** Standards and Instruction  
**Contact:** ILTeachTalkLearn@isbe.net
- Two years non-specific course sequences or content. Must include laboratory component.
- For a science course to be considered a “laboratory course,” all enrolled students must engage regularly in laboratory investigations. ISBE recommends that students in laboratory courses engage in laboratory investigations at least once per week, but the exact frequency is at the discretion of the local school district.
- A school laboratory investigation (also referred to as a lab) is defined as an experience in the laboratory, classroom, or the field that provides students with opportunities to interact directly with natural phenomena or with data collected by others using tools, materials, data collection techniques, and models (National Research Council 2006, p. 3). Students should have opportunities throughout the process to design investigations, engage in scientific reasoning, manipulate equipment, record data, analyze results, and discuss their findings.
- Pupils entering the ninth grade in the 2024-25 school year and each school year thereafter must complete two years of laboratory science as a prerequisite to receiving a high school diploma. (Does not apply to pupils entering the ninth grade in the 2023-24 school year or prior school years or to students with disabilities whose course of study is determined by an IEP.)

### Social Science: 2 Years
**Department:** Standards and Instruction  
**Contact:** ILTeachTalkLearn@isbe.net
- Must include one year of U.S. History or combination of U.S. History and American government.
- Must include one semester of civics.
- No student shall receive a certificate of graduation without passing a satisfactory examination once in Grades 7-12 on the following subjects:
  - American patriotism and principles of representative government as enunciated in the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution, and the Illinois Constitution;
  - Proper use and display of the flag; and
  - Method of voting by means of the Australian Ballot System and the method of counting votes for candidates.

### Wellness (Health, Physical Education, Social and Emotional Learning)
**Department:** Wellness  
Health/Physical Education Contact: asosina@isbe.net  
Social and Emotional Learning/LGBTQ Mandates: jathornt@isbe.net and kulmer@isbe.net
1. Health Education — Required for participation, not a state graduation requirement.
2. Physical Education — Required for participation, not a state graduation requirement.

### Computer Literacy
**Department:** Standards and Instruction  
**Contact:** ILTeachTalkLearn@isbe.net
- Computer Literacy *(105 ILCS 5/10-20.73)*: Pupils entering the ninth grade in the 2022-23 school year and each school year thereafter must complete one year of a course that includes intensive instruction in computer literacy, which may be English, social studies, or any other subject and which may be counted toward the fulfillment of other graduation requirements.

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December 2021
Required electives (at least one course from the following):

**Art and Music**
Department: Standards and Instruction
Contact: ILTeachTalkLearn@isbe.net

**World/Foreign Languages**
Department: Multilingual
[https://www.isbe.net/multilingual](https://www.isbe.net/multilingual)
Contact: multilingual@isbe.net
- Pupils entering the ninth grade in the 2028-29 school year and each school year thereafter must complete two years of world language as a prerequisite to receiving a high school diploma. (Does not apply to pupils entering the ninth grade in the 2027-28 school year or prior school years or to students with disabilities whose course of study is determined by an IEP.)

**Career and Technical Education (Vocational)**
Department: CTE & Innovation
[https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Career-Technical-Education.aspx](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Career-Technical-Education.aspx)
Contact: cte@isbe.net

Additional contact information

**Driver Education**
Department: Standards and Instruction
Contact: ILTeachTalkLearn@isbe.net

**Media Literacy**
Department: Standards and Instruction
Contact: ILTeachTalkLearn@isbe.net

**Grade 11 Early Graduates**
Department: Standards and Instruction
Contact: ILTeachTalkLearn@isbe.net

**Advanced Academic Programs: Gifted, Acceleration, Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, Honors, and Dual Credit**
Department: Standards and Instruction
Contact: ILTeachTalkLearn@isbe.net

**School/Career Counseling**
Department: CTE and Innovation
[https://www.isbe.net/Pages/SchoolCounselors.aspx](https://www.isbe.net/Pages/SchoolCounselors.aspx)
Contact: cte@isbe.net

**Transitional English and Transitional Mathematics**
Department: Standards and Instruction
Contact: ILTeachTalkLearn@isbe.net