



NORTHSTAR ACADEMY

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Graduation Requirements (Current School Year)*

***These graduation requirements apply to students who have completed less than 6.0 credits prior to August 1, 2023.**

Two diploma options are available from NorthStar Academy: Standard or Advanced. Additionally, the AP International Diploma Certificate may be obtained directly from The College Board for those students who have met the established criteria listed from The College Board.

In order to graduate and receive a high school diploma from NorthStar Academy, a student must be an actively enrolled student in good standing during his/her graduating (senior) year and must complete the required number of credits as detailed below. Credits applied toward graduation requirements are those earned from high school or college-level courses, typically designated with a number of 100 or higher in the course abbreviation code.

Issues related to graduation requirements and dual credit courses should be directed to the NSA office. Students planning to graduate with an NSA diploma need to have their credits transferred to NorthStar. All official transcripts as well as courses in progress must be submitted to the NSA office before academic advising can be given.

Standard Diploma (24 Total Credits)

To fulfill the graduation requirements for a standard diploma, a student must successfully complete, as a minimum, the following number of credits:

Subject	Credits
English, including one (1) credit of 300-level English class or higher <u>and</u> one (1) credit of a 400-level English class or higher	4
Math, Algebra 1 and higher including one credit 300-level Math or higher	3
Science, must include 1 credit of general biology	3
Social Studies, including one (1) credit of US History <u>and</u> (1) credit of world studies.	3
Government	0.5
Economics/Personal Finance Students may choose between regular Economics, Foundations in Personal Finance, or any of the AP social studies course options in the area of economics.	0.5
Bible, including one (1) credit of Foundations for the Christian Worldview (BIBL300) OR Apologetics – Understanding the Times (BIBL400)	2
Physical Education	0.5
Health School Health Education Note: Health Science: The Whole Individual does not fulfill the Health requirement.	0.5
Fine Arts	1
Computer Science and Technology	1
Electives, (2 credits of world language recommended for college-bound students)	5
TOTAL	24

An elective is any course of the student's choosing outside of the required and/or designated core courses.

Advanced Diploma (26 credits)

To fulfill the graduation requirements for an advanced diploma, a student must successfully complete, as a minimum, the following number of credits.

Subject	Credits
English, including one (1) credit of 300-level English class or higher <u>and</u> one (1) credit of a 400-level English class or higher	4
Math, Algebra 1 and higher including one (1) credit from a 400-level math class or higher	4
Science, including one (1) credit of general biology and (1) credit of 300-level science class or higher	4
Social Studies, including one (1) credit US History and (1) credit of world studies	3
Government	0.5
Economics/Personal Finance Students may choose between regular Economics, Foundations in Personal Finance, or any of the AP social studies course options in the area of economics.	0.5
World Language Special Note: Most colleges & universities require (2) credits to be the same language.	2
Bible, including one (1) credit of Foundations for the Christian Worldview (BIBL300) OR Apologetics – Understanding the Times (BIBL400)	2
Physical Education	0.5
Health School Health Education Note: Health Science: The Whole Individual does not fulfill the Health requirement.	0.5
Fine Arts	1
Computer Science and Technology	1
Electives	3
TOTAL	26

An elective is any course of the student's choosing outside of the required and/or designated core courses.

Important Diploma Notes

Any student transferring to NorthStar Academy is required to take a minimum of 25% of the required diploma credits with NorthStar Academy in order to be eligible for a NorthStar Academy diploma. This translates to six credits (6) for the standard diploma or 6.5 credits minimum for the advanced diploma. Even students who transfer in eighteen (18) or more credits from another accredited institution will be required to take six (6) credits or more during the year (school term) in which they complete the NorthStar Academy graduation requirements. For students transferring any unaccredited, non-US, or homeschool credits, the 6 NSA accredited credits must minimally consist of:

- 1 credit NSA English taken during the first year
- 1 credit of 400-500 level English during the final year
- 1 credit of 300-500 level mathematics
- 1 credit of 300-500 level social studies
- 1 credit of 300-500 level science
- 1 credit of Worldview

Credit Limits

Given that 6.0-6.5 credits is a full load at NorthStar Academy, students may complete no more than 10 credits in any given academic year without prior administrative approval. Students may have no more than 7 courses open at one time without approval. Courses are counted in each academic year based on start dates from August 1 to July 31.