McDowell County Schools

HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS OF STUDY AND COURSE HANDBOOK





McDowell County Schools

PROGRAMS OF STUDY

The Courses of Study Document is based on the WVBE Policy 2510. Graduating Classes of 2022 and beyond are required to have 22 credits for graduation.

Course offerings are dictated by student requests and available staff. Not all courses listed in this document can be offered every year. Student and parents are encouraged to discuss their options with school administrators, counselors, and/or their advisers regarding available options and their future career plans.

If a student is planning to participate in college athletics, please be advised that the NCAA may not accept Transitional English or Transitional Math as a student's fourth English or Math requirement. A student must take Math III in Grade 11 and English 12 and a higher level math in Grade 12 to meet the NCAA requirements.

Definitions

Advanced Placement (AP)- high school courses that offer college credit if a student receives a passing score on an AP Exam.

Career Cluster- A wide grouping of related occupations representative of types of occupations available in the workplace. Career clusters identify the knowledge and skills needed to follow a pathway toward career goals and provide content for exploring various occupational options.

Concentration Courses- Four courses that a student takes based on their selected Career Cluster. Student must complete the four concentration classes in their chosen pathway as a requirement for graduation.

Dual Credit- college credit courses that can be applied toward high school and college graduation.

EDGE (Earn a Degree, Graduate Early)-A WV Higher Education Tech Prep Program that allows students to take high school courses for community and technical credit. CTE courses are EDGE courses.

Embedded Credit Course- Course that incorporates content standards for an embedded credit from one credit bearing high school course into another host course and allows students to earn credit for both.

Personalized Education Plan (PEP)- a plan developed to guide students and their parents/guardians to thoughtfully explore individual interest and aptitude in relation to academic and career planning. Each student's course selections are based on individual career aspirations and post-secondary plans.

Simulated Workplace- Workplace environment protocols that have been implemented to align with WV workforce requirements, including random testing, professionalism, attendance, and safety.

STEM- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics education.

STEAM- Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics education.

Choosing Courses

(All courses may not be offered at both schools every year.)

It may seem overwhelming to consider now what your plans are for the coming year and beyond graduation. The concentration you choose now should be based on your interests. Following are a few guidelines to help you make your decisions:

As you start planning your possible college and career goals, the initial step lies in choosing a cluster and working with your counselor to identify potential concentrations and courses to take in high school.

Clusters are broad groupings of careers:

- Architecture and Construction
- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)
- Arts, A/V Technology, and Communication
- Business Management and Administration
- Marketing
- Finance
- Government and Public Administration
- Human Services
- Health Sciences
- Education and Training
- Hospitality and Tourism
- Information Technology
- Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics
- Manufacturing
- Law, Public Safety, Correction, and Security

Concentration: Each Cluster is divided into areas of Concentration. For instance, if you want to be a stockbroker, you would likely choose the Personal/Financial Management Concentration in the Business and Marketing Cluster. Likewise, if you want to be a bank teller, you would also choose this concentration, taking the four required courses and possibly some of the recommended courses. The concentration directs you toward courses that will help you better understand and prepare for your career interest.

Course selection opportunities are subject to teacher availability and each school's master schedule.

Virtual School Classes are available for many courses. Virtual Schools' courses may be found at the following URL:

https://wveis.k12.wv.us/vschool/courses/coursecatalog.cfm

ADOLESCENT EDUCATION (GRADES 9-12)

Under the direction and assistance form the school counselors, teachers, administrators, parents, and mentors, students should determine the requirements for entering technical programs, colleges, or universities they plan to attend. This information, along with the high school graduation requirements, should guide students as they create their personalized education plan (PEP) and schedule high school courses.

Students must make the following decisions when completion the PEP:

- 1. Identify career interest
- 2. Choose CTE Option or Non-CTE Option
- 3. Select a career cluster from the 16 clusters defined as WV Career Clusters
- 4. Select a concentration option aligned with chosen career cluster
- 5. Identify what four courses will be taken to fulfil concentration option
- 6. Identify plans for first year after graduation: 4-year college, 2-year college, technical school, military, workforce, or other.

Requirements for Graduation- Options

CTE Option	Non-CTE Option
4 English credits**	4 English credits**
4 Math credits**	4 Math credits**
3 Science credits**	3 Science credits**
4 Social Studies credits**	4 Social Studies credits**
1 Fine Art credit	1 Fine Art credit
1 PE credit	1 PE credit
1 Health credit	1 Health credit
4 CTE Core Concentration Credits	4 Credits leading to post-secondary goals

*Two sequential courses of the same world language are recommended for college bound students. Students should check with their post-secondary institutions because some individual programs and out of state institutions may require two years of world language.

**AP/Dual Credit/Honors courses are offered to any interested students regardless of the chosen option

Non-CTE by Grade Level

Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11**	Grade 12**
English 9	English 10	English 11	English 12 or another
			personalized ELA credit
Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II or another	4th Personalized Math
		personalized math credit	Credit
Earth and Space	Biology	Science Elective	Science Elective
World Studies	US History	Contemporary Studies	Civics
Fine Art	Health	Elective*	Elective*
PE	Elective *	Elective*	Elective*
World Language/Elective	World Language/Elective	Elective*	Elective*

*Electives must reflect a chosen career cluster (including virtual classes)

**AP or Dual Credit classes can be completed in Grades 11 and 12

CTE by Grade Level

Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11**	Grade 12**
English 9	English 10	English 11	CTC
Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	CTC
Earth and Space	Biology	Science Elective**	CTC
World Studies	US History	Social Studies Elective	CTC
Fine Art	Health	CTC	English 12 or another personalized ELA elective
PE	Elective *	CTC	4 th Personalized Math Elective
Elective*	Elective*	CTC	Civics

*Electives must reflect a chosen career cluster (including virtual classes)

** For Therapeutic Services, Chemistry is a required Science elective

**AP or Dual Credit classes can be completed in Grades 11 and 12

High School Coursework

Content Area	Required Courses	Personalized Options
English Language Arts 4 Credits	English 9 English 10	English 12 or Transition English Language Arts for Seniors
	English 11	Technical English Language Arts
	1 additional personalized credit	Creative Writing and Reading
	from course options	English Language Arts College Courses approved by MCS
		AP English Literature and Composition
		AP English Language and Composition
Mathematics	Algebra I	Algebra II
4 Credits	Geometry	Trigonometry/Pre-Calculus
	2 Personalized Options	Introduction to Mathematical Applications
		AP Computer Science A
		Advanced Mathematical Modeling
		Calculus
		Statistics
		Quantitative Reasoning
		Mathematics College Course
		AP Calculus
		AP Statistics
		Financial Algebra/Mathematics Data Science
		Computer Science and Mathematics
Science	Earth and Space Science	Chemistry
3 Credits	(Grade 9)	Human Anatomy and Physiology
	Biology (Grade 10)	Physics
	1 Personalized Option	Physical Science
		Environmental Science
		Forensics
		Science College Courses
		Computer Science- GIS
		Human Body Systems (CTE)
		Therapeutic Services (Courses I, II, and III)

Social Studies 4 Credits	World Studies US Studies Contemporary Studies Civics	Geography Economics Financial Literacy *Personal Finance (required graduation credit for 2024-2025 Freshman Cohort) Psychology Social Studies College Courses Dual Credit Courses Sociology
Physical Education 1 Credit	PE 9-12, Integrated PE Extracurricular/Interscholastic PE, both graded and non- graded	
Health 1 Credit	Health 9-12	Health College Courses
The Arts 1 Credit	1 Personalized Credit	Four Sequential courses in music, visual art, dance, theatre are required to be offered Arts courses Arts College Courses Ornamental Metal Work (CTE) Digital Imaging/Multimedia I (CTE)
Personalized Education Plan 4 Credits	4 credits in a CTE Program of Study <u>or</u> 4 credits leading to post- secondary goals	Each student's PEP will identify a career cluster and either a CTE program of study or coursework that will lead directly to college placement, attainment of an industry-recognized certificate or license, a workforce training program, or job placement.
Computer Science		Required to be offered: One course in computer science
World Languages		Three levels in one world language are required to be offered. Most four-year colleges and universities require the completion of at least two credits of the same world language before or during post- secondary programing.
Driver Education		One course in Driver Education is required to be offered
School Counseling System meaningful supportive rela system will be evidence- a	n, high schools will implement a cor tionships and maximizes each stud nd standards-based to include the	ess- Required (2520.19)- Through a Comprehensive ntinuous advisory system that provides students with dent's personalized learning experience. The advisory development of each student's PEP, career portfolio, as and build competent, engaged citizens.

TRANSCRIPT ANALYSIS

Student:	St	udent WVEIS ID:
✓ ✓ ✓	Course name in the designated space means the co Refer to High School coursework charts for required 22 credits are required for graduation for Classes 20	courses for each grade level
	Required Class	Electives
	English 9 or English 9 Honors	
	English 10 or English 10 Honors	
	English 11 or English 11 Honors	
	English 12 or English TR for Seniors or AP Co	pmposition
	and Lit or English 101/102	
	Algebra I	
	Geometry	
	Algebra II	
	Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry/Transitional Math	for Seniors
	Earth and Space Science or Earth and Space	Honors
	Biology or Biology Honors	
	Science Elective	
	Science Elective	
	World Studies	
	US Studies	
	Contemporary Studies	
	Civics	
	Fine Art	4 Core Concentration Courses
	Physical Education	
	Health	
	Foreign Language I	
	Foreign Language II	

GRADING SCALE/QUALITY POINTS

<u>Scale</u>	Letter Grade	<u>Non-Weighted</u> Quality Points	Honors Weighted Quality Points	<u>Advanced</u> <u>Weighted Quality</u> <u>Points</u>
90-100	А	4.0	4.5	5.0
80-89	В	3.0	3.5	4.0
70-79	С	2.0	2.5	3.0
60-69	D	1.0	1.5	2.0
0-59	F	0.0	0.0	0.0

Grade of "I" or Incomplete

An incomplete may be given when a student has not completed all the required work within a grading period. The teacher shall change the grade of incomplete to the grade earned when the following guidelines are met:

- 1. It is the student's responsibility to obtain the assignment from the particular teacher(s).
- 2. The student is responsible to turn in the completed work on the specified date.
- All work is to be completed and turned in within a period equal to the number of days missed at the end of the grading period, which is not to exceed three days.

Final Exams

Comprehensive semester exams will be given for Mathematics, English, Science and History and will account for 1/7 of the total semester average. School leadership has the discretion to require additional semester exams for other core content subjects.

All students in grades 9-12 shall be required to participate in final exams at the end of each semester. All courses will have to have finals scheduled at the end of each semester.

- Finals will be comprehensive and cover standards taught during the course of the semester, reflecting the complexity levels of those standards;
- The finals can be exams or demonstration projects;
- Finals must be provided to the principal/assistant principal for approval along with the scoring guidelines at least 2 weeks before the final exams.

Students may be exempted from the semester exams under the following circumstances:

- No more than one (1) absence and a "C" average, unless the excused absences are a result of schoolapproved curricular or extracurricular activities, failure of the bus to run, calamity, or chronic medical condition (documented by specialist via chronic medical form);
- No more than two (2) absences and a "B" average, unless the excused absences are a result of schoolapproved curricular or extracurricular activities, failure of the bus to run, calamity, or chronic medical condition (documented by specialist via chronic medical form);

- c. No more than three (3) absences and an "A" average unless the excused absences are a result of schoolapproved curricular or extracurricular activities, failure of the bus to run, calamity, or chronic medical condition (documented by specialist via chronic medical form);
- d. Students who are exempt from the final exam will not have to report to school on the designated final exam days, but will be counted absent in the school's official record. Students who are exempt from the final exam will be provided an alternate activity by the school if they report to school on the final exam days.
- e. All students may take a non-required exam to improve their grade point average. However, if the exam hurts their final grade, it shall not count.
- f. Students enrolled in courses that require end of course exams (AP and dual credit) will not be exempted from those exams. If students opt out of taking an AP exam, they will be assigned an equivalent of an AP exam following the same grading/weight expectations as an AP exam.

Semester grades will be calculated by averaging percentage grades from each quarter.

HONORS COURSES

Purpose of Honors Courses: The purpose of an honors course is to challenge students to excel in specific disciplines above and beyond the expectations of the average classroom. Honors classes are expected to be rigorous. The level of difficulty will be appropriate to the course and grade level. In addition, the expected outcome of an honors curriculum is to better prepare students to perform on college entrance exams and be better prepared for the rigor required in the succeeding Advanced Placement course, where those courses exist.

Fundamental Understandings:

- Honors level courses differ from regular courses in that they treat content with greater in-depth study, contain research, give evidence of requiring critical thinking and contain extended course content.
- Honors level courses must have established prerequisites indicating completed courses and academic standing.
- Honors level courses are designed with the rigor of Advanced Placement courses in mind.
- Honors level courses are offered in several departments. These courses are weighted at all grade levels, nine through twelve.
- The selection of courses is a critical choice for students, and is always accomplished in consultation with parents.

Enrollment Requirements:

Students will be enrolled in honors level courses based on the following criteria:

- Scores which show Lexile and Quantile scores at or above the scale scores for the appropriate grade levels in ELA and Mathematics based on the interim assessments and General Summative Assessment;
- Current teacher recommendation;
- Previous performance in Honors classes; or
- Parent request via a written letter to the student's counselor.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT AND DUAL CREDIT COURSES

Advanced Placement and Dual Credit Courses offer our students the opportunity to do college level work while still in high school. They are available to qualified academically oriented students in grades 9 through 12 as noted. Upon completion of the AP Course, students must take the nationally administered examination offered in early May. They may receive college credit hours for each examination they take. This makes it possible for a student who is successful on the exam(s) and in the course(s) to enter college as or near the sophomore level. After successful completion of a Dual Credit course, students will also receive a college credit for the course.

Reasons to take an AP or Dual Credit course:

- You are ready for a rigorous learning experience that will help you succeed in college.
- Through college-level courses and exams, you can earn college credits and advanced placement.
- You can stand out in the admission process.

In order to receive college credit for an AP course, a student generally needs to score three or higher on the examinations. A student should confer with college admission in regard to their policy of accepting college credit from the AP exams. For a list of colleges that accept AP credit, students should see their counselor, An AP Grade Report is sent in early July to each student, school, and if requested, to the college(s) you select. It must be kept in mind that completion of the AP course(s) does not insure the student a passing grade on the examination(s). It depends on the dedication and quality of work performed by the student.

Advanced Placement courses are offered in the following areas: Social Studies, Science, Mathematics, and English. Additional electives in AP courses can be added after the meeting with the school's counselor. Additional opportunities for advanced placement classes may be available through Virtual Schools, if a student's schedule allows.

ASSESSMENT

College Entrance Exams

The College entrance tests are given by two testing agencies: the College Board administers the PSAT/NMSQT, and SAT Achievement Tests, and the American College Testing Program which administers the ACT. For detailed information on the nature of these tests and the preferred testing dates students should see their counselors. SAT is also given to all 11th graders and to the 12th graders in Transitional Courses as part of WV General Summative Assessment.

Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB)

The ASVAB test is administered by representatives of the Armed Services. It is an optional test but is recommended to students to help give them an idea of their strengths and weaknesses in the aptitude for certain careers. This test is also required before entering the military.

VIRTUAL SCHOOL

Virtual School Student Eligibility and Requirements

McDowell County Virtual School students are enrolled in classes for 3rd through 12th grade. McDowell County Schools will use Proximity Learning as a virtual platform and will use the services of certified teachers provided by Proximity Learning. Teacher will provide live instruction to students Monday through Friday. **Students will be** expected to log in daily, participate in instruction, and submit assignments by due dates.

Our students may be any of the following:

- Students who are homeschooled and wishing to enroll in the district school;
- Students who are taking courses both at home and at school. The student has the option to complete coursework at home or may choose to come to school to participate in specifically selected courses;
- Students who are enrolled in a traditional education program in the district school and take some courses through the Virtual School;
- Students who are full-time virtual school learners and complete all coursework online at home.
- Students receiving home/hospital instruction;
- Students receiving educational services in alternative setting.

Students who meet the following requirements are eligible to participate in the virtual education program

- Enrolled in McDowell County Schools as a full-time student (6 courses per semester);
- Enrolled in courses to meet McDowell County Schools graduation requirements;
- Have a signed AUP on file;
- Parents and students must successfully complete a district defined virtual education orientation course;
- Meet school system and/or state enrollment requirements for the county school system, including health requirements such as immunizations, physicals, dentals, etc.;
- Meet school system and/or state enrollment requirements for the course(s) to be scheduled including successful completion of any prerequisite courses;
- Maintain a minimum grade of 70 on a numerical scale in courses taken during the current academic year (high enough to maintain a C average for sports);
- Must have an 80% attendance rate, regardless of instructional model, for the previous year;
- Have access to consistent, daily internet service.

Criteria to Remain in Virtual School

- Maintain a minimum grade of 70 on a numerical scale in courses taken during the current academic year (high enough to maintain a C average for sports);
- Have access to consistent, daily internet service;
- Follow the Acceptable Internet Use Agreement expectations;
- Participate in 95% of Proximity Sessions with the CAMERA ON;
- May not be chronically absent (miss more than 10% of school year for any reason);
- Participate in the State Summative Assessment in grade 3-8 and 11.

Removal

Students may be transitioned back to a traditional day instruction or returned to homeschool for the following reasons:

- Not maintaining a 70 % average in each course;
- Progressing through coursework below the minimum requirement for coursework (6 courses per semester);
- Not meeting attendance requirements;
- Cheating, falsifying information, or plagiarizing;

 Violating McDowell County Schools policies and procedures, including rules governing the use of technology.

Extracurricular Activities

Students enrolled as a full-time student in the virtual program are eligible to participate in co-curricular or extracurricular activities in the school in which they are enrolled according to attendance areas. Students must meet the same extracurricular activity eligibility requirements as students enrolled in the traditional day program including any applicable WVSSAC requirements. Student residency for purposes of participating in extracurricular activities will be determined in accordance with applicable McDowell County Schools' policies and WVSSAC policies.

CTE COURSES OF STUDY

Program of Study	Cluster and #	Pathway	Fulfillment of Required Course (not transcribed)	Credit Articulation Agreement (Bluefield State)	EDGE Credit	Certifications Offered
Allied Health Sciences*	Health Science HE0715	Therapeutic Services	3 required courses 0711, 0715, and any Clinical Specialty fulfils third science	3 required courses 0711, 0715, and 0721= 8 credit hours for the following BSC courses: HLTH 100, HLTH 101, HLTH 201, and HLTH 290 upon enrollment in BSC	Reflected in transcripts and can be transferred to certain area community colleges in WV	OSHA-10 NOCTI Completion
Automotive Technology	Transportation, Distribution and Logistics TR1620	Facility & Mobile Equipment Maintenance			Reflected in transcripts and can be transferred to certain area community colleges in WV	OSHA-10 NOCTI Completion
Coding, App and Game Design	Information Technology IT1442	Interactive Media	Digital Imaging/ Multimedia I 1431 fulfils Art 1 (3211)		Reflected in transcripts and can be transferred to certain area community colleges in WV	OSHA-10 NOCTI Completion
Computer Systems Repair Technology	Information Technology IT 1680	Network Systems			Reflected in transcripts and can be transferred to certain area community colleges in WV	OSHA-10 NOCTI Completion A+ Certification
Law and Public Safety*	Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security LA1020	Law Enforcement Services		4 required courses 1035, 1037, 1034, and 1035 = 9 credit hours for the following BSC courses: CRMJ151, CRMJ221, and CRMJ 232 upon enrollment at BSC	Reflected in transcripts and can be transferred to certain area community colleges in WV	Facility & Mobile Equipment Maintenance

Power Equipment Systems	Transportation, Distribution and Logistics TR1960	Facility & Mobile Equipment Maintenance		Reflected in transcripts and can be transferred to certain area community colleges in WV	OSHA-10 NOCTI Completion
Welding	Manufacturing MA1980	Production	Ornamental Metalwork 1982 fulfils 1 Art credit	Reflected in transcripts and can be transferred to certain area community colleges in WV	OSHA-10 NOCTI Completion
Tourism	Hospitality and Tourism HO 1220	Hospitality and Tourism		Reflected in transcripts and can be transferred to certain area community colleges in WV	OSHA-10 NOCTI Completion
Pro-Start Restaurant Management	Hospitality and Tourism HO 1010	Hospitality and Tourism		Reflected in transcripts and can be transferred to certain area community colleges in WV	OSHA-10 NOCTI Completion

GROW YOUR OWN TEACHING PATHWAY

Eligibility:

- Incoming Juniors
- 4 2.5 GPA
- ♣ In good attendance and discipline standing

Junior Year				
Semester 1	Semester 2			
High School Courses:	High School Courses:			
 English 11 Algebra II Contemporary Studies Introduction to Literacy* 	 English 11 Algebra II Contemporary Studies College Courses:			
 Foundations of Education EDUC 110 (dual) Introduction to Fine Arts HUMN 150 (BSC) 	 Child Growth and Development EDUC 200 (dual) Art and Music for Teachers EDUC 120 (BSC) 			
Semester 1 College Credit Hours: 6	Semester 2 College Credit Hours: 6			
Clinical Experience Hours for Juniors: 50 Hours Senior Year				
Semester 1	Semester 2			
High School Courses:	High School Courses:			
 English 12 (dual) Trig/Precalculus (Dual) Civics 	 English 12 (dual) Trig/Precalculus (dual) Civics Research Based Strategies* 			
 <i>Educational Psychology EDUC *** (dual)</i> Fundamentals of Speech COMM 208 (BSC) English Composition ENGL 101 (dual) Math 101 (dual) 	<u>College Courses:</u> ↓ Social/Emotional Well-being EDUC*** (dual) ↓ English Composition ENGL 102 (dual) ↓ Math 109 (dual)			
Semester 1 College Credit Hours: 12	Semester 2 College Credit Hours: 9			
Clinical Experience Ho	urs for Senior Year: 21 burs for Seniors: 100 Hours			
I otal Course	ework Credits: 33			

- State Provided Curriculum (4 core GYO courses)
 County-Created Curriculum for Electives

CONTACTS:

Central Office

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Mount View High School

Mr. Tim Kennedy, Principal Mr. Nathan Lawson, Assistant Principal Mrs. Robin Walker, Counselor, Grades 11-12 Ms. Sabrina Mullins, Counselor, Grades 9-10

River View High School

Mr. Frazier McGuire, Principal Dr. Stephanie Crouse, Assistant Principal Mrs. Tabatha Vandyke, Counselor, Grades 11-12 Mrs. Deanna Picklesimer, Counselor, Grades 9-10

McDowell County Career and Technical Center

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