

ACCEPTED PRACTICE:

GATEWAY COURSE OF STUDY

(Approved by Executive Cabinet December 2008)

Gateway is a default course of study in which all students will automatically be enrolled unless they meet one of the following exceptions (per Board Regulation 6511):

1. A special education student exempted via the IEP process;
2. A student is directly receiving ESL services [and for whom it is determined that it would be educationally inappropriate to complete the Gateway Course of Study];
3. A student who has transferred into a WCSD high school as a junior or senior and cannot earn the fourth mathematics or third science credit during the school year in his/her remaining school years before graduation. Determination of whether a student can earn the fourth mathematics and/or third science credit will be made jointly in a conference with the student, parent, counselor, and principal or curriculum assistant principal within 10 days of enrollment.
4. A student exempted through the formal opt-out procedure as established by the Office of School Performance. (See Opt-Out Procedures Accepted Practices document)

PLEASE NOTE: No student is automatically exempted; every case should be considered on an individual basis.

Course Enrollment

Unless documentation of one of the exceptions is present in a student's file, counselors are to enroll students in the following:

1. 4 years of math
2. 3 years of science
3. 6 courses as seniors

Gateway Course of Study: Math Courses

Students must earn 3 credits of math in order to graduate with a standard diploma; however, the Gateway Course of Study requires students to be enrolled in four years of math in high school. Students are to be enrolled in the following sequence of math courses: Algebra 1 S1& S2, Geometry, Algebra 2 S1 & S2, and then a post-Algebra 2 S1 & S2 course. It is the intent of the Gateway Course of Study that all students complete Algebra 2 S1 & S2 prior to graduation; however, if a student does not pass Algebra 2 S1 & S2 after being enrolled for the entire year, the student may

1. Re-enroll in Algebra 2 S1 & S2;
2. Enroll in the Advanced Algebra 3 S1 & S2; or
3. Enroll in another post-Algebra 2 S1 & S2 course such as Probability and Statistics in his/her senior year in order to earn the required third credit of math.

Advanced Algebra 5-6 reviews and extends concepts students will have learned in Algebra 3-4; it is designed to be taken *after* Algebra 3-4. If a student has previously failed Algebra 3-4, he/she may be concurrently enrolled in Advanced Algebra Applications 5-6.

A student who has completed Calculus prior the senior year may take the fourth year of math at the college level. The student should take the college-level course for dual credit; although the college-level math course will be designated as elective credit, it will still count as the fourth year of math for Gateway purposes.

Gateway Course of Study: Science Courses

Students must earn 2 credits of science in order to graduate with a standard diploma; however, the Gateway course of Study requires students to be enrolled in 3 years of science. Students are to be enrolled in the following sequence of science courses: Biology; Physical Science or Chemistry; and then any third- or fourth-year science course as appropriate for that student. The third year of science may be taken in either the junior or the senior year. The default science curriculum consists of three years of science, two of which are to be lab courses. Currently all WCSD science courses are considered lab courses.

Gateway Course of Study: Six Courses as Seniors

The student may meet the requirement to be enrolled in six (6) courses as a senior in a variety of ways, including 6 courses on the high school campus (a combination of required and elective courses based on graduation and/or Gateway Course of Study requirements) or a combination of courses on the high school campus and other courses such as:

- Dual Credit (refer to Dual Credit Accepted Practices document)
- Correspondence
- Work Experience
- Courses through Supplemental Credit such as Supervised Curriculum PE, Community Service, PE Options
- Gifted and Talented Internship
- Off-campus on-line courses
- Other courses may be approved through the Office of School Performance.

Revised: May 2010

