

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

Introduction:

Chariho Regional High School has a responsibility to provide access to expert and rigorous instruction so that all students have an opportunity to demonstrate proficiency. Students have a responsibility to actively and appropriately participate in and complete, with a demonstration of quality work, all facets of their program of studies. A Chariho Regional High School Diploma, including Endorsements and Seals, will be issued when all of the following academic credit, standardized assessment, and proficiency-based requirements have been met.

***Academic Course Requirements:**

	Class of 2023	Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
English	4	4	4	4
Mathematics	4**	4**	4**	4**
Social Studies	3	3	3	3
Science	3	3	3	3
Physical Education	2	2	2	2
Health	1	1	1	1
Fine/Performing Arts	.5***	.5***	.5***	.5***
Electives	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5
	24	24	24	24

* Specific course requirements are detailed in the Student Program of Studies Handbook.

**Regarding the requirement for four full credits in mathematics, students who successfully complete Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II may take one or two of the following courses to satisfy the fourth mathematics credit requirement. Eligible courses include all courses offered by the mathematics department, Principles of Accounting, Advanced Placement Microeconomics, College Accounting, Personal Finance I, Personal Finance II. The fourth math credit requirement is also satisfied after successful completion of the following Career and Technical programs: Advertising Design and Digital Printing; Automotive Technology; Computer Technology; Construction Technology; Cosmetology; Culinary Arts; Electrical Technology and Renewable Energy Sources; Engineering, Drafting and Design; Health Careers; Marine Technology; and Welding and Shipfitting.

***The Fine/Performing Arts requirement will be waived, with no credit awarded, after successful completion of Floral Design; Landscape Design; and the following Career and Technical programs: Culinary Arts; Engineering, Drafting and Design; Advertising Design and Digital Printing; Cosmetology; and Welding and Shipfitting.

Credits Earned at Chariho Middle School

Students enrolled at Chariho Middle School may earn up to three (3) credits applicable to the twenty-four (24) credit graduation requirements, or four (4) if they complete two levels of world language. Credits may be earned in the following manner:

- Successful completion with passing grades in both years of the two-year Algebra I program (one credit).
- Successful completion with passing grade in both years of any world language Level I and Level II, two-year course would qualify for one high school credit towards graduation per course.
- Successful completion with a passing grade of a Virtual High School (VHS) course when said course is at the high school level and is not offered at Chariho Regional High School (one-half credit per course).
- Out of district students or transfer students can have Algebra I (or first-year math equivalent) and/or the first two years of high school equivalent World Language courses included on their transcript if indicated at the time of enrollment.

At the halfway point of each course or program, parents will be provided with the option of making an irrevocable declaration as to whether or not High School credits are desired. The following will apply when credits are desired.

- For two-year programs, final grades for each year will be averaged and the resultant grade will be recorded on the High School transcript.
- For VHS courses, the final VHS course grade will be recorded on the High School transcript.
- Failure to complete a course or program will result in the recording of an Incomplete (INC) on the High School transcript.
- Nothing herein prohibits students from retaking Algebra I, Spanish I, Spanish II, or French I at the High School.

Proficiency-based Requirements:

For Classes 2023, 2024, and 2025:

Graduation Portfolio: Students are required to successfully complete and present the electronic Graduation Portfolio****. Evidence of the following Expectations for Student Learning must be demonstrated:

- All students will acquire, analyze, and evaluate information and ideas to effectively solve problems.
- All students will articulate thoughts and ideas effectively using oral, written and nonverbal communication skills in a variety of forms and contexts.
- All students will use technology as a tool to research, organize, evaluate, and communicate information and apply fundamental understanding of the ethical and legal issues surrounding the access and use of information technologies.
- All students will develop and exhibit an understanding of culture and the arts.
- All students will be self-directed learners effectively using ideas and information from various disciplines.
- All students will develop an understanding of their own strengths and learning styles and apply this knowledge in planning for their education and career.
- All students will display global awareness through knowledge of other world regions, cultures, and global/international issues, as well as contribute to society as responsible and skilled citizens.
- All students will work actively and cooperatively to achieve group goals.
- All students will make appropriate choices affecting their physical, social, and mental well-being.
- All students will treat others with dignity and respect.

The Graduation Portfolio will be considered a Portfolio of Distinction if a student exceeds the standard on at least eight of the Expectations for Student Learning.

So that students remain on a path to earn their diploma, Chariho Regional High School shall establish and enforce annual Graduation Portfolio requirements, which shall detail the number and types of entries necessary to move to the subsequent grade level. Students who do not complete grade level portfolio requirements will not be allowed to participate in end-of-year activities; these requirements will also be considered when determining academic standing.

Students not participating in the Rhode Island Alternate Assessment System may require accommodations to The Graduation Portfolio. Accommodations must be made according to written procedures established by the Director of Special Education.

Seniors must successfully complete and present their Graduation Portfolio to participate in senior activities (e.g., senior prom, picnic, awards presentations, etc.).

****Specific current requirements can be found on the Chariho Regional High School website at the Graduation Portfolio link.

For Classes 2026 and beyond:

Graduation Project: Students are required to successfully complete and present a Graduation Project****. Through their senior project, students will engage in and complete a 4-part educational experience that demonstrates their readiness for college or career. Students will immerse themselves in a project of high interest. As a result of their project, students will connect with community members, engage in meaningful fieldwork, deeply explore a topic of interest, evaluate their learner qualities, and summarize and present their learning.

Evidence of the following Graduation Project Components must be demonstrated:

- Topic Selection & Letter of Intent
- Fieldwork
- Journal Entries (one of which must contain cited informational text resources)
- Graduation Project Presentation

See the Graduation Project Handbook posted on the Chariho Regional High School website for specific project component requirements, timelines, and proficiency criteria.

So that students remain on a path to earn their diploma, Chariho Regional High School shall establish and enforce annual Graduation Project requirements, which shall detail the number and types of entries necessary to move to the subsequent grade level (this applies to Junior and Senior year). Students who do not complete grade-level project requirements will not be allowed to participate in end-of-year activities; these requirements will also be considered when determining academic standing.

Students not participating in the Rhode Island Alternate Assessment System may require accommodations to The Graduation Project. Accommodations must be made according to written procedures established by the Director of Special Education.

Seniors must successfully complete and present their Graduation Project to participate in senior activities (e.g., senior prom, awards presentations, etc.).

****Specific current requirements can be found on the Chariho Regional High School website at the Graduation Project link.

Major Course Assessments: All students must take summative Major Course Assessments at the end of each semester in all courses, except that these Assessments shall not be mandated in Advanced Placement courses. At least 50% of each assessment score in all courses must result from a performance-based component. Major Course Assessments will count for twenty percent (20%) of the semester course grade. (The quarterly course grades shall each count for forty percent (40%) of the semester grade, to be combined with the Major Course Assessment grade to determine the final semester grade.)

In addition, students must pass a civics assessment as part of the US History sequence. Students not participating in the Rhode Island Alternate Assessment System may also require adjustments to Major Course Assessments. Adjustments must be made according to written procedures established by the Director of Special Education.

For those students who do not pass a Major Course Assessment but have a passing grade for the semester in the related course prior to the administration of the Major Course Assessment, a grade of INC will be entered and no semester grade will be issued. Following documented instruction (e.g., after-school assistance, tutoring, E-Learning Lab), students may retake the Major Course Assessment in which they received a failing grade once within ten school days of the issuance of the initial Major Course Assessment grade only if their grade in the related course was a passing one for the semester (factored by averaging the Q1 and Q2 scores or the Q3 and Q4 scores without the exam score) prior to the administration of the Major Course Assessment. After the ten-school day period, either a 70 or the original grade will be recorded.

Standardized Assessments:

I. All students, except those participating in an alternate assessment, must show evidence of readiness for college, careers and the military by achieving the pass score on one of the following reading and mathematics standardized assessments prior to graduation.

Standardized Assessment	Mathematics Pass Score	Reading Pass Score
Advanced Placement (AP)	Calculus AB - 3 or Calculus BC – 3 or Statistics - 3	English Literature and Comp - 3 or English Language and Comp - 3
ACT	Mathematics - 22	English - 18
SAT	Mathematics – (530 beginning with Class of 2021)	Reading and Writing – (480 beginning with Class of 2021)
Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB)	Armed Forces Qualification Test - (34 beginning with Class of 2021)	Armed Forces Qualification Test – (34 beginning with Class of 2021)
Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC)	Algebra I - 3 or Geometry – 3	English 9 - 3 or English 10 - 3
PSAT	Mathematics – 480	Reading and Writing - 430
State Graduation Exams (Transfer Students)	Depends on State	Depends on State

Students who fail to score at the pass score on identified standardized assessments by August 15 prior to their senior year will be enrolled in a special class or other mandatory intervention(s) and will take the a district approved diagnostic assessment aligned with our high-quality curriculum resources in the area in which they did not achieve a prior pass score after actively participating in the intervention. To meet the standardized assessment graduation requirement, the student will need to attain a passing score as determined by the curriculum resource-aligned assessment in the administration of the assessment(s) that occurs after the start of the senior year. It shall be the student’s responsibility to present evidence of having passed one of the identified standardized assessments to his/her guidance counselor. Exceptions to the mandatory special class requirement may be made for those students enrolled in special education programs; however, an IEP review must be immediately scheduled for students who fail to score at the pass score. Enrollment in a fourth year of mathematics may be required.

In a very few situations, a waiver from the identified standardized assessment requirement may be requested of the Superintendent of Schools. A waiver is available in those rare cases in which the identified standardized assessment is not a valid means of determining individual student achievement levels and the student may be able to demonstrate the pass score level in another way. A waiver protocol shall be made available to students in said position.

In summary, Chariho requires all students to score or show evidence of readiness for college, careers and the military at the pass score level on an identified standardized assessment.

II. Students are responsible for meeting the graduation requirements that are in place when they enter high school, whether or not they graduate in four or more years, except as indicated herein.

Diploma Endorsements and Seals:

By June 1 of the graduating year, student transcripts are reviewed to determine if they meet qualifications for the Pathway Endorsement Council Designation from the RI Department of Education. The Pathway Endorsement Council Designation is available to students successfully completing the following:

- Academic Study: Three, independent connected courses of increased complexity, and complimentary or cumulative content.

- Work-based Learning (of no less than 80 hours): Work-based learning can occur through a variety of different experiences, including internships, apprenticeships, service learning projects, school-based enterprises, and industry projects.
- Diploma Assessment: The student’s Graduation Portfolio demonstrates knowledge and skills gained from the career program.

More information about the Pathway Endorsement Council Designation can be located on the Rhode Island Department of Education website or at the following link:

<https://www.ride.ri.gov/StudentsFamilies/RIPublicSchools/DiplomaSystem.aspx#1254173-council-designations>

Where not available in the Program of Studies, students may propose an independent personalized career pathway of interest of no less than three successive credits, a related internship of no less than sixty (60) hours, and a related external assessment. Said proposals must be in writing, with approval by the School Counselor Department Head, Director of the Chariho Area Career and Technical Center and the Principal of Chariho Regional High School.

By June 1 of the graduating year, student transcripts are reviewed to determine if they meet qualifications for the Seal of Biliteracy and/or the Commissioner’s Seal from the RI Department of Education.

Gold Seal of Biliteracy Issued by Rhode Island Department of Education	
<p>English Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ACT English score of 18 or greater ● PSAT Reading and Writing score of 430 or greater ● SAT Reading and Writing score of 480 or greater ● Advanced Placement (AP) English Language and Composition score of Level 3 or above ● Advanced Placement (AP) English Literature and Composition score of Level 3 or above ● Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State for English Language Learners (ACCESS): State Defined Criteria for ELs ● LAS Links – DRC (Form C/D): Overall Level 5 	<p>World Language Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Advanced Placement (AP) World Language score of Level 4 or above ● AAPL (ACTFL Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Languages) score of Advanced Low or above ● STAMP 4S: World Language score of Level 7 or above ● ASLPI: American Sign Language Proficiency Interview score of Level 4.0 or above
Silver Seal of Biliteracy Issued by Rhode Island Department of Education	
<p>English Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ACT English score of 18 or greater ● PSAT Reading and Writing score of 430 or greater ● SAT Reading and Writing score of 480 or greater ● Advanced Placement (AP) English Language and Composition score of Level 3 and above ● Advanced Placement (AP) English Literature and Composition score of Level 3 and above ● Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State 	<p>World Language Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Advanced Placement (AP) World Language Level 3 ● AAPL (ACTFL Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Languages) score of Level Intermediate-Mid or High ● STAMP 4S: World Language score of Level 5 or above ● ASLPI: American Sign Language Proficiency Interview score of Level 3.0 or above

for English Language Learners (ACCESS): State Defined Criteria for ELs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LAS Links – DRC (Form C/D): Overall Level 5 	
Commissioner’s Seal Issued by the Rhode Island Department of Education (Must Meet Criteria in Both Areas)	
English Requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACT English score of 18 or greater or • Advanced Placement (AP) English Language and Composition score of 3 or greater or • Advanced Placement (AP) English Literature and Composition score of 3 or greater or • Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) English Language Arts Scores (English 9/English 10) of 4 or greater or • PSAT Reading and Writing score of 430 or greater or • SAT Reading and Writing score of 480 or greater 	Mathematics Requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACT Math score of 22 or greater or • Advanced Placement (AP) Calculus score of 3 or greater or • Advanced Placement (AP) Statistics score of 3 or greater or • Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) Mathematics Scores (Algebra I/Geometry) score of 4 or greater or • PSAT Mathematics score of 480 or greater or • SAT Mathematics score of 530 or greater

Transferring Students:

All requirements detailed in this policy apply to transferring students.

The following guidelines shall apply to transferring students in regard to The Graduation Portfolio:

- Students entering prior to the start of their junior year shall meet all requirements outlined in this policy.
- Students entering after the start of their junior year may choose to complete The Graduation Portfolio or those proficiency-based requirements from their previous high school, so long as the requirements of their previous high school were approved by the Rhode Island Department of Education. Students choosing to exercise the option to follow the proficiency-based guidelines of their previous high school must notify the principal, in writing (cosigned by parents if student is under the age of 18), at the time of enrollment.
- Individual situations not addressed by this policy will be handled on a case-by-case basis. The approval of the Superintendent of Schools is required for variations from this policy.

Students in Danger of Not Graduating in Five Years

Enrolled students who are in danger of not graduating in five years and who have attempted and attended all required classes may petition the Superintendent of Schools with a proposal to provide evidence of course content mastery via an alternate means (e.g., pass required MCAs, presentation of work products which show mastery of course content). Credit will be awarded after approval of petition and acceptance of evidence.

Appeals:

Appeals of graduation decisions shall be made, in writing, in accord with the Appeals Policy.

Adopted 2/14/06; Revised 11/29/06, 3/11/08, 7/15/08, 3/24/09, 3/9/10, 5/24/11, 5/8/12, 12/11/12, 3/26/13, 3/25/14, 5/12/15, 1/19/16, 5/9/17, Effective: 7/1/17; Revised 6/19/18, Effective 7/1/18; Revised 5/7/19, Effective 7/1/19; Revised 6/16/20, Effective 7/1/20; Revised and Effective 1/12/21; Revised 5/11/21; Effective 7/1/21; Revised and Effective 9/13/22