

# Saskatchewan High School Credit Options

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*A guide for high school students*



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## Introduction

Congratulations! Welcome to high school!

High school provides the opportunity to explore your interests and shape your future. Although there are certain courses that you must take to graduate, you'll still get to choose courses that interest you. You will be given access to tools that will help you realize your potential and plan for your future.

This document explains a Saskatchewan High School Grade 12 program standing – what's required and where you have choices. It also identifies opportunities to earn secondary level course credits in non-traditional ways, career planning tools and post-secondary funding options.

The next few years of high school are YOUR time to experience new things, explore your interests and plan for your future.

## An overview of what you need to graduate

In Saskatchewan, students have to pass certain courses such as English language arts, math and science in order to graduate with a Grade 12 program standing. Students must successfully complete and pass 24 course credits.

At the secondary level, there are three categories in which students must obtain credits:

- **required courses of study** which are compulsory courses intended to provide a general education;
- **specified areas of study** which are intended to allow students to continue to take courses of a general nature or to specialize in areas of individual interest; and,
- **electives** which allow for further choice and specialization based on individual needs and local priorities.

There are special course requirements for Bilingual or Fransaskois mention on your official *Transcript of Secondary Level Achievement*.

For bilingual mention, 12 of the 24 courses must be taught in French including three French language arts courses.

For Fransaskois mention, 21 of the 24 courses must be taught in French including five compulsory French language arts courses.

The table below provides an overview of what you need to graduate:

Area of study	Minimum Number of Credits Required		
	Regular English Program	French Immersion Program	Fransaskois Program
English Language Arts	5	3	3
French Language Arts	-	3	5
Mathematics	2	2	2
Science	2	2	2
Social Sciences	3	3	3
Health Education / Physical Education	1	1	1
Arts Education / Practical and Applied Arts	2	2	2
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>18</b>
Electives	9	8	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>

For more help, speak to your teacher or school guidance counselor.

### **What if I need more than three years to graduate from high school?**

Talk to your teacher or school counselor to create a graduation plan that works best for you. Grade 12 graduation requirements are the same, regardless of the amount of time required to complete them.

### **What is the difference between required courses and electives?**

Required courses are compulsory and all prerequisites must be met. There are still choices within required courses. For example, mathematics has three pathways – Apprenticeship and Workplace Math, Foundations of Math and Pre-calculus. Your teacher or school counselor can help you with your course planning.

Elective course credits are chosen based on your interests and abilities as well as course availability at your school. To meet the credit requirements for graduation, students are required to take six to nine elective courses at the secondary level depending your program. These courses include at least six courses at Grade 11 or 12 (level 20 or 30).

You are not limited to course offerings at your school. Check out other ways to earn secondary level credits in the section “How can I earn high school credits?”

Talk to your teacher or school counselor to help you determine which courses are most appropriate for you and your future.

## What courses do I need to meet the graduation requirements?

To help you with your graduation planning, the 24 credit program requirement is broken down by grade and program type:

	<b>Regular English Program</b>	<b>French Immersion</b>	<b>Fransaskois Program**</b>
<b>Grade 10</b>	<b>Minimum of eight (8) credits including:</b>	<b>Minimum of eight (8) credits (4 credits must be taught in French) including:</b>	<b>Minimum of eight (8) credits including:</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>English Language Arts A10 and B10;</li> <li>Social Studies 10, History 10 or Native Studies 10;</li> <li>Science 10;</li> <li>a mathematics at the level 10;</li> <li>3 electives at level 10, 20 or 30.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>English Language Arts A 10 or /ou English Language Arts B 10;</li> <li>Français immersion 10;</li> <li>Social Studies 10; or History 10 or/ ou Histoire 10; or Native Studies 10;</li> <li>Science 10 / Sciences 10;</li> <li>a math at the 10 level / un cours de niveau 10 de mathématiques;</li> <li>3 electives at level 10 , 20 or 30 / 3 cours au choix de niveau 10, 20 ou 30.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Français fransaskois A 10 et Français fransaskois B 10;</li> <li>English Language Arts A 10 ou English Language Arts B 10;</li> <li>Sciences sociales Fransaskois 10;</li> <li>Sciences 10;</li> <li>un crédit en mathématiques de niveau 10;</li> <li>2 crédits au choix de niveau 10.</li> </ul> <p><b>** All subjects other than English language arts are taught in French</b></p>
<b>Grade 11</b>	<b>Minimum of sixteen (16) credits including:</b>	<b>Minimum of sixteen (16) credits (8 credits must be in French) including:</b>	<b>Minimum of sixteen (16) credits including:</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>English Language Arts 20;</li> <li>a mathematics at the 20 level;</li> <li>6 additional elective credits at level 20 or 30.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>English Language Arts 20;</li> <li>Français immersion 20;</li> <li>a math at the 20 level / un cours de niveau 20 de mathématiques;</li> <li>5 additional elective credits at level 20 or 30 / 5 autres cours au choix de niveau 10, 20 ou 30.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Français fransaskois 20;</li> <li>English Language Arts 20;</li> <li>un crédit en mathématiques de niveau 20;</li> <li>un crédit au choix tel qu'identifié dans le tableau de 12e année;</li> <li>4 crédits au choix de niveau 20 ou 30.</li> </ul> <p><b>** All subjects other than English language arts are taught in French</b></p>

	<b>Regular English Program</b>	<b>French Immersion</b>	<b>Fransaskois Program**</b>
<b>Grade 12</b>	<b>Minimum of 24 credits (5 of which must be at the 30 level) including:</b>	<b>Minimum of 24 credits (5 of which must be at the 30 level and 12 must be in French) including:</b>	<b>Minimum of 24 credits including:</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>English Language Arts A 30 and English Language Arts B 30;</li> <li>Social Studies 30: Canadian Studies, History 30: Canadian Studies or Native Studies 30: Canadian Studies;</li> <li>a social science 20 or 30;</li> <li>a science 20 or 30*;</li> <li>2 credits in arts education or practical and applied arts at level 10, 20, or 30;</li> <li>Wellness 10, Physical Education 20 or Physical Education 30.</li> </ul> <p><i>* Science 20 or 30 pre-requisites must be met</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>English Language Arts A 30 or / ou English Language Arts B 30;</li> <li>Français immersion 30;</li> <li>Social Studies 30: Canadian Studies or / ou History 30: Canadian Studies or / ou Native Studies 30: Canadian Studies or / ou Sciences sociales immersion 30 : Les études canadiennes; or / ou Histoire 30 : Les études canadiennes;</li> <li>a science 20 or 30* / un cours de niveau 20 ou 30* de sciences;</li> <li>a social science 20 or 30 / un cours de niveau 20 ou 30 en sciences sociales;</li> <li>2 credits in arts education or practical and applied arts at level 10, 20, or 30 / deux crédits de niveau 10, 20 ou 30 dans les domaines de l'éducation artistique ou des arts pratiques et appliqués;</li> <li>Wellness 10, Physical Education 20, or Physical Education 30 / Mieux-être 10, Éducation physique 20, ou Éducation physique 30.</li> </ul> <p><i>* Science 20 or 30 pre-requisites must be met</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Français fransaskois A 30 et Français fransaskois B 30;</li> <li>English Language Arts A 30 ou English Language Arts B 30;</li> <li>Sciences sociales Fransaskois 30;</li> <li>un crédit en sciences sociales de niveau 20 ou 30;</li> <li>un crédit en sciences de niveau 20 ou 30*;</li> <li>un crédit à choisir parmi Mieux- être 10, Éducation physique 20, ou Éducation physique 30;</li> <li>deux crédits de niveau 10, 20 ou 30 dans les domaines de l'éducation artistique ou des arts pratiques et appliqués.</li> </ul> <p><b>** All subjects other than English language arts are taught in French</b></p> <p><i>* Science 20 or 30 pre-requisites must be met</i></p>

## How can I earn high school credits?

In-school course credits are the most common and traditional way for students to earn secondary level credits. Courses are offered in a school and face-to-face with a teacher. Saskatchewan Education allows for credits to be earned in other non-traditional ways. For more information, talk to your teacher or school counselor.

Online course credits may be offered by your school or school division. However, you may take a secondary level course online for credit from any Saskatchewan school. Visit [Saskatchewan Distance Education Course](#) online for more information.

Apprenticeship credits are earned by students who are employed under the supervision of a journey person in a trade in which the hours worked are eligible for credit through the Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission. Up to four secondary level apprenticeship credits may be earned on the basis of work proposed and completed by the student. The application for apprenticeship credits must be in place and approved **prior** to your beginning the work for which you will receive credit. Each apprenticeship credit shall be carried out under the supervision of a teacher, and the apprenticeship **does not** need to be related to a specific school subject. Apprenticeship credits may be used to meet the Practical and Applied Arts/Arts Education credit requirement or as electives to meet the 24 credit requirement at the Secondary Level.

Dual course credits provide alternative pathways to graduation by allowing high school students the opportunity to earn high school credits and post-secondary credits or other program recognition at the same time in the same course. Continuing Care Aid, Early Childhood Education, and Computer-aided Design courses are a few of the courses available online for dual credit recognition. There is a list of [dual credit course options](#) online that might work for your graduation and career plan.

Special Project credits are credits earned for out-of-school initiatives that are not classified as dual credit course options. You must get approval from your school principal **prior** to starting the work for this special course. It requires a minimum of 100 hours of work and must be supervised by a teacher. Activities that would be considered a normal part of extra-curricular or co-curricular activities generally offered by a school may not be given Special Project Credit recognition. For more information, talk to your teacher or school counselor.

Supplemental Department Examinations provide the opportunity for students to raise their marks in a Grade 12 Level 30 English language arts, mathematics or science course. Supplemental examinations will be written for 100 per cent of the final mark. Only the highest mark attained will appear on the *Transcript of Secondary Level Achievement*. There is **no cost** to write departmental examinations, but you must register to take the examination. For more information on how to register for departmental examinations, prepare for the examination and the examination schedule visit [Departmental Examinations](#). There are online practice exams to help you prepare too!

Course Challenges allow students to demonstrate a high level of achievement of the learning outcomes of a particular course without spending the required hours enrolled in the course. There is a specific process to follow and only two courses (at the 10 or 20 level) can be challenged in high school. For more information, talk to your teacher or school counselor.

Summer School options are available in July and August. You may want to take a course online during the summer or face-to-face if it's available in your area. Ask your principal or school counselor for Summer School information. Taking courses over the summer months can help reduce your course load during the regular school year.

Credit Recovery options are available to students who may need a bit more time to complete course work without having to redo the entire course. Your school or school division will have certain requirements that must be met for this option. For more information, talk to your teacher or school counselor.

## **Career Planning**

Developing and maintaining a graduation and post-graduation plan will assist you in exploring your interests, skills, values and personal traits while considering the many career pathways available in Saskatchewan, Canada and beyond. It will guide you in making informed decisions that impact your present and future life. A graduation and post-graduation plan is a tool to assist you in transitioning smoothly through high school and beyond – to a future that is personally fulfilling and rewarding. Your school or school division may have access to online surveys and quizzes to help identify what interests, skills and values you have and what career possibilities are available to you. The [myBlueprint](#) education planner is an online career and education planning tool that is available to all Saskatchewan students. For more information, talk to your teacher or school counselor.

The Government of Saskatchewan provides information on job training and financial support programs, job openings and career opportunities in Saskatchewan. Please search [Jobs, Working, and Training](#) on [saskatchewan.ca](http://saskatchewan.ca) for more details.

## **Awards and Scholarships**

To discover what loans, grants, scholarships and awards for post-secondary are available to help finance your future education, please click on [scholarships, awards, bursaries and grants](#), and/or [student loans](#).



## Transcript of Secondary Level Achievement

The Saskatchewan *Transcript of Secondary Level Achievement* is the official mark record of courses completed. Only the highest mark record for a course is printed on this document. You will receive an official *Transcript of Secondary Level Achievement* in February and July of your graduating year. If you notice an error on the document, contact your school immediately to have it corrected.

You can [order](#) additional *Transcript of Secondary Level Achievement* documents for employment, scholarships and awards or post-secondary institution admissions on [Saskatchewan.ca](http://Saskatchewan.ca).

## Helpful Online Resources

[myBlueprint](#)

[Saskatchewan.ca](http://Saskatchewan.ca)

[Saskatchewan Ministry of Education Course Challenge Process Policy and Procedures](#)

[Saskatchewan Ministry of Education Departmental Examinations](#)

[Saskatchewan Ministry of Education Dual Credit Policy](#)

[Saskatchewan Ministry of Education Special Project Credit Policy and Procedures](#)

[SaskCareers](#)