



Freshman FAQ

LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 2021

Frequently Asked Questions:

<p>How many credits do I need to graduate?</p>	<p><i>28 credits are needed for graduation from Liberty H.S. 16 are core (required) classes, 12 are electives. Students can earn 8 credits each school year (4 each semester). Grades post twice a year, once in December and again in May. (If students opt for summer school those grades are extra credits and they post in July or August.)</i></p>
<p>Are there any tests required to graduate?</p>	<p><i>Yes! Students must pass an American Civics exam to graduate. This is a 100 question exam and students must earn at least a 60% in order to graduate. The first attempt was last year in eighth grade. As of right now the AZ Merit tests are not a requirement to graduate, but are required in core Math and English classes.</i></p>
<p>How do I know I am taking the right classes for graduation and my post-secondary plans?</p>	<p><i>Students will meet with their counselor to make sure they are on track to meet the graduation requirements. This includes: 4 English credits, 4 Math, 3 Science, 3 Social Studies, 1 PE/Marching Band, 1 CTE/Fine Art, and 12 electives. (see reverse checklist). University bound students should add 2 world language credits.</i></p>
<p>How do I research careers?</p>	<p><i>Utilize the AzCIS electronic system. You can research careers, take interest inventories, and research colleges as well! The website is: www.azcis.intocareers.org Freshmen can log in via the student portal or use their school username and password to log in.</i></p>
<p>Which standardized tests should I take and when?</p>	<p><i>Only students planning to go straight to a 4-year University after graduation need an ACT/SAT score for admission. Typically, these tests are taken junior year. Honors and college bound students often take the PSAT in October of their sophomore or junior year. Juniors can qualify for the National Merit Scholars Program by receiving a qualifying score on the PSAT test in October and a subsequent qualifying score on the SAT.</i></p>
<p>When should I research colleges?</p>	<p><i>Research early so you and your family can start planning. It is important to know what GPA, test score, and academic requirements are expected. Remember – your GPA is cumulative, 9th-12th grade. Your grades earned now are very important! Start planning now for how you will finance college as well. Attend College Fairs when possible.</i></p>
<p>I am interested in playing college sports, how do I prepare for that?</p>	<p><i>Talk to your coaches and counselor. Understand that a very small percentage of high school athletes can play at the college level. There are many athletic divisions, some divisions are under NCAA and others are under NAIA. Athletes must meet NCAA and/or NAIA requirements to participate at the college level. Grades are very important! NCAA has Division I, II, III. NAIA is another college athletics organization. In Arizona, ASU, U of A, NAU and Grand Canyon are all NCAA Division I. Arizona Christian is the only school in AZ that falls under NAIA, but many out of state schools do.</i></p> <p><i>Websites: NCAA - www.eligibilitycenter.org NAIA - www.playnaia.org</i></p>
<p>What is the Career Center?</p>	<p><i>Liberty is fortunate to have a Career Center on campus (in the library), staffed full-time with a Career Center Specialist. College, military, and scholarship resources are available there. Dual Enrollment all goes through the Career Center as well.</i></p>
<p>How do my parents and I get information from Liberty?</p>	<p><i>Most information will come to students in their classes and this information <u>should</u> be shared with parents. Liberty is utilizing email for communication with parents. Make sure your email is current! Facebook is a GREAT way to stay up-to-date with all things going on at LHS. You can also reference the LHS Guidance webpage for presentations, resources, links, and more. The guidance department will also utilize the “Remind” texting app – to receive Texts, send a text to 81010, in the message type: @lions-2021</i></p>

Important Information for Freshmen!!

Graduation and University Checklist:

Subjects	Graduation Requirements	AZ University Admission Requirements
English	4 credits	4 credits
Mathematics	4 credits	4 credits
Science	3 credits	3 credits
Social Studies	3 credits	2 credits
PE *	1 credit	--
Fine Art or CTE	1 credit	1 credit
World Language	--	2 credits (same language)
Core Classes	16 credits	16 credits (all "C" or better)
Elective Classes	12 credits	12 credits
Total	28 credits	28 credits

Tips for Success

1. **Have perfect *attendance!*** You must be here to succeed.
2. **Be *organized!*** Keep a calendar for each class, include due dates, test dates, etc. Also keep an organized binder/folder for each class.
3. ***Communicate*** – talk to your teachers, ask questions, and be involved during class!
4. ***Study and do homework*** – these things help you learn the material and prepare for tests.
5. ***Choose Wisely*** – make good friends; choose positive activities to be part of at school and away from school.

Options After High School:

- **Universities (for student's seeking a Bachelor's Degree or Higher)**
 - Requirements for assured admission in AZ: 3.0 Core GPA, or Top 25% in Class - A "D" is considered a Deficiency
 - Consider taking honors courses and college preparatory coursework in high school (2 credits of World Language required)
- **Community College (for student's seeking a two-year degree, technical training or certification, or a Bachelor's Degree (two years at Community College and then transfer to a university))**
 - Requirements: high school diploma, placement testing
 - Consider taking college preparatory coursework in high school and dual credit courses.
- **Technical or Trade School (for student's seeking a specific skill and gain employment in a particular trade)**
 - High School Diploma Required
 - Consider West-MEC and CTE programs while in high school!
- **Military**
 - High School Diploma Required
 - ROTC and Academies are extremely competitive – get good grades!