# Graduation Requirements for First-Time Transfers Into a Virginia Public High School

[Graduation requirements](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/index.shtml) – in compliance with [8VAC 20-131-60](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section60/) – for a student transferring into a Virginia public school for the first time in grades 9-12, depends on the grade the student is transferring into and when in the school year the student is transferring.

A student is considered to have transferred:

* at the beginning of the school year if 20 or fewer hours of instruction have been completed.
* during the school year if more than 20 hours of instruction has been completed.

Federal law requires each student to be tested in mathematics at least once during high school, therefore some students will be required to complete a mathematics end-of-course test in high school if one was not completed prior to enrolling in a Virginia public high school.

Students entering a Virginia high school during the tenth grade or later may benefit by having to earn a reduced number of verified credits, as stated in 8VAC20-131-60.G, and summarized in the following table.

| **A student entering a Virginia high school for first time:** | **Prior to 2018-2019 school year:** | **2018-2019 school year:** | **2019-2020 school year:** | **2020-2021 school year:** | **2021-2022 school year and thereafter:** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **At the beginning of or during ninth grade** | All requirements of [8VAC20-131-50](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section50/) for the [Standard diploma](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/standard.shtml#11) and [Advanced Studies diploma](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/advanced_studies.shtml#11). | All requirements of  [8VAC20-131-51](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section51/) for the [Standard diploma](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/standard.shtml#18) and [Advanced Studies diploma](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/advanced_studies.shtml#18). | All requirements of [8VAC20-131-51](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section51/)for the [Standard diploma](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/standard.shtml#18) and [Advanced Studies diploma](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/advanced_studies.shtml#18). | All requirements of [8VAC20-131-51](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section51/)for the [Standard diploma](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/standard.shtml#18) and [Advanced Studies diploma](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/advanced_studies.shtml#18). | All requirements of [8VAC20-131-51](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section51/)for the [Standard diploma](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/standard.shtml#18) and [Advanced Studies diploma](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/advanced_studies.shtml#18). |
| **At the beginning of or during tenth grade** | All requirements of [8VAC20-131-50](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section50/), except:* For a [Standard diploma](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/standard.shtml#11), only four verified credits required: English (1), mathematics (1), history (1), and science (1)
* For an [Advanced Studies diploma](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/advanced_studies.shtml#11), only six verified credits required:  English (2), mathematics (1), history (1), science (1), and student-selected (1)
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| **At the beginning of eleventh grade** | All requirements of [8VAC20-131-50](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section50/), except:* For a [Standard diploma](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/standard.shtml#11), only four verified credits required: English (1), mathematics (1), history (1), and science (1)
* For an [Advanced Studies diploma](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/advanced_studies.shtml#11), only six verified credits required:  English (2), mathematics (1), history (1), science (1), and student-selected (1)
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* For an [Advanced Studies diploma](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/advanced_studies.shtml#11), only six verified credits required:  English (2), mathematics (1), history (1), science (1), and student-selected (1)
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| **During eleventh grade** | All requirements of [8VAC20-131-50](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section50/), except:* For a [Standard diploma](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/standard.shtml#11), only two verified credits required: English (1), and student-selected (1).  The student-selected credits must be in mathematics if mathematics testing is required by federal law.
* For an [Advanced Studies diploma](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/advanced_studies.shtml#11), only four verified credits required: English (1), and student-selected (3).  One of the student-selected credits must be in mathematics if mathematics testing is required by federal law.
 | All requirements of [8VAC20-131-50](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section50/), except:* For a [Standard diploma](http://www.doetest.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/standard.shtml), only two verified credits required: English (1), and student-selected (1).  The student-selected credits must be in mathematics if mathematics testing is required by federal law.
* For an [Advanced Studies diploma](http://www.doetest.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/advanced_studies.shtml), only four verified credits required: English (1), and student-selected (3).  One of the student-selected credits must be in mathematics if mathematics testing is required by federal law.
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* For an [Advanced Studies diploma](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/advanced_studies.shtml#11), only four verified credits required: English (1), and student-selected (3).  One of the student-selected credits must be in mathematics if mathematics testing is required by federal law.
 | All requirements of [8VAC20-131-51This link takes you out of the Virginia Department of Education website](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section51/), except only two verified credits required: English and mathematics, if mathematics testing required by federal law, otherwise verified credit may be of student’s own choosing. | All requirements of [8VAC20-131-51](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section51/)for the [Standard diploma](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/standard.shtml#18) and [Advanced Studies diploma](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/advanced_studies.shtml#18), except only two verified credits required: English and mathematics, if mathematics testing required by federal law, otherwise verified credit may be of student’s own choosing |
| **At the beginning of twelfth grade** | All requirements of [8VAC20-131-50](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section50/), except:* For a [Standard diploma](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/standard.shtml#11), only two verified credits required: English (1), and student-selected (1).  The student-selected credits must be in mathematics if mathematics testing is required by federal law.
* For an [Advanced Studies diploma](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/advanced_studies.shtml#11), only four verified credits required: English (1), and student-selected (3).  One of the student-selected credits must be in mathematics if mathematics testing is required by federal law
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| **During twelfth grade** | Students should be given every opportunity to earn a diploma following the graduation requirements in [8VAC20-131-50](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section50/).  If not possible, arrangements should be made for the student’s previous school to award the diploma.  If these arrangements cannot be made, a waiver of the verified credit requirements may be requested by the local school board to the Virginia Department of Education. | Students should be given every opportunity to earn a diploma following the graduation requirements in [8VAC20-131-50](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section50/).  If not possible, arrangements should be made for the student’s previous school to award the diploma.  If these arrangements cannot be made, a waiver of the verified credit requirements may be requested by the local school board to the Virginia Department of Education. | Students should be given every opportunity to earn a diploma following the graduation requirements in [8VAC20-131-50](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section50/).  If not possible, arrangements should be made for the student’s previous school to award the diploma.  If these arrangements cannot be made, a waiver of the verified credit requirements may be requested by the local school board to the Virginia Department of Education. | Students should be given every opportunity to earn a diploma following the graduation requirements in [8VAC20-131-50](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section50/).  If not possible, arrangements should be made for the student’s previous school to award the diploma.  If these arrangements cannot be made, a waiver of the verified credit requirements may be requested by the local school board to the Virginia Department of Education. | Students should be given every opportunity to earn a diploma following the graduation requirements in [8VAC20-131-51](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter131/section51/).  If not possible, arrangements should be made for the student’s previous school to award the diploma.  If these arrangements cannot be made, a waiver of the verified credit requirements may be requested by the local school board to the Virginia Department of Education. |