

Recommended Guide for Academic Preparation

Types of Programs

Academic Areas	District 211 Graduation Requirements*	Community College Career Programs, Vocational Schools	4-Year Colleges and Universities, Community College Transfer Programs*	Highly Selective Colleges and Universities
ENGLISH	4 Years	4 Years	4 Years: Emphasis on written and oral communication and literature	4 Years
MATHEMATICS	3 years including successful completion of a 300 level course	3 Years	3 Years: Algebra Geometry Algebra 2 Trigonometry	4 Years Recommended through Calculus
SCIENCE (laboratory sciences)	2 Years Biological Science and a Physical Science	2 Years	3 Years: Recommended core areas: Biology Chemistry Physics	4 Years Recommended core areas: Biology Chemistry Physics
SOCIAL STUDIES	2 Years US History Social Science Survey or equivalent	2 Years	3 Years Emphasis on history and government (requirement varies)	3 to 4 Years
FOREIGN LANGUAGE	1 Year or Vocational Education/Fine Arts	None Required	2 Years**	2 to 4 Years
VOCATIONAL EDUCATION or FINE ARTS	1 Year or Foreign Language	None Required	2 Years** May include courses in: Applied Technology, Art, Business Education, Family and Consumer Sciences or Music	None Required

* Additional District 211 requirements include: health, consumer education, driver education, 4 years of physical education and 6 other academic credits.

** Foreign language courses and one or more years of fine arts courses may be required by colleges or universities. State-supported universities in Illinois may accept vocational education or fine arts courses in lieu of foreign language. Check with your counselor for details.

The chart above compares the academic expectations of various post high school opportunities available to graduates. It is intended only as a general guide. Colleges expect a student to program at least four core academic subjects into each year. These college preparatory subjects are: English, foreign language, mathematics, science and social studies. Highly selective institutions require greater numbers of these core academics.

Counselors act as resource people but many specific questions are better directed to the college or university admissions staff. Final admissions decisions are always up to the colleges. They are usually based on the number of academic courses and the grade point average in those courses as well as the student's scores on standardized admissions tests (ACT, SAT I). 12/14