

## **Graduation Requirements for a Ladysmith High School Diploma**

International students must complete the graduation requirements as established by the Ladysmith-Hawkins Board of Education to be eligible for the Ladysmith High School Diploma. Students transferring into the Ladysmith High School will have their transcript evaluated for credits by the school's guidance counselor and principal. If you want this done prior to admission to the Ladysmith High School, contact the school principal or guidance counselor and submit a copy of your official transcript. Students must obtain approval from the principal prior to enrolling in courses for credit which are not offered by Ladysmith High School. Students will not be permitted to participate in commencement exercises until all requirements and obligations are completed. This includes fees, fines, and classroom materials and detention time owed. Students need to earn 24 credits to be eligible to graduate from Ladysmith High School. The following credits are specified by content area:

### **English:**

Freshmen English (year course) .5 credit/semester 1.0 credit  
Sophomore English (year course) .5 credit/semester 1.0 credit  
Junior Electives (semester & year courses) .5 credit/semester 1.0 credit  
Senior Electives (semester & year courses) .5 credit/semester 1.0 credit

**Required Credits: 4 credits**

### **Social Studies:**

United States History - Freshmen (year course) .5 credit/semester 1.0 credit  
Global Studies - Sophomore (sem. course) .5 credit 0.5 credit  
American Government - Junior (sem. course) .5 credit 0.5 credit  
Social Studies Electives - Sophomore, Junior, Senior. (sem. & year courses) .5 cr/sem 1.0 credit

**Required Credits: 3 credits**

### **Mathematics:**

There are a variety of math courses for students in all grade and skill levels.  
With the exception of Statistics and Math Exploration, all are year long courses.  
Students earn .5 credit per semester, except for Math Exploration.

**Required Credits: 2 credits\*\***

### **Science:**

Physical Science - Freshmen (year course) .5 credit/semester 1.0 credit  
Biology - Sophomore (year course) .5 credit/semester 1.0 credit

**Required Credits: 2 credits\*\***

\*\*Students must earn a minimum of 2 credits in both math and science. In addition they are required to earn one additional elective credit in either math or science or combination of science/math.

### **Additional Science/Math**

**Required Credits: 1 credit**

### **Physical Education:**

**Required Credits: 1.5 credits**

### **Health Education:**

Freshmen Health - (sem. course) .5 credit/semester

**Required Credits: .5 credits**

**Total Required Credits: 14 credits**

**Elective Credits Needed: 10 credits**

**Total Credits needed to graduate: 24 credits**

## ***GENERAL POST-SECONDARY SCHOOL INFORMATION***

After receiving a high school diploma most students continue their education at a technical college or at an university. Here is the recommended course work for admission into those United States colleges.

### **TECHNICAL COLLEGE ADMISSION**

Technical college programs have admission standards and placement testing. Some popular programs have waiting lists for entry into them. Students are encouraged to apply early and seek advice from your Ladysmith High School guidance counselor as well as the college counseling office regarding your program options. Technical college preparation should include a comprehensive high school curriculum to better ensure success. English credits should reflect an emphasis in work-related writing skills.

#### **Recommended Preparatory High School Course Work:**

##### **COURSE CREDITS**

English 4

Math 2-3

Science 2-3

Social Studies 3

Technical/vocational Courses 3-4

### **UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE ADMISSION**

Most four year colleges and universities have admission standards which include grade point average, class rank, ACT or SAT scores and the student's high school transcript. Students are encouraged to apply early and seek advice from your Ladysmith High School guidance counselor as well as the college counseling office regarding your program or major options. College preparation should include a comprehensive or college prep high school curriculum to better ensure success. Math courses must include Algebra I, Advanced Algebra and Geometry. Science courses require lab experiences and college prep electives include foreign language, fine arts and computer education courses.

#### **Recommended Preparatory High School Course Work:**

##### **COURSE CREDITS**

English 4

Math 3

Science 3

Social Studies 3

College Prep Electives 3-4

Foreign Language 2-3

Fine Arts 1

Students are encouraged to check for specific requirements from the post-secondary institution of their choice. Students are strongly encouraged to take the ACT or SAT Assessment Test including the writing component prior to their senior year, though the tests are also given in September and October of their senior year. The Ladysmith High School guidance counselor will assist with registering for this exam. Most universities will require foreign exchange students to take an TOLEF exam. The cost will be about \$170 USA dollars. The Ladysmith High School staff will provide several ACT prep in the winter and spring. Student Services is always available to answer questions and help students plan for their future. Naturally, each international student will need to verify their VISA requirements to ensure they can stay in the USA and attend college.