

Graduation

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GRADUATION POLICY

High School diploma is granted to students who satisfy the following requirements:

1. Students must demonstrate
 - a. Functional literacy in the Armenian and English languages
 - b. Knowledge of United States history, including concepts and processes of democratic government
 - c. Knowledge of history, culture, and traditions of the Armenian people -- their struggle for self-preservation in the Diaspora, their self-determination on their ancestral homelands, and their full independence.
2. Students must achieve a minimum 2.0 Grade Point Average (GPA) at the end of the academic year and attain passing grades in all the courses taken during the senior year.
3. Students must not have failing grades “F” in high school subjects. All failing courses must be repeated by attending evening/summer classes offered at other educational institutions with a grade “C” or better.
4. Students must complete a minimum of **260** units. For a complete list of units, please refer to “Graduation Subject Area Requirements” section of this Handbook. Graduation requirements are not fulfilled if students have failing grades for which credit is not granted.
5. Senior students may enroll in 5-7 courses each semester.

A student is responsible to fulfill the above listed conditions before completion of the senior year. High School Diploma will be granted only after satisfying the above conditions.

GRADUATION SUBJECT AREA REQUIREMENTS

Subject Area & Required Unit Credits	Courses Offered	Units
A. History / Social Studies 30 units (3 years)	Civics	5
	Geography	5
	Human Geography AP	10
	World History or World History AP	10
	U.S. History or U.S. History AP	10
	U.S. Government or U.S. Government AP	10
B. English Language and Literature 40 units (4 years)	English 9 or English 9 Adv	10
	English 10 or English 10 Adv	10
	English or English Lang/ Comp AP	10
	English 12 or English 12 HL or English Lit/Comp AP	10
C. Mathematics 40 units (4 years)	Algebra-I or Algebra-I Adv	10
	Geometry or Geometry Adv	10
	Algebra II or Algebra-II Adv	10
	Pre-Calculus or Pre-Calculus Adv	10
	Calculus or Calculus AP	10
	Intermediate Algebra	10
D. Laboratory Science 30 units (3 years)	General Science *	10
	Biology	10
	Biology AP	10
	Physical Science *	10
	Chemistry or Chemistry Adv	10
	Chemistry AP	10
	Physics	10
	Physics AP	10
E. Armenian Language and Literature 40 units (4 years)	Environmental Science AP	10
	Armenian 9 or ALD 9*	10
	Armenian 10 or ALD 10*	10
	Armenian 11	10
F. Visual and Performing Arts 10 units (1 year)	Armenian 12 HL	10
	Intro Visual Arts	10
G. Electives Misc. 10 units (1 year)	Journalism	10
	English Grammar and Composition 11	5-10
	Computer Applications *	5-10
	Health*	5
	AP Human Geography	10
H. Armenian Studies 20 units (2 years)	Armenian History 9 *	5
	Armenian History 10 *	5
	Armenian History 11 *	5
	Armenian History 12*	5
	Armenian Studies 12 Adv	10
I. Physical Education - 20 units (2 years)	P.E. 4 semesters *	20

All courses are approved by the UC except for courses marked with asterisk (*) which are offered for either remedial or enrichment purposes.

For the most recent UC approved course list please visit <https://doorways.ucop.edu/list>

COLLEGE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The following table is a comparison of Holy Martyrs Armenian Elementary & Ferrahian High School graduation requirements, the California State graduation requirements, and the University of California (UC) system and California State University (CSU) admissions requirements.

Subjects	State Graduation Requirements	CSU Admissions Requirements	UC Admissions Requirements	Ferrahian Graduation Requirements
A. History/ Social Studies	3 yrs -U.S. History -World History -Government (sem.) -Economics (sem.)	2 yrs	2 yrs	4 years
B. English	3 yrs	4 yrs	4 yrs	4 yrs
C. Math	2 yrs - Algebra I	3 yrs Alg. I, Geo., Int. Alg. 4 yrs recommended	3 yrs 4 yrs recommended	4 yrs
D. Laboratory Science	2 yrs -Biological Science -Physical Science	2 yrs from Biology, Chemistry, Physics	2 yrs 3 yrs recommended	2 yrs
E. Language Other Than English	1 yr of Visual Arts or 1 yr LOTE	2 yrs same language	2 yrs same language 3 yrs recommended	4 yrs
F. Visual and Performing Arts		1 yr	1 yr	1 yr
G. Elective	0	1 yr	1 yr	2 yr
H. Arm. History	0	0	0	2 yrs
I. Physical Education	2 yrs	0	0	2 yrs
J. Health				1 sem.
Total course work (yearlong courses)	13	15	15 7 in the last two years	26

UC and CSU elective “g” requirement is also met by most of the courses offered in Grades 10-12. Please see UC Approved Course list for details.

COLLEGE FINANCING

There are several ways of paying for college expenses. Students may take advantage of one or all of the following:

Merit-based scholarships/grants: These scholarships or grants are given to students with outstanding achievements or talents in arts, athletics, etc. and high scores in standardized test such as ACT or SAT. The source for these scholarships and grants are the colleges, universities and private foundations.

Need-based scholarships/grants: These scholarships or grants are given to students, who are in need of financial aid. The bulk of these scholarships/grants are provided through government money and to a certain degree by the colleges and universities.

Work-study scholarships: These work-study scholarships or grants are given by the colleges and universities to students who are qualified to perform teaching or research tasks at their institution of learning.

Loans for students and parents: The federal government gives Loans such as Perkins and Stafford to all students regardless of their academic performance or financial need. Loans (Plus) are also given to parents.

To apply for all kinds of grants, scholarships, financial aid and loans a student must provide his/her family's financial profile to the authorities in charge of distributing these funds. Most of the governmental agencies and educational institutions base their decision on the information provided in the **Free Application For Federal Student Aid - FAFSA**. However, many private educational institutions ask for **CSS Financial Aid Profile**, which is administered by the College Board. Students seeking college-based financial aid should contact the financial aid office at the college before being offered admission.

FAFSA

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is a federal form that must be filed by a student who wants to be considered for college financial aid. The filing period for FAFSA for each year starts on January 1st.

Students can apply for FAFSA online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. To do so a PIN is required which can be obtained from www.pin.ed.gov.

The FAFSA is used to determine eligibility for grants by the state and federal governments. The state of California awards Cal Grants and the federal government awards Pell Grants. To qualify for financial aid you must demonstrate "need" which is the difference between a student's Cost of Attendance (COA) at a college and the Expected Family Contribution (EFC). [$COA - EFC = \text{Financial Aid}$]

This amount is calculated based on the financial information provided in FAFSA. The family contribution is the same amount whether you choose a college with high or low cost; however, the aid amount differs from school to school.

FAFSA must be filled accurately. Any mistakes will cause a delay in processing and analysis. The information on the FAFSA is inputted into a computer, which analyzes and gives a printout called Student Aid Report (SAR). Within four weeks of the application, the student will receive the SAR, which will contain information about EFC and comments about student's data provided in the application form. Wrong information may be corrected and returned to the processor.

The student then sends duplicates of the corrected SAR to the colleges where he/she applied. While mailing the application forms, proofs of the mailing must be obtained from the Post Office.

For more information about FAFSA please call 1-800-4-FED-AID.

CSS Financial Aid Profile CSS

Many colleges, universities and professional schools use the CSS Financial Aid Profile to help them award non-federal student-aid and funds to students. By completing this application students will be able to give a complete picture of their family's financial situation, including explanations about special circumstances.

CSS Financial Profile is a program of the College Board. The College Board does not award scholarships or other financial aid.

Cal Grant

Cal Grant awards are state funded monetary grants available to students to help pay for college expenses. Students are not required to pay back these awards.

Cal Grant is guaranteed if the student:

- Is a California resident
- Will attend a California College
- Meets financial need requirements
- Maintains 2.0 GPA or better
- Files a completed Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form with the federal processor during the month of January while still in senior year.
- Files a Cal Grant GPA verification form with California Student Aid Commission no later than March 2.

