

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

To graduate from the Fort Smith Schools, a student must earn a minimum of twenty-two credits (beginning with class of 2026). Credits are earned at the rate of 0.5 credits per class per semester. [Smart Core graduation requirements were developed by the Arkansas Department of Elementary and Secondary Education \(DESE\)](#) to prepare students for college and career post-secondary educational opportunities.

Subject Area	Fort Smith Requirements
English	4 credits
Math	4 credits 1 credit of Algebra 1 credit of Geometry 1 credit of Algebra II 1 credit of additional math or Computer Science Flex
Science	3 credits 1 credit of DESE approved Physical Science 1 credit of DESE approved Biology 1 credit of DESE approved third science or Computer Science Flex
Social Studies	3 credits .5 credit of Civics* .5 credit of economics or equivalent course** 1 credit of World History 1 credit of American (U.S.) History
Physical Education	.5 credits 0.5 credit of PE, Athletics, Cheer, Dance, or JROTC I.
Health	.5 credits*** .5 credit can be earned in JROTC II.
Oral Communication	.5 credits .5 credit can be earned in English 10.
Fine Arts	.5 credits Courses that are considered a Fine Arts credit include Band, Choir, Orchestra, Music Theory, Music Appreciation, Theatre, Stagecraft, and Visual Arts.
Career Focus	6 credits <u>Class of 2026 and beyond</u> .5 credit of Keystone This high school credit will be earned in 8 th grade in FSPS through Career Connections. ****1.0 credit of Computer Science OR qualifying CTE course Please click this link to all CS and qualifying CTE courses
Community Service Learning (Beginning class of 2027)	Link
Total Credits	22 credits (Beginning with class of 2026) 23 credits (Ending with class of 2025)
<p>*ADE Act 478 requires all students to pass the civics portion of the Naturalization Test used by the US Citizenship and Immigration Services. **ADE Act 480 and Act 466, these acts require all students to complete a course that includes specific personal finance standards in grades 9-12. ***DESE CPR Standards included in FSPS Health. ****ACT 414 requires all students beginning with the class of 2026 to earn one unit of credit in an ADE approved high school computer science course. ACT 237 requires all students (beginning in class of 2027) to complete 75 community services hours between grades 9-12.</p>	