

Entrance Requirements for Universities in Washington State

In June, 2008, the following information was provided by Washington State's Office of Public Instruction:

"Beginning in the summer of 2012, students admitted as first-year students to Washington's public baccalaureate institutions will be required to meet new minimum college admission standards approved by the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) in 2007".

It is our duty to inform parents and students as to the changes **for the graduating classes of 2012 (freshmen in the 2008-2009 school year) and beyond**. This applies **only** to students who will attend Washington public universities in the fall of 2012. Those universities are: University of Washington Seattle, Bothell and Tacoma; Western Washington University; Evergreen State College; Central Washington University; Eastern Washington University and Washington State University.

The revised minimum college admission standards are intended to increase the likelihood of success for students admitted to Washington's public baccalaureate institutions by strengthening students' academic preparation. The revised standards were adopted to more closely align with current admission practices of the state's public baccalaureate institutions. Note that the new standards are the MINIMUM standards for admission. **These are not graduation requirements, but university admission requirements.**

Admission requirements for the class of 2012 and beyond are:
Students will be required to earn a specific number of credits in each of six subject areas, now called College Academic Distribution Requirements (CADRs). The subject areas are math, English, science, social studies, world languages, and the arts. CADR guidelines are available at www.hecb.wa.gov/research/issues.admissions.asp

College Academic Distribution Requirements, by Subject Area:
English 4 credits; Math 3 credits (minimum full year each Algebra 1, Algebra 2, Geometry); Science 2 credits*; Social Science 3 credits; Arts 1 credit; World Language 2 credits; Senior year math-based quantitative course 1 credit **

*Beginning in the summer of 2010 two credits of laboratory-based science, including one credit of algebra-based biology, chemistry, or physics will be required for public baccalaureate admission

**Quantitative math-based course required in senior year. Does not require higher level math than current admissions policy

Please remember, for MIHS students, one semester is worth .5 credits. The following courses are considered to be "lab sciences": Chemistry 1/Physics1

(9th grade); Exploring Biology, Exploring Physics and Exploring Chemistry (only for 2008-2009); Biology; Environmental Science; Chemistry 2/Physics 2 Honors; Science Research and Ethics; Chemistry PH; Chemistry KH; Physics 2/3; AP Biology; AP Chemistry; AP Environmental Science; AP Physics B; AP Physics C; Horticulture

All of the aforementioned lab science courses are algebra-based except Horticulture and Science Research and Ethics.

Members of the Class of 2012 intending to attend a public university in the state of Washington must earn three credits of CADR courses **each year of high school, including the 12th grade year**. The vast majority of MIHS students already do this, since most MIHS students take courses each year to fulfill MIHS graduation requirements. Since seniors may have fulfilled most graduation requirements by the end of the junior year, they may fall short of the requirement of three CADR courses during their senior year. As seniors, the class of 2012 will be required to take three CADR credits, ***including a year-long senior math course***. A typical MIHS college-bound senior generally already fulfills these requirements.

When MIHS counselors visit grade-level classrooms, these requirements will be explained to students. MIHS students have access to all of the courses outlined in these admission standards. If students carefully follow advice from the counseling department and take advantage of the course possibilities MIHS offers, they will be well prepared for admission to our in-state public universities. We hope this information helps families plan for future education paths.