Saskatchewan High School Credit Options

A Guide for High School Educators 2024 to 2025



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This document was created by the Ministry of Education, Information Management and Support Branch in consultation with Student Achievement and Supports Branch.

Student and Educator Services
Ministry of Education

Assessment Unit Ministry of Education

Email: student.records@gov.sk.ca

Telephone: 306-787-6037

Fax: 306-798-5059

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Website: www.saskatchewan.ca

Introduction

High school provides the opportunity for students to explore their interests and shape their future. Although there are certain courses that students must take to graduate, they still get to choose courses that interest them. Students often rely on educators to help with high school course selection for graduation and post-secondary opportunities. Saskatchewan High School Credit Options: A guide for high school students is available online. This document is the accompanying guide for high school educators.

This document explains a Saskatchewan high school Grade 12 program standing – what is required and where students have choices. It is a compilation of secondary level course options and the supporting policies and documents including the authority under which these apply. It also identifies opportunities to earn secondary level course credits in non-traditional ways, career planning tools and post-secondary funding options.

Educators are encouraged to review local administrative procedures for secondary level course options to further develop an understanding of policy and procedures when counselling students.

An overview of what students need to graduate

In Saskatchewan, students have to pass certain courses such as English language arts, math and science in order to graduate with a Grade 12 program standing. Students must successfully complete and pass 24 course credits.

At the secondary level, there are three categories in which students must obtain credits:

- required courses of study which are compulsory courses intended to provide a general education;
- **specified areas of study** which are intended to allow students to continue to take courses of a general nature or to specialize in areas of individual interest; and,
- **electives** which allow for further choice and specialization based on individual needs and local priorities.

There are special course requirements for French Immersion or "Fransaskois" mention on the official *Transcript of Secondary Level Achievement*.

For French Immersion mention, 12 of the 24 courses must be taught in French including three French language arts courses.

For Fransaskois mention, 21 of the 24 courses must be taught in French including five compulsory French language arts courses.

Effective the 2024-25 school year, new graduation programs (denoted with the prefix "SK") are available to students in addition to existing programs. For more information, refer to the Registrar's Handbook for School Administrators: Section 1 - Time Allocations and Credit Policy.

The table provides an overview of what courses are required to graduate in the 24 credit program types:

Area of study	Minimum Number of Credits Required		
	Regular (English) Program	French Immersion (Bilingual)	Fransaskois Program
English language arts	5	3	3
French language arts	-	3	5
Mathematics	2	2	2
Science	2	2	2
Social sciences	3	3	3
Health education / physical education	1	1	1
Arts education / practical and applied arts	2	2	2
Sub-Total	15	16	18
Electives	9	8	6
Total	24	24	24

The table provides an overview of what courses are required to graduate in the new "SK" 24 credit program types:

Area of study	Minimum Number of Credits Required		
	SK Regular (English) Program	SK French Immersion (Bilingual)	SK Fransaskois Program
English language arts	3	3	3
French language arts	-	3	5
Mathematics	2	2	2
Science	2	2	2
Social sciences	2	2	2
Health education / physical education	1	1	1
Arts education / practical and applied arts	2	2	2
Financial Literacy	1	1	1
Sub-Total	13	16	18
Electives	11	8	6
Total	24	24	24

What if a student needs more than three years to graduate from high school?

Students may ask for your advice to help them create a graduation and post-graduation plan that will work best for them. Grade 12 graduation requirements are the same, regardless of the amount of time required to complete them.

Section 168(1) (d) of *The Education Act, 1995* (the Act) states:

(1) Every school shall be organized to provide any or all of the following instructional components that may be determined by the board of education, the Conseil scolaire (d) the Secondary Level, which is to provide a three-year program of instruction to follow completion of the Middle Level.

Section 168(2) and (3) further explain:

- (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), the rate of progress of any pupil or of any group of pupils in completing the work of any Level may, in the discretion of the teacher but subject to the policies of the school, be accelerated or decelerated.
- (3) Pursuant to subsection (2), the content of any of the courses of study taken by a pupil or a group of pupils may be altered, augmented or otherwise adjusted in any manner that the teacher considers advisable in the interests of the pupil or pupils.

Section 142 further articulates that students have the right to attend school at the cost of the Education Organization, which includes provincial school divisions, the Conseil des écoles fransaskoises, the Saskatchewan Distance Learning Corporation, independent schools, First Nations schools, regional colleges, historical high schools, and care and custody facilities that offer Kindergarten to Grade 12 education in Saskatchewan:

142(1) Subject to the other provisions of this Act, every person who has attained the age of six years but has not yet attained the age of 22 years has the right: (a) to attend school in the school division where that person or that person's parents or guardians reside; and (b) to receive instruction appropriate to that person's age and level of educational achievement.

What is the difference between required courses and electives?

Required courses are compulsory and require that all prerequisites are met. There are still choices within required courses. For example, mathematics has three pathways – Apprenticeship and Workplace Math, Foundations of Math and Pre-calculus.

Elective course credits are chosen on interests and abilities, as well as course availability at the school. To meet the credit requirements for graduation, students are required to take six to nine elective courses at the secondary level depending on the program. These courses include at least six courses at Grade 11 or 12 (level 20 or 30).

Students are not limited to course offerings at the base school. Check out other ways to earn secondary level credits in the section "How can students earn high school credits?"

What courses do students need to meet the graduation requirements?

To help students with their graduation planning, the 24 credit programs requirements are broken down by grade and program type:

	Regular (English) Program	French Immersion (Bilingual) Program	Fransaskois Program**
Grade 10	Minimum of eight (8) credits including:	Minimum of eight (8) credits (4 credits must be taught in French) including:	8 crédits minimum
	 English Language Arts A 10 and English Language Arts B 10; Social Studies 10, or History 	 English Language Arts A 10 or /ou English Language Arts B 10; Français immersion 10; 	 Français fransaskois A 10 et Français fransaskois B 10; English Language Arts A
	 10 or Native Studies 10; Science 10; a mathematics at the level 10; 3 electives at level 10, 20 or 30. 	 Social Studies 10; or History 10 or/ou Histoire 10; or Native Studies 10; Sciences humaines 10; Science 10 / Sciences 10; a math at the 10 level / un cours de niveau 10 de mathématiques; 3 electives at level 10, 20 or 30 / 3 cours au choix de niveau 10, 20 ou 30. 	 10 ou English Language Arts B 10; Sciences sociales Fransaskois 10; Sciences 10; un crédit en mathématiques de niveau 10; 2 crédits au choix de niveau 10. ** All subjects other than English language arts are
Grade 11	Minimum of sixteen (16) credits including:	Minimum of sixteen (16) credits (8 credits must be in	16 crédits minimum
	 English Language Arts 20; a mathematics at the 20 level; 6 additional elective credits at level 20 or 30. 	 English Language Arts 20; Français immersion 20; a math at the 20 level / un cours de niveau 20 de mathématiques; 5 additional elective credits at level 20 or 30 / 5 autres cours au choix de niveau 20 ou 30. 	 Français fransaskois 20; English Language Arts 20; un crédit en mathématiques de niveau 20; un crédit au choix tel qu'identifié dans le tableau de 12e année; 4 crédits au choix de niveau 20 ou 30. ** All subjects other than English language arts are taught in French

	Regular (English) Program	French Immersion (Bilingual) Program	Fransaskois Program**
Grade 12	Minimum of 24 credits (5 of which must be at the 30 level) including:	Minimum of 24 credits (5 of which must be at the 30 level and 12 must be in French) including:	24 crédits minimum (dont au moins 5 de niveau 30)
	English Language Arts A and English Language Arts B 30;	English Language Arts A Or / ou English Language Arts B 30;	 Français fransaskois A 30 et Français fransaskois B 30;
	 Social Studies 30: Canadian Studies, or History 30: Canadian Studies, or Native Studies 30: Canadian Studies; a social science at level 20 or 30; a science at level 20 or 30*; 2 credits in arts education or practical and applied arts at level 10, 20, or 30; Wellness 10, or Physical Education 20 or Physical Education 30. 	 Français immersion 30; Social Studies 30: Canadian Studies or/ou History 30: Canadian Studies or /ou Native Studies 30: Canadian Studies or ou Sciences sociales immersion 30; or ou Histoire 30; a science at level 20 or 30* / un cours de niveau 20 ou 30* de sciences; a social science at level 20 or 30 / un cours de niveau 20 ou 30 en sciences sociales; 2 credits in arts education or practical and applied arts at level 10, 20, or 30 / deux crédits de niveau 10, 20 ou 30 dans les domaines de l'éducation artistique ou des arts pratiques et appliqués; 	 English Language Arts A 30 ou English Language Arts B 30; Sciences sociales Fransaskois 30; un crédit en sciences sociales de niveau 20 ou 30; un crédit en sciences de niveau 20 ou 30*; un crédit à choisir parmi Mieux- être 10, ou Éducation physique 20, ou Éducation physique 30; deux crédits de niveau 10, 20 ou 30 dans les domaines de l'éducation artistique ou des arts pratiques et appliqués.
* Science 20 or 30 pre-	Wellness 10, or Physical Education 20, or Physical Education 30 / Mieux-être 10, ou Éducation physique 20, ou Éducation physique 30. * Science 20 or 30 pre-	** All subjects other than English language arts are taught in French * Science 20 or 30 pre-	
	requisites must be met	requisites must be met	requisites must be met

To help students with their graduation planning, the new "SK" 24 credit programs requirements are broken down by grade and program type:

	SK Regular (English) Program	SK French Immersion (Bilingual) Program	SK Fransaskois Program**
Grade 10	Minimum of eight (8) credits including:	Minimum of eight (8) credits (4 credits must be taught in French) including:	8 crédits minimum
	One English language arts at level 10 One social science at level 10 One mathematics at level 10 One science at level 10 Four electives at level 10, 20 or 30	English Language Arts A 10 or / ou English Language Arts B 10 Français immersion 10 Social Studies 10; or / ou Sciences humaines 10 or History 10 or / ou Histoire 10; or Native Studies 10 Science 10 / Sciences 10 One mathematics at level 10/ un cours de niveau 10 de mathématiques Three electives at level 10, 20 or 30/ trois cours au choix de niveau 10, 20 ou 30	Français fransaskois A 10 et Français fransaskois B 10 One English language arts at level 10 / un crédit en English language arts de niveau 10 un crédit en sciences sociales fransaskois de niveau 10 un crédit en sciences de niveau 10 un crédit en mathématiques de niveau 10 deux crédits au choix de niveau 10, 20 ou 30
Grade 11	Minimum of sixteen (16) credits including:	Minimum of sixteen (16) credits (8 credits must be in French) including:	16 crédits minimum
	One English language arts at level 20 One mathematics at level 20 Seven additional elective credits at level 20 or 30	One English language arts at level 20 / un crédit en English language arts de niveau 20 Français immersion 20; One math at the 20 level / un cours de niveau 20 de mathématiques; Five additional elective credits at level 20 or 30 / 5 autres cours au choix de niveau 20 ou 30.	Français fransaskois 20 One English language arts at level 20 / un crédit en English language arts de niveau 20 un crédit en mathématiques de niveau 20 quatre crédits au choix de niveau 20 ou 30

	SK Regular (English) Program	SK French Immersion (Bilingual) Program	SK Fransaskois Program**
Grade 12	Minimum of 24 credits (5 of which must be at the 30 level) including:	Minimum of 24 credits (5 of which must be at the 30 level and 12 must be in French) including:	24 crédits minimum (dont au moins 5 de niveau 30)
	30 One social science at level 30 Financial Literacy at level 10	One English language arts at level 30 / un crédit en English language arts de niveau 30 Français immersion 30 One social science at level 30 / un crédit en sciences sociales de niveau 30 Financial Literacy at level 10 or/ou Littératie financière 10 de niveau 10 Two credits in arts education or practical and applied arts at level 10, 20, or 30 / deux crédits de niveau 10, 20 ou 30 dans les domaines de l'éducation artistique ou des	Français fransaskois A 30 et Français fransaskois B 30 One English language arts at evel 30 / un crédit en English anguage arts de niveau 30 un crédit en sciences sociales fransaskois de niveau 30 un crédit en sciences de niveau 20 ou 30; Financial Literacy at level 10 ou Littératie financière 10 de niveau 10
	* Science 20 or 30 pre- requisites must be met	arts pratiques et appliqués. One credit of choice in Wellness 10, Physical Education 20, or Physical Education 30 / un crédit au choix parmi Mieux-être 10, Éducation physique 20, ou Éducation physique 30	un crédit au choix parmi Mieux-être 10, Éducation physique 20 ou Éducation physique 30 deux crédits de niveau 10, 20 ou 30 dans les domaines de l'éducation artistique ou des arts pratiques et appliqués ** All subjects other than English language arts are taught in French * Science 20 or 30 pre- requisites must be met

How can students earn high school credits?

<u>In-school course credits</u> are the most common and traditional way for students to earn secondary level credits. Courses are offered in a school and face-to-face with a teacher. Saskatchewan Education allows for credits to be earned in other non-traditional ways.

<u>Online course credits</u> may be offered by your Education Organization. However, students may take a secondary level course online for credit from any Saskatchewan accredited online school. Visit your Education Organization for online course information.

Apprenticeship credits are earned by students who are employed under the supervision of a journeyperson or an approved mentor in a trade in which the hours worked are eligible for credit through the Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission. Up to four secondary level apprenticeship credits may be earned on the basis of work proposed and completed by the student. The application for apprenticeship credits must be in place and approved prior to the student beginning the work for which they will receive credit. Each apprenticeship credit shall be carried out under the supervision of a teacher, and the apprenticeship need not be related to a specific school subject. Apprenticeship credits may be used to meet the practical and applied arts/arts education credit requirement or as electives to meet the 24 credit requirement at the secondary level. Credit recognition for Apprenticeship course will receive a final mark record of Standing Granted (SG) on the official Transcript of Secondary Level Achievement. A final per cent (%) mark is no longer required. Refer to the Apprenticeship Credit Policy for additional information.

<u>Dual course credits</u> provide alternative pathways to graduation by allowing high school students the opportunity to earn high school credits and post-secondary credits or other program recognition at the same time in the same course. Continuing Care Aid, Early Childhood Education, and Computer-aided Design courses are a few of the courses available online for dual credit recognition. Credit recognition for programs successfully completed from a non-academic entity will receive a final mark record of Standing Granted (SG) on the official *Transcript of Secondary Level Achievement*. A final per cent (%) mark is no longer required. There is a list of options online that might work for student's graduation and career plan. Refer to the <u>Dual Credit Policy</u> for additional information.

Special project credits are credits earned for out-of-school initiatives that are not classified as dual credit course options. A student must get approval from the school principal prior to starting the work for this special course. It requires a minimum of 100 credit hours of work and must be supervised by a teacher. It is important to ensure that the Education Organization's administrative procedure for special projects is adhered to. Credit recognition for special projects will receive a final mark record of Standing Granted (SG) on the official Transcript of Secondary Level Achievement. A final per cent (%) mark is no longer required. Refer to the Special Projects Credit Policy for additional information.

<u>Course challenges</u> allow students to demonstrate a high level of achievement of the learning outcomes of a particular course without spending the required hours enrolled in the course. There is a specific process to follow and only two courses (at the 10 or 20 level) can be challenged in high school. It is important to ensure that the Education Organization's administrative procedure for course challenges is adhered to. Refer to the <u>Course Challenge Process Policy and Procedures</u> for additional information.

<u>Summer school</u> options are available in July and August. Students may want to take a course online during the summer or face-to-face if it is available in their area. Taking courses over the summer months can help reduce the student's course load during the regular school year. Visit your Education Organization for summer school course information.

<u>Credit recovery</u> options are available to students who may need a bit more time to complete course work without having to redo the entire course. The Education Organization will have certain requirements that must be met for this option. It is important to ensure that their administrative procedure for credit recovery is adhered to. Refer to the <u>Credit Recovery Policy</u> for additional information.

<u>Volunteerism credit</u> may be used to fulfill elective requirements for graduation. Granting credit for approved volunteerism for community service organizations recognizes student achievement in areas outside of the regular Secondary Level program. A final mark record of Standing Granted (SG) will be awarded for the successful completion of a volunteerism credit at the 30-level. The mark of SG will appear on the official *Transcript of Secondary Level Achievement*. Refer to the <u>Volunteerism Policy</u> for additional information.

Regardless of credit option, educators are encouraged to become familiar with local administrative procedures for each in addition to the Ministry of Education policies and procedures.

Career Planning

Developing and maintaining a graduation and post-graduation plan will assist students in exploring their interests, skills, values and personal traits while considering the many career pathways available in Saskatchewan, Canada and beyond. It will guide students in making informed decisions that impact their present and future lives. A graduation and post-graduation plan is a tool to assist them in transitioning smoothly through high school and beyond, and to a future that is personally fulfilling and rewarding. Education Organizations may have access to online surveys and quizzes to help identify what interests, skills and values you have and what career possibilities are available to students.

MyBlueprint is an online career and education planning tool that is available to all Saskatchewan students.

The Government of Saskatchewan provides information on job training and financial support programs, job openings and career opportunities in Saskatchewan. Please refer to <u>Jobs, Working, and Training</u> on Saskatchewan.ca for more details.

Awards and Scholarships

To discover what loans, grants, scholarships and awards for post-secondary are available to help finance your future education, please click on <u>scholarships</u>, <u>awards</u>, <u>bursaries</u> and <u>grants</u>, and/or <u>student loans</u>.

Transcript of Secondary Level Achievement

The Saskatchewan *Transcript of Secondary Level Achievement* is the official mark record of secondary level courses completed. Only the highest mark record for a course is printed on this document. Guidance counsellors or school administrators may run the unofficial transcript from the Student Data System to ensure all final mark records are recorded correctly. Similarly, there are reports for graduation requirements and final mark record verification to help ensure mark records are submitted correctly.

Students can order *Transcript of Secondary Level Achievement* documents for employment, scholarships and awards or post-secondary institution admissions online at www.saskatchewan.ca.

Helpful Online Resources

myBlueprint

Saskatchewan.ca

The Education Act, 1995

The Registrar's Handbook for School Administrators

Saskatchewan High School Credit Options: A guide for high school students

Saskatchewan Ministry of Education Apprenticeship Credit Policy

Saskatchewan Ministry of Education Course Challenge Process Policy and Procedures

Saskatchewan Ministry of Education Credit Recovery Policy

Saskatchewan Ministry of Education Dual Credit Policy

Saskatchewan Ministry of Education Special Project Credit Policy and Procedures

Saskatchewan Ministry of Education Volunteerism Policy

Saskatchewan.ca – Find and Apply for Jobs