

# INTRODUCTION to the A - G REQUIREMENTS

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How to make sure YOU are college ready.

# What are A - G requirements?

A - G requirements refer to a set of high school courses which University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU) systems have determined demonstrate basic college readiness.

Successful completion of these courses (with a grade of “C” or better) suggests that a student is academically ready to begin coursework at either of the California university systems.

# To Be Eligible for a Four Year Public College (either a UC or a CSU)






- It is important to keep as many doors/opportunities open to you as possible before you begin high school and throughout your time in high school.
- One of the things that makes the public higher education systems in California the best in the world is the high standards that UCs and CSUs require for admission. The University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU) require entering freshmen to complete certain courses in high school, commonly known as the "A-G requirements" because of the letter each subject area is assigned:



# You can go to college

## A-G REQUIREMENTS

The University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU) systems require that students complete at least 15 courses in the areas listed below to be considered for admissions. Courses must be completed with a grade of "C" or better. Additional coursework beyond the minimum requirements is strongly recommended.

<b>A</b>	 <b>History/ Social Science</b> 2 Years Required	<b>1</b> Required	<b>2</b> Required		
<b>B</b>	 <b>English</b> 4 Years Required	<b>1</b> Required	<b>2</b> Required	<b>3</b> Required	<b>4</b> Required
<b>C</b>	 <b>Mathematics</b> 3 Years Required 4 Years Recommended	<b>1</b> Required	<b>2</b> Required	<b>3</b> Required	<b>4</b> Recommended
<b>D</b>	 <b>Laboratory Science</b> 2 Years Required 3 Years Recommended	<b>1</b> Required	<b>2</b> Required	<b>3</b> Recommended	
<b>E</b>	 <b>Language Other Than English</b> 2 Years Required - 3 Years Recommended	<b>1</b> Required	<b>2</b> Required	<b>3</b> Recommended	
<b>F</b>	 <b>Visual and Performing Arts</b> 1 Year Required	<b>1</b> Required			
<b>G</b>	 <b>College Preparatory Electives*</b> 1 Year Required	<b>1</b> Required			

\*Any courses taken in excess of the minimum required in any subject area may count toward the fulfillment of the College Preparatory Elective requirement.

# A-G Requirements are just the minimum.

**It's really important to keep in mind that these are minimum standards. To get into more competitive schools, students will want to go beyond what's required:**

- AP classes are considered college-level work and if a student passes the AP exam, he or she can receive college credit for the class.
- Make sure to research the colleges you are interested in to see what classes are recommended by the specific college(s) and universitie(s).
- Meet with your CHS School Counselor **every year** to review your four - five year plan to make certain you are staying on track to meet your graduation goals and beyond.

# IMPORTANT DATES for 8th Graders

- **February 15, 2024:** CHS Parent night via Zoom 6:30 pm
- **February 16, 2024:** CHS Counselors visit CMS for presentation  
Time TBD (End of 2nd Trimester)
- **February 27-29, 2024:** 10 Minute meeting in the library w/ your  
CHS School Counselor to plan your 9th grade  
classes

**To be an A - G course, each school must have the course certified as appropriate in the content, rigor, & critical thinking skills necessary for college preparation.**

**Go to this website for up to date information on the A - G Policy Resource Guide.**

**<https://hs-articulation.ucop.edu/guide>**

# Article: “What Matters In College Admission”

- “Applying to college can easily seem transactional - grades, test scores, school activities, athletics, volunteer hours - all external expectations of “selling” one’s self to an admission office. The irony is that colleges want to have context when evaluating students’ academic achievement, like what other burdens or demands on their time exist.”
- Many colleges are beginning to take a holistic approach when reviewing applications. Aside from the above mentioned items, also looking at how an individual “...might contribute to our campus and society in meaningful ways.”



# A - G Song



**“KNOWLEDGE  
SHARED IS POWER MULTIPLIED!”** - Robert Boyce



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## What are “A-G” requirements?

- A. History/Social Science - 2 years required including 1 of World, 1 of U.S. and/or Government**
- B. English - 4 years of college preparatory English**
- C. Mathematics - 3 years including topics covered in basic and advanced algebra and two-and three-dimensional geometry (4 recommended)**
- D. Laboratory Science - 2+ years of laboratory science in at least 2 of the 3 disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics (3 recommended)**
- E. Language Other than English - 2+ years of the same language (other than English & 3 recommended)**
- F. Visual/Performing Arts - 1+ year of dance, music, or visual arts.**
- G. College Preparatory Elective - 1+ year (additional year of any requirement above or other elective)**

To receive “A-G” credit, a high school course must be certified through the UC course approval process. To be considered for admission to a UC or CSU, high school students must take a minimum of 15 UC approved college preparatory classes. Students must earn a minimum of a “C” grade in the A-G courses in order for the course to count towards meeting the requirement. To be eligible for admission to a University of California campus, students must also earn a grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or better in these courses. A barrier is the grade of ‘D’ for which a student gets credit toward high school graduation but *not toward the A-G requirements*