



Guidance FAQ Sheet

LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL

Frequently Asked Questions:

<p>How many credits are needed to graduate?</p>	<p>PUSD students must earn 28 credits to earn a diploma. Of the 28 credits, 16 are core classes and 12 are electives. Students can earn 8 credits each school year (4 per semester). Grades post twice a year ~ once in December and again in May. If students earn summer school credits, those grades will post in August. SEE BACK FOR GRADUATION CHECKLIST.</p>
<p>Are there any tests required to graduate?</p>	<p>All students must pass the American Civics exam in order to receive a diploma in Arizona. This is a 100-question exam that students must earn at least a 60% in order to graduate. Students will have 2-3 opportunities each school year to re-test until they pass it. A study guide of all the questions and answers can be found online at https://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/document/questions-and-answers/100q.pdf</p>
<p>How can I make-up credits to graduate on time?</p>	<p>If you are behind credits to graduate, you and your parents should contact your counselor ASAP to set up a meeting to make a Graduation Plan.</p>
<p>Can I take Dual Enrollment classes while in high school?</p>	<p>Students should look at the Course Offering Guide to see a list of dual enrollment opportunities here at Liberty. To sign up for these classes, students will register for the Liberty class on their ECAP and they will later register for the college credit portion of the class through the Career Center and Community College during the first few weeks of the semester. The LHS teacher will provide them all the registration details and timeline once the LHS class starts.</p>
<p>What additional credits do I need if I want to go straight to a 4-year university after high school?</p>	<p>All colleges list their admission requirements on their websites. Most 4-year universities require all core classes to have grades of C's or better and that the student has taken 2 credits of the same world language. A Fine Arts credit is often required for out-of-state universities.</p>
<p>Can I take a class in summer school?</p>	<p>Summer school schedules come out in late April each year. Check with your counselor at that time to see a list of available classes and find out about the registration process.</p>
<p>Can I earn credits outside of PUSD?</p>	<p>Students <i>should not register to take any classes outside of PUSD without talking with their counselor FIRST</i> to make sure the school is accredited, that we will accept/post their credits, and to find out about PUSD Proficiency Testing Policy for all core classes taken online and outside of PUSD to see if the credit will count towards graduation or not.</p>
<p>How do I find out about the MET Academy classes at PHS?</p>	<p>The MET Professional Academy is the place where inspiration meets innovation and students who are interested in the fields surrounding Medical, Engineering, Technology, Entrepreneurship and Bioscience are set up for success while still in high school. These programs are taught at Peoria High School and students are co-enrolled in MET and their home school. Check out the website for more detailed information and to apply. https://www.peoriaunified.org/Domain/3628</p>
<p>Where can I get more information about West-Mec ?</p>	<p>West-Mec offers career and technical training in specific career fields and prepares students to be industry certified. PUSD students can be co-enrolled at their home school and go there for technical training classes. There is no district transportation provided for these programs. Visit the West-Mec website for more detailed information on all of their programs. Students apply online through West-Mec and need to bring a printed/signed copy of the application to their counselor in the Guidance Dept. Applications open in late-October. https://west-mec.edu/</p>
<p>Can I take a class at another high school in the District that Liberty doesn't offer?</p>	<p>Students must register to take all of their classes at LHS but they may fill out an application to get on a waitlist for an off-campus program. Students usually don't find out until the summer if they get into a class offered on another campus. If they get in, their counselor will contact them to find out what LHS elective they would like to drop. <i>District transportation may be provided one-way to that campus and must be indicated at time of application.</i> Check out the CTE programs and complete the "Co-Enrollment Consent and Release form" online at https://www.peoriaunified.org/Page/129</p>
<p>Where can I find my GPA and class rank?</p>	<p>Both GPA and Class Rank can be seen in Student Vue under the Course History tab. These are re-calculated after grades close each semester. PUSD has an unweighted GPA and a weighted class rank.</p>
<p>How do I get/send a copy of my transcripts?</p>	<p>You can download an unofficial copy of your transcripts online in Student Vue under the Course History tab at the top. If you need Records to send them somewhere, just email Mrs. Christmas and let her know where to send them. Her email address is lchristmas@pusd11.net For students needing fast delivery of transcripts, you can have them sent electronically for a small fee at www.parchment.com This is the fastest and safest way to send official transcripts.</p>

<p>Which standardized tests should I take and when?</p> <p>ACT - www.actstudent.org SAT- www.collegeboard.com</p>	<p>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 during your junior/senior years. PUSD traditionally offers the ACT once for free to all juniors in the spring each year. Students may sign-up and pay to test as many times as they want online through ACT/SAT directly. Honors and college bound students often take the PSAT their sophomore or junior year. Juniors may qualify for the National Merit Scholars Program by receiving a qualifying score on the PSAT test their junior year and a subsequent qualifying score on the SAT.</p>
<p>When should I research colleges that I want to attend?</p>	<p>Research early so you and your family can start planning. It is important to know what GPA, test score, and academic requirements are expected for admission. Remember – your GPA is cumulative, 9th-12th grade. Your grades you are earning now are very important!</p>
<p>When do I start applying to colleges?</p>	<p>The earliest you can apply for college is July before your senior year starts. Counselors will meet with all seniors the first 2 weeks of school and give them an itemized to-do list for their senior year. We recommend that seniors apply by December 1st of their senior year so they can compare academic award offers from colleges and finalize their plans early.</p>
<p>When do I apply for financial aid for college?</p>	<p>You can fill out the FAFSA starting October 1st of your senior year. You will need your parents tax information and their assistance in completing this process. Counselors will give students an overview of this process and timeline at the beginning of their senior year.</p>
<p>Can I apply for scholarships now?</p>	<p>You can apply for scholarships anytime throughout high school. There is a scholarship portal online in Student Vue under the High School Resources tab. The Liberty Guidance webpage is a great place to check out lots of scholarship sites and get good information on types of financial aide. Also go check out the Career Center in the Library for more scholarship info.</p>
<p>I am interested in playing college sports, what do I do to prepare for that?</p> <p>NCAA - www.eligibilitycenter.org NAIA - www.playnaia.org</p>	<p>Talk to your coaches and counselor. Understand that a very small percentage of high school athletes play at the college level. There are many athletic divisions, some divisions are under NCAA and others are under NAIA. Athletes must meet NCAA or NAIA requirements to participate at the college level. NCAA has Division I, II, III. NAIA is another college athletics organization. In Arizona, ASU, UofA, NAU and Grand Canyon are all NCAA Division I. Embry Riddle, Arizona Christian, and Ottawa are examples of colleges in AZ that fall under NAIA, but many out of state schools do, too.</p>
<p>What is the Career Center and where is it located?</p>	<p>Liberty is fortunate to have a Career Center on campus, staffed full-time with a Career Center Specialist. Our Career Center Specialist, Mrs. Soules, is located in the library. College, military, and scholarship resources are available there ~ go check it out!</p>
<p>Where can I access the PUSD Course Description Guide?</p>	<p>https://isapps.peoriaud.k12.az.us/coursedescriptionguide</p>
<p>How do I see my Counselor?</p>	<p>You can reach your counselor several ways. E-mail is always the quickest and most efficient way to get your questions answered but you are welcome to come see us in person as well. If you come to the Guidance Office (in the front office) our Guidance Secretary, Mrs. Lewis can help you fill out a pass to have your counselor call you in to meet with you.</p>
<p>How do my parents and I get information from Liberty?</p>	<p>Most information will come to students in their classes and this information <u>should</u> be shared with parents. Liberty is utilizing email the most for communication with parents. Make sure your parent's email is current and they are checking it regularly. Facebook is also a GREAT way to stay up to date with all things going on at LHS. <u>You can also sign up for Remind text alerts for your graduating class – check with your Counselor for the sign-up code.</u></p>

Graduation Credits Checklist:	
4 English:	<input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> II <input type="checkbox"/> III <input type="checkbox"/> IV
4 Math:	<input type="checkbox"/> Algebra I <input type="checkbox"/> Geometry <input type="checkbox"/> Algebra II <input type="checkbox"/> 4 th Math: _____
3 Science:	<input type="checkbox"/> Biology <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2 nd Science: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 3 rd Science: _____
3 Social Studies:	<input type="checkbox"/> World History <input type="checkbox"/> AZ/US History <input type="checkbox"/> Gov/Econ
1 PE:	<input type="checkbox"/>
1 CTE or Fine Arts credit:	<input type="checkbox"/> _____
Additional University Requirements:	Foreign Language I <input type="checkbox"/> II <input type="checkbox"/>
Elective Credits	_____

Planning is bringing
the future into
the present so you
can do something
about it now.

- Alan Lakein