
Standard Diploma Program

Program Summary

This graduation track follows an individualized academic approach for students who will complete high school with a standard high school diploma and continue their education. Program features a college-bound curriculum track. This program is targeted for students who are college bound and looking to move onto studies at the post-secondary level. Students completing this program track are held to standards which have aimed to prepare them for college.

Courses for summer credit recovery are available under this program track. Additional options are available for Advanced Placement (AP) courses, Dual Enrollment at the college level and online distance learning opportunities. This program features a part-time enrollment option for qualifying 12th graders.

Graduation Requirements

Our school requires students meet a specific list of requirements in order to graduate high school. For the standard diploma track option, it is the responsibility of each student to have a solid understanding of their academic progress.

Language Arts	4.0 credits
○ Required - English I, English II, English III, English IV	
Mathematics	4.0 credits
○ Required – Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II	
Social Studies	4.0 credits
○ Required – U.S. History, Government (0.50), Economics(0.50), World History & Heritage	
Science	3.0 credits
○ Required – Biology I	
Physical Education	1.0 credits
Life Management/Health	0.5 credits
Practical Arts	1.0 credits
○ Required – Business Computer Applications (0.50+)	
Fine Arts	1.0 credits
Electives	5.5 credits
○ Required – Writing Skills Series Course (0.50+)	
○ Recommended - 2 credits of a consecutive Foreign Language when viable via available options.	
Graduation Requirement	24 credits

Additional Requirements

- Complete minimum of 80 hours of community service learning; 20 hours annually towards goal.
- Maintain a GPA of 2.0 or higher.
- Meet all instructional time/attendance obligations.
- Meet all financial obligations.

Standard Diploma Program Options

The following program opportunities exist solely for students on a college-bound diploma track.

Online Virtual Courses

In today's society, students attending school must have a solid understanding of electronic learning. Individuals must become familiar with and be able to take class content digitally, the primary reason for ongoing integration of such technologies within the classroom at Paladin Academy. To this end, the school maintains an agreement with the State of Florida Virtual High School Program (FLVS) to allow students to take courses through a distance learning platform. This system is ideal for self motivated individuals looking to complete courses not typically available at our school or location. Requiring administration approval, these courses are available during the day or as an additional class.

Enrollment is extremely limited at our school due to the demanding requirements of these courses. Students must indicate within the first two weeks of a semester their desire to enroll in an online course. Students utilizing the McKay Scholarship may have a fee assessed due to State of Florida funding changes from FLVS coursework. Contact the school office for details.

Virtual Class Options

Paladin Academy's academic environment provides a wealth of educational opportunities for our students. However, some individuals may have specific interest or credit needs that will go beyond the available classes at the school. This may include focus on specific electives or other core content that a student may require to meet graduation requirements.

Included in this group are foreign language classes. An entry requirement at some universities, given the specialized nature of the student body, these classes are not normally available in an effort to allow continued focus on English language arts remediation and assistance. These courses are available online and are recommended whenever practical. Additional fees may apply.

Advanced Placement (AP) Courses

Courses of this type are designed for students seeking college level work material at a high school age. Typically, these classes are designed to prepare students to complete the College Entrance Examination Board (CEEB) exam. Upon successful scoring, students are often provided with college level class credit or placement upon acceptance. Enrollment in these courses is strictly limited and provided only through online virtual class opportunities.

Half-Day Program Option

For qualifying 12th grade students not requiring a full course load to meet graduation requirements, a half-day program option exists for attendance to three hours of in-class instruction. This is subject to course scheduling and is limited to students with more than 21 completed credits. Administration approval is required for such students and course scheduling cannot be guaranteed.

Dual-Enrollment

For 12th grade students showing exceptional academic skill, opportunities exist for courses to be taken for college credit. Such options exist through local community and state colleges, allowing students to complete courses for both high school diploma requirements and credit at post-secondary institutions. Enrollment requires specific approval from school administration. Paladin Academy allows qualifying seniors the opportunity to take no more than one credit worth of course per semester under dual-enrollment (Freshman 1000 series). Such decisions are based on a combined evaluation of recommendations, academic performance and individual student need.

College Planning

Preparation for life after high school must begin as soon as a student enters the program. It is expected that students will be active participants in availing themselves of opportunities to gain knowledge about what the next step will be in their academic or professional lives. All families are strongly encouraged to become familiar and visit often the *Student Resources* page within the Guidance Section of the Paladin Academy Edline Portal (edline.paladink12.com).

As stated within the Parent-Student Handbook, *it is the responsibility of students and their families* to become familiar with the college preparation, planning and entrance process. Delays in the process can lead to a failure to receive accommodations on testing, entrance acceptance and more.

Students should be extremely familiar with their progress towards meeting graduation requirements, GPA, ACT & SAT testing, university student service program availability and college entry requirement.

Resources are available online to aid with career selection, college campus visitation, financial considerations and more. Throughout the year, students will have individual and group meetings to discuss these topics. Presentations will also be made available during the year for families about the process and their role within it.