



# THE DANIEL ACADEMY

A SCHOOL FUELED BY PRAYER

[WWW.THEDANIELACADEMY.COM](http://WWW.THEDANIELACADEMY.COM)

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## HIGH SCHOOL LEGAL & GRADUATION CREDIT REQUIREMENTS

### **The Daniel Academy Legal Structuring**

The Daniel Academy is registered with the State of Missouri as a non-accredited private school. We have limited guidelines that we must follow, including the hours spent on each area of instruction. With this form of state registration we are working together with the parents to complete the necessary hour requirements (Family Partnership Private School). If a student attends TDA full time, their state hourly requirement will be met through the TDA classroom hours and their home-study hours. If a student attends part time, the burden is on the parents to ensure that the hourly requirement is being met (see requirements online sites such as: <http://www.hslsda.org/laws/analysis/Missouri.pdf>).

### **High School Graduation Requirements Set by State Board of Education (revised 2014)**

The MO State Board of Education established minimum graduation requirements that are designed to ensure that graduates have taken courses in several different subject areas and that should result in students having mastered essential knowledge, skills and competencies.

The state minimum high school graduation requirements are comprised of 24 credit units that must be earned prior to graduation. Because this number of credits is low when compared with other states (and schools) in the nation, as well as some public and private schools in Missouri, TDA requires 29 credits for all students graduating in 2014 and beyond. Also note that while MO law does not require any foreign language to graduate, most colleges require at least 2 consecutive years of one language (and some now require 3 years). In keeping with that TDA requires two years of a foreign language.

The class requirements are stated in terms of the number of units of credit that must be earned in each of several subject areas. To earn one unit of credit, a student must meet all the course requirements and earn a passing grade in a course that meets for at least 7,830 minutes a year. Half and quarter units of credit may be earned for courses meeting proportionately fewer minutes. Please note TDA counts 2.0 as a passing grade or above.

Math credits are counted starting at Algebra 1 and beyond (including this class taken as an 8th grader). Pre-Algebra does not fulfill the 3 credit requirement. Science credits must include at least one credit with a lab (all of TDA's HS science classes fulfill that requirement). We have

our students follow a college preparatory schedule which includes a 4th year of math and science (unless there are unusual circumstances).

For further information on explanations for credits, go to:

[www.dese.mo.gov/divimprove/sia/Graduation\\_Handbook\\_2010.pdf](http://www.dese.mo.gov/divimprove/sia/Graduation_Handbook_2010.pdf)

### **TDA and College Application**

When a student graduates and applies to colleges and universities, these institutions will base their acceptance on a number of factors: the student's ACT or SAT scores, high school GPA, classes taken, community service done and other extracurricular activities. Colleges will look upon a TDA transcript along with these other items (similar to an application with a homeschooled transcript or a public non-accredited school transcript such as the KCMO school district). There has never been an issue for our students to enter top universities in their fields of interest!

The Daniel Academy will offer transcripts and diplomas for all our high school students and will use state standards when bringing in credits from previous years of schooling. If a student enters TDA as a 9th grader, all the credits for graduation can be acquired through TDA. If a student enters as a 10th, 11th or 12th grader, TDA will walk with the student to ensure all credits are taken. The final choice beyond high school, as well as the responsibilities for any other preparation is on each individual family.

### **ACT and SAT Tests**

All students graduating from TDA are required to take either the ACT or SAT test, INCLUDING the writing portion of these tests at least once. Our CEEB code is: **261692**.

11th and 12th graders can sign up online to take the ACT (or SAT) tests and they are given on various dates and locations throughout the city. Some universities prefer one test over another and many will accept either test. Please look into specific requirements for different universities.

These tests can be taken as many times as desired and often students can raise scores by taking our ACT Prep Class or using a study guide. Also National Merit Scholarship Awards are based on the 10th graders PSAT score which TDA will send out info about that each fall.

### **Graduation Requirements: 31 credit hours**

1 credit = 1 year-long class or 2 semester classes

- English (Communication Arts) 4 credits: English 1, 2, 3/4 (2 year rotating class), Honors English 3/4 (2 year rotating class)
- Mathematics 4 credits (3 for unique circumstances): Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, College Alg (Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry), Probability and Statistics
- Science 4 credits (3 for unique circumstances): Biology, Chemistry, Anatomy & Physiology, Physics
- Social Studies 3 credits: US History, World History, Economics/ Government
- Practical Arts 1 credit: Yearbook, Music Production, Stage Crew, Yearbook, Web Design, Computer Programming, Psychology
- Fine Arts 1 credit: Drama (Cast), Music, Art

- PE 1 credit: PE (2 semester), School Sport (2 sports)
- Personal Finance ½ credit: Personal Finance (must be taken in 10th-12th)
- Health ½ credit: Health
- Foreign Language 2 credits: Spanish I & II (consecutive years of the same language) or French I & II (consecutive years of the same language); \*\*both languages may or may not be offered each year
- Daniel Track 1 (Freshman/Sophomore) - Biblical Understanding and Application, Biblical Leadership and Excellence, Community Service, Corporate Prayer Hours - 2 credits given per year
- Daniel Track 2 (Juniors/Senior) - Biblical Understanding and Application, Biblical Leadership and Excellence, Community Service, Corporate Prayer Hours - 2 credits given per year
- Senior Internship and Foundations (Senior): 2 credits
- Electives: 1 credit