

Exploring Pathways

at Oak Ridge High School

Every student prepared for College, Career and Life **Success**



Oak Ridge
SCHOOLS

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Glossary of Acronyms

AP - Advanced Placement: courses give students the chance to tackle college-level work while still in high school and earn college credit and placement.

APG - Academic Planning Guide: a catalog of course offerings and descriptions, including graduation requirements.

CP - College Preparatory: course of studies designed to qualify students for admission to a college or university.

DC - Dual Credit: eligible high school students enroll in a college course and receive credit from both the college and high school, usually by participating in an aligned exam.

DE - Dual Enrollment: high school students taking college courses while they are still enrolled in a secondary school. Credit is awarded at both institutions. (Some offered off-campus).

WBL - Work-Based Learning: through experiences like internships, apprenticeships, and paid work experience, juniors and seniors (16 years or older) may earn high school credit for course-aligned employment.

For more detailed information, see our full Academic Planning Guide:

https://www.ortn.edu/ORHS/APG_2024-2025.pdf

Introduction to Pathways

Oak Ridge Schools is committed to preparing every student for college, career, and life success. To support that effort, students are required to explore Pathways during their ORHS career that will prepare them for post-secondary pursuits, whether that's college, career, and/or military. **Built into our graduation requirements (page 3) are 3 credits in an elective focus. Students have an additional 6 credits with which they can explore multiple pathways.**

How are Pathways Identified?

Pathways align with [career clusters identified by the Tennessee School Board Association](#), with special consideration given to availability of instructors and interest of current student body.

What if my student changes Pathways?

Students are encouraged to explore multiple pathways at ORHS. By requiring 3 credits in an elective focus, it affords students time and flexibility to take courses in other pathways and change if needed.

What should my student consider when choosing a Pathway?

The student's personal interests and strengths should be determining factors when choosing a pathway. Other factors including job demand/work force needs, required degrees/certifications and median salary are outlined on the [TSBA Data Dashboard](#).

What is an Elective Focus?

We offer five categories of elective focus, with aligned pathways.

Advanced Studies

- Advanced Placement & Dual Studies
- Advanced Math & Science

Arts, Business, and Communications

- Arts & A/V Communications (Broadcasting or Digital Arts)
- Business, Finance, & Marketing
- Performing Arts
- Visual Arts

Health and Public Services

- Cosmetology
- Education & Training
- Exercise Science
- Health Science
- NJROTC

Humanities

- English Language Arts
- Social Studies
- World Languages

Industry and Innovation

- Automotive
- Aviation
- Clean & Nuclear Energy Innovations
- Electrical and Construction
- Information Technology
- iSchool Wildcat Manufacturing
- STEM Engineering & Machining
- Welding

GRADE-LEVEL COUNSELORS

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Graduation Requirements

To graduate, a student must finish the credit requirements outlined below within four years and the summer following the senior year to count as an on-time graduate by the Tennessee Department of Education.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS		
SUBJECT	COURSES REQUIRED	CREDITS REQUIRED
English	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> English 9 English 10 English 11 English 12 	4 Credits
Math	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Algebra 1 Geometry Algebra 2 +1 Choice* 	4 Credits
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biology Chemistry or Physics +1 Choice 	3 Credits
Social Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> US Gov US History World History Economics Personal Finance 	3.5 Credits
Lifetime Wellness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wellness A Wellness B 3rd Wellness** 	1.5 Credits
World Languages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Credits in the same language 	2 Credits
Visual & Performing Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Credit Visual or Performing Arts 	1 Credit
Elective Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At Least 3 Credits in Selected Pathways 	3 - 9 Credits
Total Credits Required for Graduation		28 Credits

*Students must be enrolled in a mathematics course or an approved substitution in 3 of 4 years per Tennessee State Board of Education Policy 2.103.

**3rd Wellness can be obtained through taking wellness C, one season of interscholastic athletics, marching band, 2 credits of NJROTC, repeating wellness B, or taking athletic conditioning.

***General studies elective pathway at counselor discretion.

^World Language and Fine Arts Waivers may be submitted by administrative approval. See full paragraph about this option if needed.

+Beginning with the class of 2028, all students are required to take 1 credit of Computer Science before graduation.

Pathways

Built into our graduation requirements are 3 credits in an elective focus. Students have an additional 6 credits with which they can explore multiple pathways beyond the core requirements from the following programs.



Advanced Placement and Dual Studies



Humanities



Advanced Math & Science



Health Science



Arts & A/V Communications



Information Technology



Automotive



iSchool & Wildcat Manufacturing



Aviation



NJROTC



Business, Finance and Marketing



Performing Arts



Clean & Nuclear Energy Innovations



Electrical and Construction



Cosmetology



STEM Engineering and Machining



Education & Training



Visual Arts



Exercise Science



Welding

Course Offerings By Pathway

Students must complete any three (3) of the courses aligned to their elective focus.

<i>Advanced Studies Elective Focus</i>	
Advanced Placement and Dual Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any 3 AP, Dual Enrollment, or Dual Credit classes • Additional elective(s) based on subject or career interest
Advanced Math & Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any math courses beyond graduation requirements (<i>Includes Math Thesis 1 & 2 by recommendation</i>) • Any science courses beyond graduation requirements • Additional elective(s) based on subject or career interest
<i>Arts, Business, and Communications Elective Focus</i>	
Arts & A/V Communications Broadcasting or Digital Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadcasting 1 • Broadcasting 2 Dual Credit with PSCC • Broadcasting 3 • Broadcasting 4 Career Practicum and/or WBL • Digital Arts 1 • Digital Arts 2 • Digital Arts 3 • Digital Arts 4 Career Practicum and/or WBL
Business, Finance and Marketing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer Applications • Introduction to Business and Marketing • Accounting 1 & Accounting 2 • Business Marketing & Management • Virtual Enterprise and/or WBL
Performing Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Band (multiple levels) • Choir (multiple levels) • Orchestra (multiple levels) • Color Guard (multiple levels)
Visual Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art Foundations • 2D Visual Art • Ceramics (DE option) • Digital Art • Printmaking • Photography • AP Studio

Course Offerings By Pathway

Students must complete any three (3) of the courses aligned to their elective focus.

<i>Health and Public Services Elective Focus</i>	
Cosmetology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Business & Marketing • DE Cosmetology 1 • DE Cosmetology 2
Education & Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching as a Profession 1 • Teaching as a Profession 2 • DE Teaching as a Profession 3 • Teaching as a Profession 4 Work-Based Learning
Exercise Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Science Education • Rehabilitation Careers • Anatomy & Physiology and/or DE Gross Anatomy • Wellness Beyond Graduation Requirements • Athletic Conditioning
Health Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Science Education • Medical Therapeutics • Rehabilitation Careers • Anatomy & Physiology and/or DE Gross Anatomy • DE Clinical Services & Clinical Internship or DE Nursing Services Work-Based Learning
NJROTC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Naval Sciences JROTC 1 • Naval Sciences JROTC 2 • Naval Sciences JROTC 3 • Naval Sciences JROTC 4+ • Additional elective(s) based on subject or career interest
<i>Humanities Elective Focus</i>	
English Language Arts Social Studies World Languages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English Language Arts electives beyond graduation requirements including AP and DE coursework • Social Studies electives beyond graduation requirements including AP and DE coursework • World Language electives beyond graduation requirements including AP and DE coursework

Course Offerings By Pathway

Students must complete any three (3) of the courses aligned to their elective focus.

Industry and Innovation Elective Focus	
Automotive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Automotive Maintenance 1 Automotive Maintenance 2 DE Automotive Maintenance 3 DE Automotive Maintenance 4 and/or WBL
Aviation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to Aerospace Aviation 1 & 2 (ground tests) Aviation Airframe & Power Plant (A&P) 1 & 2 Work-Based Learning Flight School (flight tests) Dual Credit by Exams with MTSU
Clean & Nuclear Energy Innovations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fundamentals of Clean Energy Fundamentals of Nuclear Energy Cross-Cutting Coursework in Business & Marketing and/or IT Advanced STEM, iSchool, and/or Welding Middle/Early College Nuclear Technologies at RSCC Project Management/Project Controls Emphasis at RSCC
Electrical and Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advanced STEM, iSchool, and/or Welding Cross-Cutting Coursework in Business & Marketing and/or IT Interim Credentials Virtual Coursework with IBEW
Information Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coding 1 or Cybersecurity 1 AP Computer Science Principles AP Computer Science A DE Programming, DE Cybersecurity (CompTIA), and/or WBL
iSchool & Wildcat Manufacturing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i-School 1 i-School 2 DE Wildcat Manufacturing WBL 3 DE Wildcat Manufacturing WBL 4
STEM Engineering & Machining	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advanced STEM 1 Advanced STEM 2 DE Machine Tool/Advanced STEM 3 DE Machine Tool/Advanced STEM 4 and/or WBL
Welding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welding 1 Welding 2 DE Welding 3 DE Welding 4 and/or WBL