

PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

2022-2023 Curriculum Guide



Professional & Technical High School

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2023 Cohort - PATHS Seniors

Credits:

4 English

4 Math (Algebra 1, Geometry, and higher)

3 Science (Biology and one of the other courses must have a laboratory component)

1 World History

1 U.S. History

.5 Economics (semester course)

.5 U.S. Government (semester course)

1 HOPE

1 Fine, Performing or Practical Arts course

8 Electives

*You must take an online course

*Two years of a World Language are not required for graduation but are required for a Bright Futures Scholarship and entrance to a 4-year college.

Testing:

EOC: Algebra I (must pass with a Level 3 or higher and it counts as 30% of your final grade)

EOC: Geometry, Biology, U.S. History (EOC counts as 30% of your final grade)

FSA ELA: Level 3 or higher on the 10th grade test

Important this year:

1. Continue participating in extracurricular activities and working on community service hours.
2. Make sure that you are on track for a Bright Futures Scholarship.
3. Watch College/Career Fair dates and admissions deadlines.
4. Check to see if you have met college admission requirements (ACT/SAT/GPA)

Bright Futures Scholarship Requirements (Florida Based Scholarship)

FAS - Florida Academic Scholarship: 3.5 core GPA, 100 community service hours, 1330 SAT (Math and Verbal) or 29 ACT (composite), Math courses must be Algebra 1 or higher, 2 years of the same World Language

FMS - Florida Medallion Scholarship: 3.0 core GPA, 75 community service hours, 1210 SAT (Math and Verbal) or 25 ACT (composite), Math courses must be Algebra 1 or higher, 2 years of the same World Language

GSV- Gold Seal Vocational 3.0 core GPA, take at least 3 full credits in a single Career and Technical Education Program, 3.5 GPA in Career Education courses, 30 community service hours

Core GPA includes English, Math, Science, Social Studies, and World Language Requirements are subject to change, see the PATHS website for details.

You can find also additional information at www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org

2024 Cohort - PATHS Juniors

Credits:

- 4 English
- 4 Math (Algebra 1, Geometry, and higher)
- 3 Science (Biology and one of the other courses must have a laboratory component)
- 1 World History
- 1 U.S. History
- .5 Economics (semester course)
- .5 U.S. Government (semester course)
- 1 PE (Personal Fitness and .5 PE elective)
- 1 Fine, Performing or Practical Arts course
- 8 Electives
- *You must take an online course

*Two years of a World Language are not required for graduation, but are required for a Bright Futures Scholarship and entrance to a 4-year college.

Testing:

- EOC: Algebra I (must pass with a Level 3 or higher and it counts as 30% of your final grade)
- EOC: Geometry, Biology, U.S. History (EOC counts as 30% of your final grade)
- FSA ELA: Level 3 or higher on the 10th grade test

Important this year

1. Register for the ACT and/or SAT tests this year.
2. Research college and career options and their requirements.
3. Continue participating in extracurricular activities and working on community service hours.
4. Track your Bright Futures Scholarship progress/status.

Bright Futures Scholarship Requirements (Florida Based Scholarship)

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Core GPA includes English, Math, Science, Social Studies, and World Language Requirements are subject to change, see the PATHS website for details.

You can find also additional information at www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org

2025 Cohort - PATHS Sophomores

Credits:

- 4 English
- 4 Math (Algebra 1, Geometry, and higher)
- 3 Science (Biology and one of the other courses must have a laboratory component)
- 1 World History
- 1 U.S. History
- .5 Economics (semester course)
- .5 U.S. Government (semester course)
- 1 PE (Personal Fitness and .5 PE elective)
- 1 Fine, Performing or Practical Arts course
- 8 Electives
- *You must take an online course

*Two years of a World Language are not required for graduation, but are required for a Bright Futures Scholarship and entrance to a 4-year college.

Testing:

- EOC: Algebra I (must pass with a Level 3 or higher and it counts as 30% of your final grade)
- EOC: Geometry, Biology, U.S. History (EOC counts as 30% of your final grade)
- FSA ELA: Level 3 or higher on the 10th grade test

Important this year:

1. You must pass the 10th grade FSA ELA test in the Spring.
2. Make sure that you are involved in a club, and/or extracurricular activities.
3. Continue working on community service hours.
4. Interested in Dual Enrollment please see your Guidance Counselor

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Core GPA includes English, Math, Science, Social Studies, and World Language Requirements are subject to change, see the PATHS website for details.

You can find also additional information at www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org

2026 Cohort - PATHS Freshmen

Credits:

- 4 English
- 4 Math (Algebra 1, Geometry, and higher)
- 3 Science (Biology and one of the other courses must have a laboratory component)
- 1 World History
- 1 U.S. History
- .5 Economics (semester course)
- .5 U.S. Government (semester course)
- 1 PE (Personal Fitness and .5 PE elective)
- 1 Fine, Performing or Practical Arts course
- 8 Electives
- *You must take an online course

*Two years of a World Language are not required for graduation, but are required for a Bright Futures Scholarship and entrance to a 4-year college.

Testing:

- EOC: Algebra I (must pass with a Level 3 or higher and it counts as 30% of your final grade)
- EOC: Geometry, Biology, U.S. History (EOC counts as 30% of your final grade)
- FSA ELA: Level 3 or higher on the 10th grade test

Important for this year

1. This is an important year for your GPA; make sure that you are getting As, Bs, and Cs.
2. This is also a good time to start your community service hours for scholarships
3. It is important to get involved with your school; find a club, and/or extracurricular activity to become a part of your school
4. Listen to the upperclassmen, they will tell you to make every year count.

Bright Futures Scholarship Requirements (Florida Based Scholarship)

FAS - Florida Academic Scholarship: 3.5 core GPA, 100 community service hours, 1330 SAT (Math and Verbal) or 29 ACT (composite), Math courses must be Algebra 1 or higher, 2 years of the same World Language

FMS - Florida Medallion Scholarship: 3.0 core GPA, 75 community service hours, 1210 SAT (Math and Verbal) or 25 ACT (composite), Math courses must be Algebra 1 or higher, 2 years of the same World Language

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Core Course Description

English: 4 Credits Required

10013200 - ENGLISH HONORS I

The purpose of this course is to promote academic excellence in Language Arts through enriched experiences in literature, writing, speaking, and listening. Course content includes a review of grammar usage and fundamentals of composition, critical analysis of the various literary forms in both oral and written assignments. A research paper/project is required.

10013500 - ENGLISH HONORS II

The purpose of this course is to provide integrated educational experiences in the language arts strands of reading, writing, listening, viewing, speaking, language, and literature. The content should include, but not be limited to the following: using reading strategies to construct meaning from texts, acquiring an extensive vocabulary through reading, discussion, listening, and systematic word study, using speaking, listening, and viewing strategies in formal presentations and informal discussions, understanding, and responding to a variety of literary forms by using language successfully.

10013200 - ENGLISH III HONORS

The purpose of this course is to provide integrated educational experiences in the language arts strands of reading, writing, listening, viewing, speaking, language, and literature. The content should include, but not be limited to the following: using reading strategies to construct meaning from texts, acquiring an extensive vocabulary through reading, discussion, listening, and systematic word study, using speaking, listening, and viewing strategies in formal presentations and informal discussions, understanding, and responding to a variety of literary forms by language successfully to influence the reader.

10014100 - ENGLISH IV HONORS

The purpose of this course is to provide integrated educational experiences in the language arts strands of reading, writing, listening, viewing, speaking, language, and literature. The content should include, but not be limited to, the following: using the reading process to construct meaning using technical, informative, and imaginative texts, using writing processes for various purposes with attention to style and format, using the research process and individual inquiry to locate, analyze, and evaluate information, using effective listening, speaking, and viewing strategies in informal and formal situations understanding the power of language as it impacts the audience, understanding and analyzing literary texts responding critically and aesthetically to literature.

1020810- AMERICAN LITERATURE HONORS

The purpose of this course is to enable students, using texts of high complexity, to develop knowledge of American literature through advanced integrated educational experiences of reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language. Emphasis will be on representative American literature, with its varied cultural influences, from the Colonial Period to the present, highlighting the major genres, themes, subjects, and historical influences associated with each literary period, including pertinent foundational documents in United States history.

1009330 / 1009320- CREATIVE WRITING I and II

The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop and use writing and language skills for creative expression in a variety of literary forms. Studying and modeling a variety of genres will be emphasized at this level of creative writing.

Mathematics: 4 Credits Required

12003200 - ALGEBRA I HONORS

This course provides students with the foundation for more advanced mathematics courses and to develop the skills needed to solve mathematical problems. Course content includes sets, variables, real number systems, equations and inequalities, relations and functions, graphs, rational and irrational numbers, and radicals. This course is more in-depth and at an advanced pace. Students are required to pass an End of Course (EOC) exam to meet graduation requirement. Algebra EOC exam will count towards 30% of student's overall grade.

12063200 - GEOMETRY HONORS

This course provides a rigorous in-depth study of geometry, with emphasis on methods of proof and the formal language of mathematics. Content includes the structure of geometry, separation properties, angle concepts, triangles, quadrilaterals, proofs, similar polygons, circles and spheres, volume and transformational geometry. Geometry EOC exam will count towards 30% of student's overall grade.

12003400 - ALGEBRA II HONORS

This course presents an in-depth study of the topics of Algebra II, with emphasis on theory, proof, and development of formulas and their application. This is a rigorous study of functions, graphs, and the tools needed to study advanced mathematics.

12023400 – PRE-CALCULUS HONORS

This course emphasizes the skills necessary for the study of theorems of polynomial behavior, the relationships amount the solutions of equations, understand mathematical induction, trigonometric functions and their applications.

1200710- MATH FOR COLLEGE ALGEBRA

In Mathematics for College Algebra, instructional time will emphasize five areas: (1) developing fluency with the Laws of Exponents with numerical and algebraic expressions; (2) extending arithmetic operations with algebraic expressions to include rational and polynomial expressions; (3) solving one-variable exponential, logarithmic, radical and rational equations and interpreting the viability of solutions in real-world contexts; (4) modeling with and applying linear, quadratic, absolute value, exponential, logarithmic and piecewise functions and systems of linear equations and inequalities; (5) extending knowledge of functions to include inverse and composition.

1210305 - MATH FOR COLLEGE STATISTICS

In Mathematics for College Statistics, instructional time will emphasize four areas: (1) analyzing and applying linear and exponential functions within the context of statistics; (2) extending understanding of probability using data and various representations, including two-way tables and Venn Diagrams; (3) representing and interpreting univariate and bivariate categorical and numerical data and (4) determining the appropriateness of different types of statistical studies.

1200388- MATHEMATICS FOR DATA & FOR FINANCIAL LITERACY

In Mathematics for Data and Financial Literacy Honors, instructional time will emphasize five areas: (1) extending knowledge of ratios, proportions and functions to data and financial contexts; (2) developing understanding of basic economic and accounting principles; (3) determining advantages and disadvantages of credit accounts and short- and long-term loans; (4) developing understanding of planning for the future through investments, insurance and retirement plans and (5) extending knowledge of data analysis to create and evaluate reports and to make predictions.

Science: 3 Credits Required

2003200 - BIOLOGY I HONORS

This course is designed for honor students and includes the study of scientific method and measurement, laboratory safety and use of apparatus, biochemistry, cell biology, cell reproduction, genetics, classification, taxonomy, and ecological relationships. Biology EOC exam will count towards 30% of student's overall grade.

20033500 - CHEMISTRY I HONORS

This course provides students with a rigorous study of the composition, properties, and changes associated with matter. Content includes atomic structure, bonding, the periodic table, formulas, stoichiometry, phase changes, specific heat, equilibrium, solutions, acids, bases, and salts, nuclear chemistry, gas laws, and organic chemistry. There is an emphasis on tests in this class, and a research project is required.

20003600 - ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY HONORS

This course provides students with exploratory and advanced activities in the structure and function of the components of the human body. Content includes cellular processes and tissues, the skeletal, muscular, nervous, cardiovascular, respiratory, digestive, urinary, and reproductive systems, and special senses.

20003400/20004400 - ADVANCED PLACEMENT BIOLOGY/GENETICS HONORS

This course provides a study of the facts, principles, and processes of biology and the collection, interpretation, and formulation of hypotheses from available data. The A.P. Program specifies content. College credit can be earned by successful performance (3 or above) on the Advanced Placement exam administered in May. Double block class – 2.0 credits Grade: 10-12 Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology I Honors and Chemistry I Honor

2001341- ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE HONORS

This course is designed as an interdisciplinary course to provide students with scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to identify and analyze environmental problems and to evaluate risks and alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them. Laboratory investigations that include the use of scientific inquiry, research, measurement, problem solving, laboratory apparatus and technologies, experimental procedures, and safety procedures are an integral part of this course.

2002480- FORENSIC SCIENCE 1

Laboratory investigations that include the use of scientific inquiry, research, measurement, problem solving, laboratory apparatus and technologies, experimental procedures, and safety procedures are an integral part of this course. The National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) recommends that at the high school level, all students should be in the science lab or field, collecting data every week.

Social Studies: 3 Credits Required

21093200 - WORLD HISTORY HONORS

The purpose of this course is to enable students to understand their connections to the development of civilizations by examining the past to prepare for their future as participating members of a global community. Students will use knowledge pertaining to history, geography, economics, political processes, religion, ethics, diverse cultures, and humanities to solve problems in academic, civic, social, and employment settings. The content includes the following: prehistory, rise of civilization, development of religion and the impact of religious thought, evolution of political systems and philosophies, influence of significant historical figures and events, and contemporary world affairs.

21094200 - ADVANCED PLACEMENT WORLD HISTORY

This course is designed to include the chronological period from 600 C.E. to the present with a general analysis of developments before that time. Students will develop a knowledge and understanding of the cultures of the continents and how they interacted with the world today. Content is the content specified by the Advanced Placement Program. This course uses college-level textbooks and requires considerable work outside of the classroom including outside reading and research. College credit can be earned by successful performance (3 or above) on the Advanced Placement exam administered in May.

21003200 U.S. HISTORY HONORS

The purpose of this course is to enable students to understand the development of the United States within the context of history with a major focus on the post-Reconstruction period. Students will use knowledge pertaining to history, geography, economics, political processes, religion, ethics, diverse cultures, and humanities to solve problems in academic, civic, social, and employment settings.

21023450 – ECONOMICS (with Financial Literacy) HONORS (.5 credit)

This course provides students the opportunity to acquire an understanding of the way in which a society organizes its limited resources to satisfy unlimited wants. The student is introduced to the major characteristics of the mixed market economic system in the United States and studies the way in which basic economic questions are answered. Includes Financial Literacy.

21063100 – U.S. GOVERNMENT HONORS (.5 credit)

This course provides students with the opportunity to acquire an understanding of American government and political behavior. Content includes an understanding of the evolving role of political parties and interest groups in determining government policy, how the rights and responsibilities of citizens in a democratic state have evolved and been interpreted, and the importance of civic participation in the democratic political process.

Elective Course Descriptions

I. ARTS, A/V TECHNOLOGY AND COMMUNICATION (CTE)

8203000- FOUNDATIONS OF JOURNALISM

The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop fundamental skills in the production of journalism across print, multimedia, web, and broadcast/radio platforms and to develop knowledge of journalism history, ethics use, and management techniques related to the production of journalistic media.

8771110- MEDIA PRODUCTION

This program offers a sequence of courses that provides coherent and rigorous content aligned with challenging academic standards and relevant technical knowledge and skills needed to prepare for further education and careers and the arts, A/V technology and communication career cluster. Provides technical skill proficiency, and includes competency based applied learning that contributes to the academic knowledge, higher order reasoning and problem-solving skills, work attitudes, general employability skills, technical skills, and occupation specific skills, and knowledge of all aspects of the arts, A/V technology and communication career cluster.

8203001- PHOTOJOURNALISM

The purpose of this course is to further enable students to develop fundamental skills in the production of journalism across print, multimedia, web, and broadcast/radio platforms and to develop knowledge of journalism history, ethics use, and management techniques related to the production of journalistic media.

II. CRIMINAL JUSTICE OPERATIONS (CTE)

8918010- CRIMINAL JUSTICE I

8918020- CRIMINAL JUSTICE II

8918030- CRIMINAL JUSTICE III

911 DISPATCH

This program offers a sequence of courses that provides coherent and rigorous content aligned with challenging academic standards and relevant technical knowledge and skills needed to prepare for further education and careers in the law, public safety and security career clusters; Provides technical skill proficiency, and includes competency based applied learning that contributes to the academic knowledge, higher order reasoning and problem solving skills, work attitudes, general employability skills, technical skills, and occupation specific skills, and knowledge of all aspects of the law, public safety and security career cluster.

III. PLTW BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES (CTE)

8708110- PRINCIPLES OF THE BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

8708120- HUMAN BODY SYSTEMS

8708130- MEDICAL INTERVENTIONS

B708140- BIOMEDICAL INNOVATION

Students investigate the human body systems and various health conditions. This course is designed to provide an overview of all the courses in the Biomedical Sciences program and lay the scientific foundation for subsequent courses. Students are introduced to human physiology, medicine, research processes and bioinformatics. Key biological concepts including homeostasis, metabolism, inheritance of traits, and defense against disease are embedded in the curriculum. Engineering principles including the design process, feedback loops, and the relationship of structure to function are also incorporated. Laboratory investigations that include scientific inquiry, research, measurement, problem solving, emerging technologies, tools and equipment, as well as, experimental quality, and safety procedures will be an integral part of this course.

IV. ELECTIVES

2107300- PSYCHOLOGY I (0.5 CREDIT)

Through the study of psychology, students acquire an understanding of and an appreciation for human behavior, behavior interaction and the progressive development of individuals. The content examined in this first introductory course includes major theories and orientations of psychology, psychological methodology, memory and cognition, human growth and development, personality, abnormal behavior, psychological therapies, stress/coping strategies, and mental health.

2107310- PSYCHOLOGY II (0.5 CREDIT)

Through the study of psychology, students acquire an understanding of and an appreciation for human behavior, behavior interaction and the progressive development of individuals. The content examined in this second introductory course includes statistical research, psychobiology, motivation and emotion, sensation and perception, states of consciousness, psychological testing, and social psychology.

2107350- ADVANCE PLACEMENT PSYCHOLOGY (1 CREDIT)

The AP Psychology course introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. While considering the psychologists and studies that have shaped the field, students explore and apply psychological theories, key concepts, and phenomena associated with major units of study such as biological bases of behavior, cognition, development, and learning, social and personality, and mental and physical health. Throughout the course, students employ psychological research methods, including ethical considerations, to evaluate claims, consider evidence, and effectively communicate ideas.

8207310 – DIGITAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (1 CREDIT)

This course is designed to provide a basic overview of current business and information systems and trends, and to introduce students to fundamental skills required for today's business and academic environments. Emphasis is placed on developing fundamental computer skills. The intention of this course is to prepare students to be successful both personally and professionally in an information-based society. Digital Information Technology includes the exploration and use of databases, the internet, spreadsheets, presentation applications, management of personal information and email, word processing and document manipulation, HTML, web page design, and the integration of these programs using software that meets industry standards.

02003350 – ADVANCED PLACEMENT COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES (1CREDIT)

AP Computer Science Principles introduces students to the central ideas of computer science, instilling the ideas and practices of computational thinking, and inviting students to understand how computing changes the world. Students develop innovative computational artifacts using the same creative processes artists, writers, computer scientists, and engineers use to bring ideas to life.

21034000 - ADVANCED PLACEMENT HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (1 CREDIT)

The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop higher understanding of concepts and skills related to Human Geography. The content will include the following: regions, population studies, cultural concepts and spatial representation, political geography, land use, urbanization, issues related to space, place, scale, and economic geography. College credit can be earned by successful performance (3 or above) on the Advanced Placement exam administered in May.

3026010 – HOPE (1 CREDIT)

The purpose of this course is to develop healthy behaviors that influence lifestyle choices for students. The content includes fitness and health concepts, wellness and nutrition plans, safety, and injury prevention, mental and emotional health, stress management, disease prevention, tobacco, alcohol, drug use and abuse, and teen pregnancy prevention.

15024100/15024200 - INDIVIDUAL AND DUAL SPORTS I and II (0.5 CREDIT)

The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop knowledge and skills in specified individual and dual sports and to maintain or improve personal fitness. The content includes the following safety practices, rules, terminology, and etiquette, history, biomechanical and physiological principles, techniques and strategies, and fitness assessment.

15033500/15033600 - TEAM SPORTS I and II (0.5 CREDIT)

This provides students with opportunities to acquire knowledge of team sports play, develop skills in selected team sports and maintain or improve personal fitness. Content includes rules and safety practices necessary to participate in selected team sports.

01013000- 2-D STUDIO ART (1 CREDIT)

Students experiment with the media and techniques used to create a variety of two-dimensional (2-D) artworks through the development of skills in drawing, painting, printmaking, collage, and/or design. Students practice, sketch, and manipulate the structural elements of art to improve mark making and/or the organizational principles of design in a composition from observation, research, and/or imagination. Through the critique process, students evaluate and respond to their own work and that of their peers. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials.

10073000- SPEECH I (1 CREDIT)

The purpose of this course is to develop students' beginning awareness, understanding, and application of language arts as they apply to oral communication concepts and strategies in a variety of given settings.

World Languages

07083400 - SPANISH I

This course will develop listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills, including pronunciation and oral communication in the Spanish language. After completing this course, the student will be able to understand a basic conversation with a nonnative Spanish speaker and be able to communicate simple and personal information, verbally and in writing. This course will empower the student with a basic knowledge of the Spanish culture.

07083500 - SPANISH II

This course will reinforce the fundamental skills acquired by the students in Spanish I, including grammatical construction of the Spanish language. After completing this course, the student will be able to understand an intermediate conversation with a nonnative Spanish speaker and be able to communicate basic information verbally and in writing. This course will also empower the student with a general knowledge of the Spanish culture.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish I

07083600 - SPANISH III Honors

This course will enhance the skills acquired in Spanish I and II. After completing this course, the student will be able to understand an intermediate conversation with a native Spanish speaker and be able to communicate using structures that are more advanced verbally and in writing. Intensive use of vocabulary for comprehension is an integral part of this class.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish II

07084000 - ADVANCED PLACEMENT SPANISH LANGUAGE & CULTURE

The purpose of this course is to develop oral and written fluency in the language. The student will be able to understand a lecture in Spanish and participate actively in a discussion of a literary topic. Students will read modern Spanish and Hispanic-American literature in all genres. In addition, students will analyze the form and content of literary work, critically, orally and in writing. College credit can be earned by successful performance (3 or better) on the Advanced Placement exam in May.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish III Honors

07084010 - ADVANCED PLACEMENT SPANISH LITERATURE & CULTURE

AP Spanish Literature is equivalent to a college level introductory survey course of literature written in Spanish. Students continue to develop their interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational skills in Spanish language as well as critical reading and analytical writing as they explore short stories, novels, plays, essays, and poetry from Spain, Latin America, and U.S. Hispanic authors along with other non-required texts. College credit can be earned by successful performance (3 or better) on the Advanced Placement exam in May.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of AP Spanish Language and Culture

Resources for Success

If you are having difficulty in a class, please make sure that you speak with your teacher and use the following resources:

- 1) Lunch Period Tutoring/ After school Tutoring - See the PATHS website or inquire with your counselor
- 2) FOCUS is a useful tool to check grades and upcoming assignments. Your username is your ID number and your password is your computer login for the student computers at PATHS.
- 3) Khan Academy – www.khanacademy.org
Khan Academy offers practice exercises, instructional videos, and a personalized learning dashboard that empowers learners to study at their own pace in and outside of the classroom. Khan Academy can assist students for SAT prep and math support, among many other subject areas

Scholar and Merit Diploma Designations

In addition to meeting the 24-credit standard high school diploma requirements, a student must meet the following requirements:

Scholar Diploma Designation

- Earn 1 credit in Algebra II
- Pass the Geometry EOC
- Earn 1 credit in statistics or an equally rigorous mathematics course
- Pass the Biology I EOC
- Earn 1 credit in chemistry or physics
- Earn 1 credit in a course equally rigorous to chemistry or physics
- Pass the U.S. History EOC
- Earn 2 credits in the same world language
- Earn at least 1 credit in AP, IB, AICE or a dual enrollment course.
- A student is exempt from the Biology I or U.S. History assessment if the student is enrolled in an AP, IB or AICE Biology I or U.S. History course and the student
- Takes the respective AP, IB or AICE assessment; and
- Earns the minimum score to earn college credit.

Merit Diploma Designation

- Attain one or more industry certifications.

PATHS at Osceola Technical College

CAREER CERTIFICATES

Architecture & Construction

- Electricity
- Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning/Refrigeration
- Plumbing
- Welding

Arts, A/V Technology & Communication

- Digital Design

Business Management & Administration

- Accounting Operations

Health Science

- Medical Assisting
- Medical Coder/Biller
- Pharmacy Technician
- Phlebotomy

Hospitality & Tourism

- Professional Culinary Arts & Hospitality

Information Technology

- Applied Cybersecurity
- Computer Systems & Information Technology
- Network Support Services

Manufacturing

- CNC Production Specialist

Transportation, Distribution & Logistics

- Automotive Maintenance and Light Repair Technician

***PATHS students are required to be in a career certification program.**

For more details about oTECH programs available, visit the oTECH website and the oTECH Program Overview document on the PATHS website under Career Dual Enrollment.

PATHS/oTECH Program Selection Process

2026 Cohort - PATHS Freshmen

9th graders will get introduced to and explore the oTECH programs through classroom presentations by their Leadership Skills teacher, oTECH students (Ambassadors), and school counselors throughout the year.

2025 Cohort - PATHS Sophomores

10th graders will have the opportunity to learn more about all the programs at oTECH and make a final informed decision regarding their program choices for the next school year by participating in a tour and an immersion session at oTECH. Students will spend time touring the different programs, classrooms and labs and will see the syllabus for the programs they chose. Instructors/teachers and Students will get involved by interacting with the visiting sophomores and answering questions they might have.

*(**Professional Culinary Arts & Hospitality** starts second semester of sophomore year)

2024 Cohort - PATHS Juniors

11th graders will be starting the first year of their program at oTECH.

*(**Professional Culinary Arts & Hospitality** starts second semester of sophomore year)

Please note that some oTECH programs can be completed in a year, and therefore students would not be in a oTECH program senior year.

2023 Cohort - PATHS Seniors

12th graders will be completing second year of their program at oTECH.

Please note that some programs cannot be completed prior to graduation. Your child may be required to enroll after high school graduation to complete the program and return as an adult. All high school students must meet graduation requirements to be considered an oTECH graduate and walk in the graduation ceremony by the end of their senior year in high school. These graduation requirements include but are not limited to grade point average (GPA), mandated test proficiency, credit attainment, and all course completion to be considered a program completer.

Advantages of Block Scheduling

At **PATHS** students are on a 4x4 block schedule. Much effort has gone into the study of block scheduling and its extensive impact on student learning. Researchers have conducted interviews with students, teachers, administrators, parents, and educators. They have administered surveys, both to collect data on individuals' perceptions, and to uncover the hard facts about block scheduling. As part of the inquiry process, researchers in the field have collected stories of real experiences:

- **IMPROVED TEACHING AND LEARNING**

With longer blocks, teachers have more time to complete lesson plans and to examine and re-evaluate practices. More class time is available to develop key concepts, incorporate creativity into instruction, and try a variety of classroom activities that address different learning styles. Longer time blocks allow for in-depth study, such as individual student projects, peer collaboration, and one-on-one work between teachers and students (O'Neil, 1995; Eineder & Bishop, 1997).

- **ABILITY TO FOCUS ATTENTION**

The "less is more" philosophy espouses that students better understand and retain material when they have an opportunity to apply information to various contexts rather than merely cramming the facts (Rettig & Canady, 1996). With block scheduling, students, and teachers can focus on fewer subjects, and to explore them in greater depth. Both teachers and students assert that this exploration allows them to become engrossed in the subject matter rather than moving rapidly through material. With a standard 4x4 block program, teachers have only three to four classes to teach in each semester, greatly reducing the number of students with whom they meet regularly.

- **FRAGMENTATION REDUCED**

With block scheduling, instructional time is not fragmented by frequent transitions between classes. Fewer distinct classes mean less time spent on classroom management activities, such as calling attendance and organizing and focusing the class. In addition, there are fewer opportunities for students to arrive late to class (Rettig & Canady, 1996).

- **STRONGER INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS**

The number of daily classes for which students and teachers must adjust and prepare is decreased, allowing students to develop the deeper interpersonal relationships that are integral to academic success (Rettig & Canady, 1996; Eineder & Bishop, 1997). Teachers get to know students more personally which enables them to adapt lessons to the interests of their students. This extensive personal interaction between teacher and student, frequently touted as the highest motivation for student learning, is strengthened through block scheduling (Center for Applied Research and Educational Improvement, 1995).

- **ACHIEVEMENT LEVELS INCREASE**

The results show that students' grades improve overall. There are fewer failed classes, a higher number of students on the honor roll, an increase in students' grade point averages, and fewer failing marks. Statistics reveal that fewer at-risk students drop out of a school with block scheduling. With a 4x4 model, students can have a fresh start at midyear or reenter school at the beginning of the second semester (O'Neil, 1995; Eineder & Bishop, 1997).

- **ATTITUDES AND COMPREHENSION IMPROVE**

Surveys indicate that teachers' and students' attitudes about their school improve. Students state that they get more done in class and learn more because they are better able to focus their attention on their studies. Teachers appreciate the inclusion of projects and activities that facilitate both learning and interpersonal communication. Classes address material in more depth, and teachers feel students are better able to comprehend and retain concepts learned in a block period (O'Neil, 1995; Eineder & Bishop, 1997).

- **IMPROVEMENT IN DISCIPLINE**

Most schools which introduce block schedules find that discipline problems on campus decrease, possibly because students are more challenged in class and are better known by their teachers. Decreasing the number of passing periods reduces opportunities for disruption. In addition, teachers of block classes feel more capable of handling behavior problems because they have adequate time to address these issues in class and have a stronger rapport with their students (O'Neil, 1995; Eineder & Bishop, 1997).