

**CMCSS Academic Catalog**  
**2013-2014**  
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# Clarksville-Montgomery County Academic Catalog

This academic catalog has been compiled to assist students in planning for their high school diplomas and in preparing for future careers. Choices made during the high school years can have a major impact on a student's future. We hope this information will be helpful in making informed decisions.

## Planning for High School and Future Careers

All students are required to have an **Educational Plan** designed to include four years of high school and a goal of at least two years of post-secondary training. This plan ensures that students and their parents, along with the school counselors, are planning properly to meet the requirements for earning a Tennessee high school diploma and beyond. The plan should be discussed before a student begins high school and should be updated each year as students register for classes. The plan will include **READY CORE** courses and **Focused Electives** as well as post-high school educational and/or career plans.

Students also complete the ACT College and Workforce Readiness series of tests to aid in preparing for post-secondary education. In the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, students take the **EXPLORE** test and in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade the **PLAN** test. These tests are **benchmarks/predictors** that help parents and students understand their preparedness level for the ACT test that is given to all 11<sup>th</sup> graders in the spring of the junior year. Scores on the EXPLORE and PLAN may be used for placement in honors classes and to determine remediation needs. **Students are required to meet the ACT benchmark readiness scores to graduate with an Honors or Highest Honors diploma.** (See diploma types on page xi.)

Students are encouraged to complete a **strong academic program** that will enable them to meet the ACT readiness benchmarks. While all students may not enter post-secondary education immediately following high school, they must be prepared for post-secondary training and lifelong learning.

Since admission requirements and deadlines of post-secondary schools differ widely, it is important that students and parents are well-informed. Beginning in 9<sup>th</sup> grade, students and parents should start researching requirements for schools of interest. Students and parents can then plan high school course selections appropriately.

**ACT's College/Workforce Readiness Benchmarks** are minimum scores that indicate college and workforce readiness. Students meeting these minimum scores have a 50 percent chance of earning a B or better and a 75 percent chance of earning a C or better in the corresponding entry-level college course. Research also indicates that students meeting the benchmarks are better prepared for success in the workforce. Students can improve their benchmark scores by completing more rigorous coursework and by using the information provided in the student score reports to develop specific skills in areas of weakness.

## Readiness Benchmark Scores

Subject Test	EXPLORE (8 <sup>th</sup> )	PLAN (10 <sup>th</sup> )	ACT (11 <sup>th</sup> )
English	13	15	18
Mathematics	17	19	22
Reading	15	17	21
Science	20	21	24

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

**Students are required to complete a minimum of 22 specified credits.**  
**\*The 22 required credits for students on an IEP may vary from those listed below.**

### Ready Core Requirements

**NOTE:** Credited core courses taken prior to 9<sup>th</sup> grade may count only as **elective** credit. In these cases, students would be required to take additional courses in high school from that subject area.

Courses	Credits	Minimum Requirements
English	4	English I, II, III, IV
Math	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II</li> <li>•One other math course beyond the level of Algebra II</li> </ul> *Tennessee students are required to be enrolled in a math course every year.
Science	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Biology</li> <li>•Chemistry or Physics</li> <li>•One additional lab science credit</li> </ul>
Social Studies	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•World History or World Geography (or equivalent)</li> <li>•US History</li> <li>•Economics (.5 credit) and US Government (.5 credit)</li> </ul>
Lifetime Wellness	1	TN requirement for health and physical education
Physical Education	0.5	A student may take a physical education course or may substitute 66 hours of documented participation in a school-sponsored, after-school physical activity for this requirement.
Personal Finance	0.5	

### Additional Requirements

Courses	Credits	Minimum Requirements
Foreign Language	2	2 years of the same language
Fine Art	1	Art, Music, or Theater
Focused Electives	3	From CMCSS approved list – See Chart (page iv)

### JROTC Course Substitutions (for students not choosing JROTC as their Focused Elective Group)

JROTC (2 years) for Wellness (1 credit) and PE (.5 credit)

JROTC (3 years) for Government (.5 credit) and Personal Finance (.5 credit)

**NOTE:** The **Fine Art and Foreign Language Requirements** may be waived for students who are sure they are not attending a university. These credits will be replaced with an **additional 3** elective courses (6 total) to prepare the student for his/her career choice. Parents and students will meet with the counselor to develop and sign this Alternate Graduation Contract **before** those requirements may be waived.

**CMCSS Focused Elective Groups**  
**(Applies to students entering high school prior to 2015-16)**

<b>ALL students must complete at least three (3) credits in one of the following Focused Elective Groups. (The FEG choice must be indicated in PowerSchool on the Modify Info page.)</b>							
<b>1. Science/Math</b>	Students may complete 3 science and/or math credits other than those meeting core graduation requirements. High School science and math credits earned while in middle school may count toward this Focused Elective Group.						
<b>2. AVID</b>	Students attending a school offering the AVID program may take 3 AVID credits to meet their Focused Elective requirement.						
<b>3. JROTC</b>	Students may complete 3 credits in JROTC to meet the Focused Elective requirement. If this group is selected, students may NOT also use JROTC as core substitutions for Wellness, PE, Personal Finance, and US Government.						
<b>4. Fine Arts</b>	Students may take any combination of 3 Fine Arts credits (music, art, or theater) beyond the 1 credit already required for graduation.						
<b>5. AP/Dual Enrollment</b>	Students may take any combination of AP or dual enrollment college courses other than course credits already used for meeting core requirements. *NOTE: Students enrolled at the Middle College at APSU may earn dual enrollment credits that satisfy both core and focused elective credits. Please meet with the Middle College counselor for specific course information.						
<b>6. Academic</b>	Students may take 3 additional courses in the areas of English, math, science, social studies, and/or foreign language other than courses already used for meeting core requirements.						
<b>7. Business/Computer</b>	Transfer students may take any combination of 3 business and/or computer courses to complete this Focused Elective Group. This group is intended for students who have enrolled in more than one school and have difficulty completing a Career/Technical FEG.						
<b>8. CTE Focus (Career Technical Program of Study)</b>	Students may choose one of the Programs of Study <b>below</b> to complete their Focused Elective Group requirements. Program of Study courses must be taken in sequence as indicated in the chart below. * Please see the section at the end of this chart concerning additional information about Career-Technical Programs of Study.						
<b>Students must plan to take these course sequentially and not skip around in the Program of Study sequence.</b>							
Career Cluster	Schools Offering Program of Study	Program of Study	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	NOTES
<b>Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources</b>	MCHS & NWHS (phasing out)	Power, Structures and Technical Systems	X	Agriculture Mechanics and Maintenance 5944	Agricultural Power and Equipment 5945	Agricultural Engineering	
	CHS MCHS Academy	Plant Systems – Landscaping and Turf Science	Principle of Horticultural Sciences 5966	Landscaping & Turf Management 5951	Greenhouse Management 5954	Plant Biotechnology 5960	
	MCHS Academy	Animal Systems - Production Animals	Principles of Agricultural Sciences 5947	Adv Prin of Ag Sciences 5948	Livestock Management 5962	Animal Biotechnology 5967	
	MCHS Academy	Plant Systems - Horticulture Production	Principles of Horticultural Sciences 5966	Aquaculture / Hydroponics 5949	Greenhouse Management 5954	Plant Biotechnology 5960	
	NWHS (phasing in)	Animal Systems - Pre-Veterinary	Principle of Agricultural Sciences 5947	Small Animal Care 5958	Horse Science 5955	Veterinary Science 5961	
<b>Architecture &amp; Construction</b>	MCHS NEHS RHS WCHS	Construction - Carpentry	Construction Core 6073	Carpentry I 6035	Carpentry II 6036 (2 credits)	X	
	KHS	Construction_ HVAC/R	Construction Core 6073	HVAC/R I 6076	HVAC/R II 6077 (2 credits)	X	

**CMCSS Focused Elective Groups**  
 (Applies to students entering high school prior to 2015-16)

		Students must plan to take these course sequentially and not skip around in the Program of Study sequence.					
Career Cluster	Schools Offering Program of Study	Program of Study	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	NOTES
<b>Arts, A/V, Technology, &amp; Communication</b>	RHS Academy	Design Communications	Art I (non CTE) 3501	Digital Arts & Design I 6084	Digital Arts & Design II 6086	Digital Arts & Design III 6087	
	KHS	Fashion Design	Family and Consumer Science I 6003	Fashion Design & Merchandising 6009	Textiles and Apparel 6008	Life Connections 6011	
	KHS WCHS	Journalism & Broadcasting	Broadcasting I 6049	Broadcasting II 6050	Broadcasting III 6083 (2 credits)	X	
	RHS Academy (PENDING)	Broadcast Journalism Multimedia (non-CTE program) PENDING	Theater Arts (Speech Communication) 3524	Journalism 3008	Journalism 3008	Journalism 3008	
<b>Business, Management, and Administration</b>	NWHS	Business Management	Financial Planning 5890 or 3713 and Personal Finance 5901	Accounting I 5910 or 3701	Business Management 5889	Virtual Enterprise International 5990	
	CHS Academy NWHS	Business Financial Management and Accounting	Computer Applications 5891, 3638, or 3721	Accounting I 5910 or 3701	Accounting II 5911 or 3702	Business Management 5889	
<b>Education and Training</b>	NWHS	Teaching Training Services	FACS* 6003	Child and Lifespan Development 6013	Life Connections 6011	Teaching as a Profession 6010	
<b>Finance</b>	CHS Academy MCHS NEHS RHS	Banking and Finance	Computer Applications 5891, 3638, or 3721	Accounting I 5910 or 3701	Financial Planning 5890 or 3713 and Spreadsheet Appl 5893	Banking and Finance 5899	
<b>Government &amp; Public Administration</b>	X						X

**CMCSS Focused Elective Groups**  
 (Applies to students entering high school prior to 2015-16)

Students must plan to take these course sequentially and not skip around in the Program of Study sequence.							
Career Cluster	Schools Offering Program of Study	Program of Study	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	NOTES
Health Science	NEHS	Biotechnology and Forensic Science Research and Development	Health Science Education 5998	Diagnostic Medicine 5994	Anatomy & Physiology 5991 or 3251	Forensic Science 5996	
	RHS	Diagnostic Services	Health Science Education 5998	Rehabilitation Careers 5990	Diagnostic Medicine 5994	Clinical Internship 5993	
	MCHS WCHS NWHs Academy	Therapeutic Services	Health Science Education 5998	Medical Therapeutics 5999	Anatomy & Physiology 5991 or 3251	Nursing Education 6000	
	KHS NWHs Academy	Therapeutic Emergency Services	Health Science Education 5998	Medical Therapeutics 5999	Anatomy & Physiology 5991	Emergency Medical Services 5995	
Hospitality and Tourism	RHS	Food and Beverage Services	FACS 6003	Culinary Arts I 5979	Culinary Arts II 5980	Culinary Arts III 5981	
Human Services	CHS NEHS RHS	KHS NWHS	Family and Community Services	FACS 6003	Child and Lifespan Development 6013	Nutrition and Foods 6005	Life Connections 6011
	MCHS NWHs		Counseling and Mental Health Services	FACS 6003	Child and Lifespan Development 6013	Family and Parenting 6004	Life Connections 6011
	CHS NEHS NWHs		Personal Care Services	Principles of Cosmetology 5983	Design Principles of Cosmetology 5986	Chemistry of Cosmetology 5984 (2 credits)	
Information Technology	CHS Academy KHS MCHS RHS	NEHS WCHS	Interactive Multimedia	Computer Applications 5891, 3638, or 3721	Interactive Multimedia Presentation 5897, 3639, or 3752	Desktop Publishing 5896	Advanced Computer Applications 5904
	RHS Academy KHS NWHs WCHS		Web/Multimedia Management/ Webmaster	Computer Applications 5891, 3638, or 3721	Interactive Multimedia Presentation 5897, 3639, or 3752	Web Design Essentials 5902	Web Design Applications 5903
	NEHS Academy		Programming and Gaming	Computer Applications/ Game Foundations TBD	Computer Applications/ Game Composition TBD	Computer Programming/ Animation TBD	Computer Programming/ Computer Science TBD
	NEHS Academy (PENDING)		Computer Information Technology	Computer Applications 5891, 3638, or 3721	Information Technology Foundations 6095	Networking 6097	Project Based Computer Systems TBD

**CMCSS Focused Elective Groups**  
 (Applies to students entering high school prior to 2015-16)

			Students must plan to take these course sequentially and not skip around in the Program of Study sequence.				
Career Cluster	Schools Offering Program of Study	Program of Study	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	NOTES
Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security	KHS NEHS WCHS Academy	Law Enforcement Services	Criminal Justice I 5987	Criminal Justice II 5988	Criminal Justice III/ Forensic Science Investigation 5989	WCHS Academy only  Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice non CTE 3435	
	WCHS Academy	Homeland Security (non CTE program)	JROTC I 3331	JROTC II 3332	JROTC III 3333	JROTC IV 3334	
Manufacturing	CHS	Precision Production	Principles of Engineering 5924	Principles of Manufacturing 5922	Principles of Machining/Manufact. 5923 2 credits	Manufacturing Applications 5926 2 credits	
Marketing, Sales, and Service	X						
Science, Technology, Engineering & Math	KHS Academy	Engineering PLTW	Introduction to Engineering Design 6054	Principles of Engineering 6052	Digital Electronics 6053	*Scientific Research* (individualized science course) *non-CTE 3285RG*	
	NEHS	Engineering and Technology	Foundations of Technology 5917	Technological Issues 5918	Advanced Design Applications 5920	Engineering Design 5921	
Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics	NWHS	Automotive Technology	Transportation Core 6071	Automotive: Brake Systems 6028	Automotive: Suspension & Steering 6031	Automotive: Electrical/Electronics 6029 (2 credits)	
	NWHS	Collision Repair Technology	Transportation Core 6071	Collision Repair: Non-Structural 6062 (2 credits)	Collision Repair: Structural 6064 (2 credits)	Collision Repair: Painting & Refinishing 6063 (2 credits)	

### **Special Transfer Requests**

From the chart on the previous pages, please note that several CTE programs are offered only at specific schools. Students in CMCSS may request to attend another high school if their desired Program of Study (POS) is not offered in the zoned school. The student/parent must complete a ***Special Transfer Request*** form to be considered. Special Transfer Request forms may be obtained in the spring from the counseling office at each high school and at the CMCSS Board of Education, 621 Gracey Avenue, Office of Student Services, (931) 648-5600. These forms must be turned in to the Office of Student Services between March 1 and April 30. Students granted a special transfer will be assigned to the new school for the entire day for the following year and are also responsible for providing their own transportation. In the event a program is full, the students zoned for the school where that program is offered will be given priority. Students/Parents must submit a Special Transfer Request **each** year that the student requests to attend other than his/her zoned school. Students whose Special Transfer Requests are granted are expected to maintain acceptable attendance, discipline, and academic progress.

### **Dual/Joint Enrollment Opportunities**

Juniors and Seniors who meet the college admissions requirements have the opportunity to begin post-secondary education while still in high school by dual or joint enrollment in several area institutions. *Dual enrollment* is the enrollment of a high school student in one or more specified courses for which the student will be awarded both high school and college credit. *Joint enrollment* is the enrollment of a high school student in one or more courses for which the student will earn only college credit. Only dual enrollment college courses required for high school graduation will be recorded on the student's high school transcript and count in the student's high school GPA. Please note that one semester of college is equal to one semester of high school credit. CMCSS is committed to pursuing opportunities as they become available to help bridge the transition from high school to post-secondary education for its students. Dual enrollment students at public institutions may qualify for state dual-enrollment grants to help with the cost of tuition.

- Students meeting dual enrollment requirements may enroll in college classes at Austin Peay State University.
- The Tennessee Technology Center admits high school seniors into their machine tool program at a reduced rate.
- Nashville State Community College allows juniors and seniors to enroll in on-line and in-school courses
- UT-Martin allows juniors and seniors to enroll in on-line courses in Financial Planning and Agricultural Education

### **The Middle College at APSU**

Middle College is a unique collaborative program between the Clarksville-Montgomery County School System and Austin Peay State University that enables junior and senior high school students throughout the district to obtain a quality high school education while concurrently receiving direct and invaluable access to college courses. While Middle College is a new concept for Clarksville-Montgomery County students and parents, it is not unique nationwide. Yet, it is distinctive from other programs for students have the option of not only pursuing university credits but career technical credits as well. Middle College at Austin Peay State University is the integration of high school, college, and career training all set on a university campus.

Potential Middle College students may be characterized by any of the following: - Seeks intellectual stimulation found in a rigorous curriculum - Desires a more mature learning environment - Demonstrates the maturity to cope with the challenges and relative freedom of a college environment - Holds a sincere conviction in the importance of education, but does not value the co-curricular and extra-curricular activities of the traditional high school. Middle College will offer CMCSS juniors and seniors the opportunity to earn their high school diploma on a university campus.

In order to effectively address student performance/needs and determine which students could most benefit from the program, candidates must complete an Application for Admission. All students who have completed and/or enrolled in the 10th grade or higher at a Clarksville-Montgomery County School System school are eligible to apply for admission. In order to be considered for regular admission, students should have an ACT score of 20 or higher and/ or a GPA of 2.85. Students seeking a conditional admittance should have a GPA of 2.75 and/or an ACT score of 19. Applications are available on the school system website. Students who are accepted and enroll in the Middle College are expected to remain through a minimum of a full semester.

Unlike traditional dual enrollment, the Middle College is an accredited high school and students who attend Middle College have actually transferred from another accredited high school; thus, students who attend are no longer enrolled at their zoned high school and all diplomas will be conferred by the Middle College at Austin Peay State University.

Students and parents interested in obtaining additional information may contact the school at (931) 221-1350 or view the website under "Our Schools" at [www.cmcoss.net](http://www.cmcoss.net).



## Student Information

### Classification of Students

Students are promoted at the end of each school year based on the following:

- One year attendance and 5 credits earned - promoted to the 10<sup>th</sup> grade
- Two years attendance and 10 credits earned - promoted to the 11<sup>th</sup> grade
- Three years attendance and 15 credits earned - promoted to the 12<sup>th</sup> grade

### Attendance Requirements

Students must attend **each** class 90% of the school days per semester in order to obtain credit for completion of coursework. Students/parents are expected to submit valid written explanation upon returning to school following all absences. Excessive absences due to extenuating circumstances may be reviewed by the Board Attendance Review Committee. Students not complying with the attendance requirements will lose credit for those courses and will have NC (no credit) noted on the official transcript.

### Tennessee Uniform Grading Scale

A	93-100	4 points
B	85-92	3 points
C	75-84	2 points
D	70-74	1 point
F	0-69	0 points

\*In order to receive credit for a course, a student must receive a grade of 70 or above and meet attendance policy requirements.

\*\* Transfer percentage grades from out-of-district schools will be converted to the Tennessee Uniform Grading Scale for grade points as listed above.

### Credits earned in Credit Recovery, Virtual High School, or Summer School

CMCSS strives to make available in Credit Recovery, VHS or Summer School, all courses that would enable a student to meet graduation requirements on time. However, Honors and AP courses are **not** available in the above-mentioned remedial programs. Students working toward a Highest Honors diploma should plan accordingly.

### Testing Requirements

#### Final Examinations

Examinations shall be given at the end of each semester and shall be required of all students with one exception: \*A student will be exempt from a second semester course examination provided the student has a 93% or higher for each 9 week grading period during the second semester and the course is a full year class. NO students will be exempt from state end-of-course exams. All students enrolled in a one-semester course must take a final examination. Exams will be given on scheduled days only. NO early exams will be given. Please note that in compliance with the Military Interstate Compact, military families who have current PCS orders that conflict with the exam schedule may request an exception from the principal. Valid military orders must be presented.

#### End-of-Course Examinations

End-of-course examinations are currently given in English I, English II, English III, Algebra I, Algebra II, U.S. History, Biology, and Chemistry. The state of Tennessee plans further development of end-of-course exams to include all core area courses. Further, the results of these examinations will be factored into the student's second semester grade at 25% as determined by the State Board of Education in accordance with T.C.A. 49-1-302 (2).

The student is not required to pass any single examination, but instead the student would need to achieve a passing score for the final course average in accordance with the State Board of Education's uniform grading policy.

## **Weighting AP, Honors, and College Courses**

### **Weighting for Advanced Placement Courses**

Five percentage points will be added to final semester grades in AP courses which follow the national AP guidelines, extend the state mandated curriculum with rigor, and meet five of the nine state recommended components for honors classes. The extra points will be awarded at the end of each semester for students with passing grades (70 or above).

### **Weighting for Honors Courses and National Industry Certification**

Three percentage points will be added to honors courses and national industry certification preparation classes that extend the state-mandated curriculum with rigor and meet five of the nine state recommended components of honors classes. The extra points will be awarded at the end of each semester for students with passing grades (70 or above).

### **Weighting for College Courses**

Three percentage points will be added to semester grades of 70 or above for college classes that meet dual enrollment requirements. This includes the classes taught on the college/university as well as those that may be taught at the individual high school. If college grades are provided by letter grade, the school system conversion scale will be used to determine the final grade percent.

## **Grade Calculations for High School Courses**

### **Course with NO state end-of course exam:**

Count each 9-week grade 40% and the school exam 20%

When student is exempt from 2<sup>nd</sup> semester exam, count each 9-week grade 50%

### **Course with a state end-of-course exam:**

1<sup>st</sup> semester – each 9-week grade 40% and the school exam 20%

2<sup>nd</sup> semester -each 9 week grade 30%, state end-of-course exam 25%, the school exam 15%

When student is exempt from 2<sup>nd</sup> semester exam, count each 9 weeks 37.5% and end-of-course exam 25%

## **Athletic Eligibility**

### **High School Eligibility – Tennessee Secondary Schools Athletic Association (TSSAA)**

To be eligible to participate in high school athletics during any school year, the student must earn five credits the preceding school year if less than 24 credits are required for graduation or six credits the preceding school year if 24 or more credits are required for graduation. All credits must be earned by the first day of the beginning of the school year. Credits completed after school begins do NOT count toward that year's eligibility. Academic eligibility for a student is based on the number of credits required at the school the student was attending at the conclusion of the previous school year. NOTE: A student who has lost eligibility for the year may regain it for the second semester only by earning credit in 5 courses during the first semester.

Students not earning the required number of credits for eligibility have the opportunity to make up those credits in Summer School and/or Credit Recovery (both of which may require a fee).

### **College Eligibility - National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA)**

In order to practice and participate in intercollegiate athletic competition and/or receive an athletic scholarship the first year of college attendance, all athletes must be cleared through the NCAA. Information is provided at [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org).

- NCAA eligibility is based on GPA and credits earned in NCAA approved high school courses as well as ACT/SAT scores.
- The list of NCAA approved courses for each high school may be found on the NCAA website.
- Students must have their ACT or SAT scores sent directly from ACT or SAT to the NCAA. Use code number 9999 when registering for the ACT or SAT.
- New credit earned in a Virtual High School setting may **NOT** be recognized by NCAA for eligibility. Future college athletes should plan to earn all credits in a regular classroom setting.

## **Class Ranking**

Class rank is based on the student's **cumulative percent average**. In the interest of encouraging and recognizing outstanding academic achievement, ranking is based on the type of diploma earned with highest honors ranked first, honors second, and regular third. Class ranking is determined only after the first semester of the student's 12<sup>th</sup> grade year. This will be the student's official/final class rank. Students entering from home school for their senior year only will not be ranked.

## **Selection of Valedictorian**

The selection of valedictorian shall be according to the following procedure:

1. The valedictorian shall be selected from the Highest Honors program and shall have the highest cumulative percent average. The numerical average shall be calculated at the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of 12<sup>th</sup> grade. In case of a tie for valedictorian, co-valedictorians will be honored.
2. To be eligible for valedictorian, a student must be enrolled in CMCSS prior to and continuously following the tenth day of the student's senior year.
3. Foreign exchange students will not be considered.

## **Diploma Types**

***Regular*** – Will be awarded to students who earn the specified 22 units of credit and have satisfactory records of attendance and conduct. This includes students with an individual education plan who have earned their specified 22 units of credit.

***Students meeting Regular diploma requirements may be recognized with Honors or Highest Honors by meeting the additional requirements below:***

***Honors*** - All requirements for a Regular Diploma must be fulfilled plus an 85% cumulative percent average with no semester grade lower than a 75 and score at or above **ALL** of the subject area readiness benchmarks on the ACT or equivalent score on the SAT. (Please refer to page ii for ACT benchmark scores. SAT score requirements are 1550 total on SAT with no individual subtest below 500.)

***Highest Honors*** – All requirements for an Honors Diploma must be fulfilled plus a 90% cumulative percent average with no semester grade lower than a 75 and complete the courses below:

- 4 English to include a minimum of honors levels in 10th, 11th, and 12th
- One of the math credits must be earned in a course above the Algebra II/Geometry level. (While Bridge Math does include some standards above the level of Algebra II, it does not meet the requirement for a Highest Honors diploma.)
- 3 high school science courses to include Biology I and two of the following: Chemistry, Physics, Anatomy Physiology, AP Biology, AP Chemistry, and AP Physics
- 2 years of the same foreign language
- 2 Advanced Placement classes\* (one must be from core - English, math, science, social studies) \*A technical licensing course that meets honors criteria may substitute for a non-core AP course.

NOTE: For the purposes of senior ranking and diploma types for Honors or Highest Honors qualified students, ACT benchmark scores must be received by the school prior to the end of Semester 1 for the ranking process and prior to the final day of regularly scheduled classes for the final diploma type. Students should plan accordingly to take the ACT well in advance so scores are received by the school in a timely manner.

***Special Education Diploma*** – A special education diploma will be awarded to students with an individual education plan (IEP) who have met the requirements of their IEP but have not completed the specified 22 credits required to earn a regular diploma.

## **Graduating with Distinction**

Students earning diplomas will be recognized on the graduation program as graduating with distinction by attaining an 85% cumulative average and completing at least one of the following:

- Earn a nationally recognized industry certification
- Participate in at least one of the Governor’s Schools
- Participate in one of the state’s All State musical organizations
- Be selected as a National Merit Finalist or Semi-Finalist
- Attain a score of 31 or higher composite score on the ACT
- Attain a score of 3 or higher on at least two Advanced Placement exams (Students who have taken a minimum of 2 AP courses but who have not received final scores yet will be indicated as “pending.”)
- Successfully complete the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme
- Earn 12 or more semester hours of transcribed postsecondary credit

## **Tennessee Scholars**

The Tennessee Scholars Program provides recognition to outstanding students who meet the challenging academic and community service requirements. Information including requirements, benefits, and applications are available at [www.tennesseescholars.org](http://www.tennesseescholars.org).

## **Graduation Participation**

Students must meet **ALL** graduation requirements **before** they may **participate** in the graduation ceremony. However, participation is not mandatory.

## **Tennessee Education HOPE (Lottery) Scholarship Program**

Currently, the HOPE scholarship requires either a minimum 21 composite ACT (980 SAT math and critical reasoning score) or 3.0 final cumulative GPA. Additional information is available at [www.tn.gov/collegepays](http://www.tn.gov/collegepays). Please check with the school counseling office or the Tennessee state website for the most current information concerning the available scholarships and requirements.

## **Counseling Office Services**

Each high school has school counselors who provide the following services:

- Individual and group counseling to help students with educational planning, social development, and school or personal problems
- College and career information, scholarships, and financial aid
- Test administration and interpretation
- Registration, orientation, and placement of students
- Career and vocational counseling
- Organization and maintenance of all student records
- Assistance to students, parents, teachers, and agencies concerning students and programs
- Provide information about outside agencies

**The following pages provide the course descriptions for courses available at your school. Some of the courses listed are honors or AP (Advanced Placement) courses. Please refer to the information below for details about how an honors course or an AP course differs from its regular course counterpart.**

### **Honors Courses**

Honors courses in English, math, science, and social studies are available in each high school based on student interest. Individual schools determine enrollment in honors courses. Honors course descriptions are listed within the content areas in this document.

The State of Tennessee defines honors courses as follows:

- Enrollment requirements for honors courses are established at each school. Students need to check with their counselor regarding those requirements.
- Honors courses will substantially exceed the content standards, learning expectations, and performance indicators approved by the State Board of Education.
- Independent study, self-directed research, and appropriate use of technology are used to maximize interchange of ideas among students.
- All honors courses must include multiple assessments.
- All honors courses include a minimum of five of the following components:
  - i. Extended reading assignments
  - ii. Research-based writing assignments
  - iii. Projects connected to relevant or real-world situations
  - iv. Open-ended investigations
  - v. Writing assignments that demonstrate a variety of modes, purposes, and styles
  - vi. Use of appropriate technology
  - vii. Deeper exploration of the culture, values, and history of the discipline
  - viii. Problem solving experiences
  - ix. Job shadowing experiences
- Each student with a passing average at the end of the semester will be awarded a three-point increase in the semester average for that honors course.

CMCSS forms INS-A021 and INS-A022 provide further detail about honors courses in our high schools. Any changes in those policies will impact the information published here on the effective date of said change.

### **Advanced Placement [AP] Courses**

*The following information is excerpted from the College Board's overview of its AP Program.*

AP<sup>®</sup> is a rigorous academic program that provides willing and academically prepared high school students with the opportunity to study and learn at the college level. AP teachers help students develop and apply the skills, abilities, and content knowledge they will need later in college. Each AP course is modeled upon a comparable college course, and college and university faculty play a vital role in ensuring that AP courses align with college-level standards.

AP courses culminate with college-level assessments developed and scored by college and university faculty members as well as experienced AP teachers. AP Exams are an essential part of the AP experience, enabling students to demonstrate their mastery of college-level course work. Strong performance on AP Exams is rewarded by colleges and universities worldwide, granting students credit, placement, or both on the basis of successful AP Exam scores.

<b>AP Exam Score</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>College Grade Equivalent</b>
5	Extremely well qualified	A
4	Well qualified	A-, B+, B
3	Qualified	B-, C+, C
2	Possibly qualified	---
1	No recommendation	---

*The State of Tennessee includes the following in its AP information:*

- Enrollment requirements for AP courses are established at each school. Students need to check with their counselor regarding those requirements.

- Each student with a passing average at the end of the semester will be awarded a five-percentage point increase in the semester average for that AP course.

*Clarksville-Montgomery County School System explains Advanced Placement [AP] courses with further details in CMCSS forms INS-A021 and INS-A022. Any changes in those policies will impact the information published here on the effective date of said change.*

Individual schools determine admission to AP courses. The rubric for selection includes standardized national test scores like PLAN or PSAT, overall GPA, skills in reading and writing, teacher recommendations, etc. It is recommended that students entering the AP program be highly motivated, committed to the course, and understand the higher level of expectations. **Students enrolling in an AP course are expected to remain in the course the full year and are required to take the national AP exam in the spring.** Current AP test fees will apply. Students earning a score of 3 or above on a scale of 1 – 5 will be reimbursed the amount they paid for their test. Reimbursements should be received no later than November 1 of the following school year. NOTE: AP Exams are administered in May according to a national schedule established by the College Board. CMCSS high school students may take an AP exam without taking the class, but students who are in the class must take the AP exam. CMCSS reimburses all students who earn a score of 3 or higher on any AP exam if they are in the class or if the class is not offered or available. Additional information concerning the national Advanced Placement program may be found at [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org).

### **Support Courses for Students with an IEP**

Courses are available in the areas of English, math, and science to provide additional support for students with an IEP. These courses include English I, English II, English III, English IV, Algebra I A, Algebra I B, Geometry A, Geometry B, Biology A, and Biology B. Specifics of these courses will be discussed at your student’s IEP meeting. All designated courses meet the state requirements for earning a regular high school diploma. Students are also required to take the state end-of-course tests that count as 25% of the second semester grade when applicable.

### **High School Course Descriptions**

The following pages contain course descriptions for the courses offered at your high school. Course descriptions in the departments of English, Math, Science, Social Studies, and JROTC are uniform in all CMCSS schools. While Career-Technical Programs of Study will vary from high school to high school, those course descriptions within each program of study are uniform for each CMCSS school offering that program. Descriptions for all other courses have been provided per each individual high school. For other specific course questions, please contact your school counselor.