



Graduation Requirements

All high school students in the state of Ohio must complete each requirement below in order to receive a high school diploma.

Requirement #1: Course Work (Basic)

NOCA requires its graduates to complete more courses and credits than any other school in Northwest Ohio in order to earn a diploma.

State of Ohio	NOCA
English = 4 credits Math = 4 credits Science = 3 credits Social Studies = 3 credits Financial Literacy = .50 credit Physical Education = .50 credit Health = .50 credit Fine or Performing Arts = 1.0 credit Electives = 4.5 credits	English = 4 credits Math = 4 credits Science = 4 credits History = 4 credits Government = 1.0 credit Economics (Financial Literacy) = .50 credit Philosophy = 2.5 credits Physical Education = .50 credit Health = .50 credit Fine or Performing Arts = 1.0 credit Electives = 3 credits
State of Ohio Total = 21 credits	NOCA Total = 27.50 credits





Senior Thesis

Seniors at Northwest Ohio Classical Academy are required to author a **senior thesis** paper ranging from 7-10 pages on a topic of their choice prior to graduating in their senior Literature class. Students must defend their paper in front of a panel of advisors as part of their capstone experience.



Requirement #2: Testing (Competency)

Students have four options to choose from to demonstrate competency.

<p>Option #1:</p> 	<p>Option #2:</p> 	<p>Option #3:</p> 	<p>Option #4:</p> 
<p>End of Course Exams All high school students are required to take the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> € *Algebra I € *English II € Biology € U.S. History € Geometry € Government <p><i>*Students must earn a minimum score of 684 on the Algebra I and English II exams in order to have a path to graduation.</i></p>	<p>College Credit Plus Earn college credit in a non-remedial math or English course (for the subject area not passed) to demonstrate competency.</p>	<p>Career Experience and Technical Skill Complete two demonstrations to show competency, at least one of which must be a foundational option. Foundational: a. Earn a score of proficient or higher on three or more WebXams in a single career pathway; b. Earn a 12-point approved industry-recognized credential or group of credentials totaling 12 points in a single career field; c. Complete a pre-apprenticeship in the student's chosen career field or, for students ages 18 and older, show evidence of acceptance into an apprenticeship program after high school. Supporting: a. Complete a 250-hour work-based learning experience with evidence of positive evaluations; b. Earn the workforce readiness score on WorkKeys; or c. Earn the OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal.</p>	<p>Military Readiness Competency can be achieved by meeting the requirements to enlist in the military, which can be demonstrated by a contract with the military to enlist upon graduation (see the Military Enlistment Seal guidelines in this document for more information about enlistment).</p>



Requirement #3: Seals (Readiness)






Students must earn TWO seals prior to graduation. One seal must be state defined and the other must be locally defined. NOCA recommends earning the OMJ Seal and the Service Seal in order to have a pathway to graduation. However, students are free to choose the seals they wish to earn.

	*Ohio Means Jobs Seal	State Defined	<p>To earn the OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal, each student must complete these steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demonstrate proficiency** in each of 15 identified professional skills. 2. Using the OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal Form, record how he or she demonstrated each professional skill. A student is only required to document how he or she demonstrated each skill in one of three possible environments – school, work or community. But, the student cannot document all 15 skills in the same environment, for example, school. At least two environments must be reflected among the demonstrated skills. 3. Have each skill validated (confirmed) by at least one mentor. A mentor is an experienced advisor the student trusts. A minimum of three mentors must be involved in the overall validation process and sign the form. By signing the form, each mentor is recommending the student to a prospective employer or higher education provider
	*Community Service Seal	Locally Defined	Students must complete 24 hours of service per year in grades 9-12.
	College-Ready Seal	State Defined	<p>Earn a remediation free score on a College Entrance Exam</p> <p>ACT</p> <p>Math = 22</p> <p>Reading = 18</p> <p>SAT</p> <p>Math = 530</p> <p>Reading/Writing = 480</p>
	Seal of Biliteracy	State Defined	<p>Qualifiers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Earned a proficient level or higher on Ohio's required state tests for high school English language arts I and II; or b. Earned a remediation-free score on the English and reading sections of the ACT or SAT; or





			<p>c. Earned a proficient level or higher on an Education-approved alternative assessment (Iowa Test); or</p> <p>d. Earned a score of proficient or higher on the 9-12 Ohio English Language Proficiency Assessment (OELPA).</p> <p>Qualifiers:</p> <p>a. Passed an Advanced Placement (AP) foreign language examination with a score of 4 or higher; or</p> <p>b. Passed an International Baccalaureate (IB) foreign language examination with a score of 5 or higher on the Higher Level exam or a score of 6 or higher on the Standard Level exam; or</p> <p>c. Attained a score of Intermediate High or higher in comprehension, speaking, reading and writing the foreign language based on the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages Proficiency Guidelines found at actfl.org/, using assessments approved by the Ohio Department of Education; or</p> <p>d. Qualified for proficiency-based credits through Ohio's credit flexibility program and attained a score of Intermediate High or higher in comprehension, speaking, reading and writing based on the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages Proficiency Guidelines using assessments approved by the Ohio Department of Education; or</p> <p>e. Attained a score equivalent to Intermediate High or higher on the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages Proficiency Guidelines in interpersonal signing, presentational signing and demonstrating understanding of American Sign Language on an American Sign Language assessment approved by the Ohio Department of Education; or</p> <p>f. Attained a score equivalent to Intermediate High or higher on the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages Proficiency Guidelines in interpretive reading and presentational writing on a classical language assessment approved by the Ohio Department of Education.</p>
	Honors Diploma	State Defined	<p>Earn one of six Honors Diplomas outlined below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Academic Honors Diploma; 2. International Baccalaureate Honors Diploma; 3. Career-Tech Honors Diploma; 4. STEM Honors Diploma; 5. Arts Honors Diploma; 6. Social Science and Civic Engagement Honors Diploma. <p>Math= 4 units Science=4 units Social Studies =4 units World Language=3 units Fine Arts=1 unit GPA= 3.5 or higher College Entrance Exam= ACT 27/SAT 1280 or higher</p>



	Student Engagement Seal	Locally Defined	Four years leadership experience as a Student member, Club Officer/Member, Student Ambassador or Student Athlete.
	Citizenship Seal	State Defined	<p>Students must demonstrate readiness in both American History and American Government. Additional options to demonstrate readiness in these areas to earn the Citizenship Seal provided by House Bill 110 include:</p> <p>Earn a final course grade that is equivalent to a “B” or higher in an American History course or an American Government course offered by the student’s high school. Students can mix and match options from the American History and American Government categories to earn this seal. For example: A student who earns a score of proficient on the Ohio State Test in American Government and a “B” in an American History course will qualify for the Citizenship Seal.</p>
	Military Enlistment Seal	State Defined	Provide evidence that a student has enlisted in a branch of the U.S. Armed Forces; or Participate in an approved JROTC program.
	Science Seal	State Defined	<p>Earn a final course grade that is equivalent to a “B” or higher in an advanced science course.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advanced science courses contain rigorous content appropriate for grades 11 and 12. An advanced science course builds on the concepts and skills developed in the physical science and biology courses detailed in Ohio’s Learning Standards for Science. Appropriate advanced science courses include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chemistry, physics or other physical sciences; Advanced biology or other life sciences; Astronomy; Physical geology or other Earth or space science; and Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) Earth, life or physical science courses.
	Fine and Performing Arts Seal	Locally Defined	<p>Earn four units of Fine or Performing Arts</p> <p>Two units of electives with a focus in fine arts</p> <p>Field experience documented in a portfolio specific to the student’s area of focus.</p>



			Comprehensive portfolio of work student's field experience or a topic that is related to the student's area of focus.
	Industry-Recognized Credential Seal	State Defined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obtain a state-issued license for practice in a vocation that requires an examination. More information about this option will be forthcoming.
	Technology Seal	State Defined	<p>A student can:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Earn a score that is at least equivalent to proficient on an appropriate Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate exam; Earn a final course grade that is equivalent to a "B" or higher in an appropriate class taken through the College Credit Plus program; or Complete a course offered through the district or school that meets guidelines developed by the Department. (A district or school is not required to offer a course that meets those guidelines.)

(ODE Graduation Requirements-Long Term Graduation Requirements)