

Section 6 Graduation Requirements

1. Students must attend high school on a full-time basis for a minimum of 8 semesters and be enrolled in a minimum of 7 courses per semester. The Principal may waive the minimum load requirement when exceptional circumstances make that an appropriate action.
2. A student must receive credit for a minimum 220 credit hours of coursework.. The Board and Administration believe that meeting the requirements for the “College Preparatory” program will generally prepare a student for college. However, each college/university sets its own requirements and they may not match the Howells High School program. Students attending the University of Nebraska system need to be aware that the requirements for unrestricted access to the NU system exceed some of the Howells High School requirements.
3. Credit is awarded for those courses which are part of the school’s approved academic schedule or which the Superintendent has approved.
4. The Superintendent or his/her designee may grant exceptions to these general requirements and to the specific requirements listed below for handicapped student’s whose Individual Education Plan and/or Transition Plan identifies more appropriate requirements, or for such other reasons as the Superintendent may deem appropriate. The Superintendent or his/her designee may also make waivers of general or specific requirements when it is deemed in the interests of the student and the school district. In some areas of the requirements specific alternative courses are identified; elsewhere, the Superintendent or his/her designee may approve an alternative course when appropriate.

The general and specific requirements in this policy are minimums. Nothing in this policy shall be interpreted as precluding the Board or the Superintendent or his/her designee from requiring students to take other general courses of study or specific courses as may be deemed appropriate.

All students are required to successfully complete the following courses.

9th Grade	Algebra I or Pre-Algebra, English 9, World History, Physical Science, Computer Applications
10th Grade	Geometry or Algebra I or Unified Math, English 10, American History, Biology, Physical Education
11th Grade	Algebra II or Geometry or Unified Math or Applied Math, English 11 or Advanced English 11, American Government
12th Grade	English 12 or Advanced English 12

**COLLEGE PREPARATORY PROGRAM
(250 Hours Minimum)**

English.....	40 credits
English 9, English 10, Advanced English 11, Advanced English12	
Math.....	40 credits
Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Advanced Math	
Social Studies.....	30 credits
World History, American History, American Government	
Science.....	40 credits
Earth Science, Biology, & 20 credits from Chemistry, Physics, Anatomy & Physiology	
PE and Health.....	10 credits
Speech and Fine Arts.....	9 credits
(See note 2)	
Computer Related.....	10 credits
Foreign Language.....	10 credits
Additional Electives.....	61 hours
(Total Credit Hours = 250)	

GENERAL PROGRAM
(220 hours class credit)

English	40 credits
English 9, English 10, English 11, English 12 (See note 1)	
Math.....	30 credits
Algebra 1	
Social Studies.....	30 credits
World History, American History, American Government	
Science.....	20 credits
Earth Science, Biology	
PE and Health.....	10 credits
Speech and Fine Arts.....	9 credits
(See note 2)	
Computer Related.....	10 credits
Foreign Language.....	None
Additional Electives.....	76 credits
(Total Credit Hours = 220)	

NOTE 1: English –The Administration may substitute up to 10 credits of Speech for a failed English class

NOTE 2: Fine Arts – Five credits of speech are required for all students at some point during their sophomore, junior, or senior year. Four additional credits must be taken from Band, Chorus, or Art.

NOTE 3: Foreign Language – Students should note that the University of Nebraska system requires two years of a single foreign language for unrestricted admission.