



Graduation Checklist

This graduation checklist is geared towards students, who are planning on attending a four-year college after high school graduation. **Parents:** please remember that it is **you** make the requirements for your student under each category – **not the state.**

That said, it is recommended that you examine other students' requirements, in order to comply with certain colleges' expectations. Customize this checklist by filling in the blanks with your homeschooling student in mind. Remember, there are many different course "options" which can fulfill a social studies or a science class. Most colleges expect 24 full-year credits over four years of high school study. One credit equals one year. Two half-credit classes equal one-year full credit.

In addition, since every state has different requirements, we **strongly encourage** you to double-check your own state's graduation requirements.

Open Tent Academy offers many course options to help your student fulfill their graduation requirements. Please speak with us ASAP so that we may help you create an appropriate schedule.

English

Most colleges want to see **FOUR years** of English. That said, you can be creative in terms of how you present the courses your student takes - as long as they include LITERATURE and WRITING. For example: English 9 = Banned Books + All About Essays OR Lights! Camera! Action!, which includes both the literature and writing component, OR Intro to Literary Analysis. You take the courses you want for your student and write them up as English 9, 10, 11 or 12.

English 9 = _____
English 11 = _____

English 10 = _____
English 12 = _____

Math

Most colleges want to see **FOUR years** of math between grades 9 – 12. **If** your student took high-school level math prior to 9th grade, please include that on their transcript, but in a different section. They will still need to see four years of high-school level math taken between grades 9– 12. Most states require students to complete:

Algebra One: _____
Pre-Calc: _____

Geometry: _____
Calculus: _____

Algebra Two/Trig: _____
Statistics: _____

Science

THREE years of science credits are the minimum. **However** - if your student is going into any STEM major - **FOUR years** is expected, with **THREE** of those years covering **Biology, Chemistry and Physics.**

- *Within those three years, most colleges would like to see **at least one biological science, and one physical science.***
- *Within those three years, **TWO** of the sciences should be lab sciences.*
- *For the third (or even fourth) science, you can be creative and take something that interests them!*

Physical Science: _____
Chemistry: _____
Science Elective: _____

Biology: _____
Physics: _____
Environmental Science: _____



Social Studies – History - Geography

THREE years of social studies classes is the minimum requirement in most states; however, colleges love to see **FOUR** – with two consisting of ONE year of United States History, and ONE year of World History. As far as World History, it can be a survey class, or one covering a very specific topic / time period.

NOTE: Some states require a course that covers their own state history, as part of graduation requirements. Please check & confirm.

United States History: _____
High School Geography: _____
Economics: _____

World History: _____
Government: _____
Ancient Civilization: _____

Additionally, students can opt for a combination of any **TWO** of these one-semester classes:

World Religions: _____
Current Events: _____

Civil Rights: _____
Bill of Rights: _____

Physical Education and Health

Most states require **TWO years** of physical education. You can either opt to do this as extracurricular if your student is involved in any team sports, gymnastics, dance, fencing etc. classes OR have them do yoga, cardio, exercising etc. with you as a family!

Foreign Languages

Most states (and college) requires **TWO years** in one foreign language during high school. Most states accept, ASL as a foreign language; however, some states do not. It is advised for you to check your state and potential college that your student might attend.

Year One: _____
Year Two: _____

Electives and beyond: Arts, Music, Drama and Technology

It is recommended that any remaining credits required for graduation fall under this category. If a student knows what they might want to study in college, this is a good time to explore that subject in some way. If a student is unsure, this is a great time to explore. Most elective courses are one semester; therefore, **please do not forget** that **two** semester-long courses are required to meet the full-year requirement. These are some basic categories – however – you can truly put any course under it. Be creative and have your student take something that interests them!

Art History: _____
Fine Arts: _____
Drama: _____
Music Appreciation: _____
Creative Writing: _____

Coding: _____
Technology: _____
Engineering: _____
Digital Arts: _____
Life Skills: _____

In addition, any elective that your student wants to take in the areas of science, history, literature or even writing can fall under these categories!