



Christ-Centered Educational Excellence

Dear Parents and Students:

October 10th 2018 will be an all school testing day at CLHS. Students in the building will be taking the PSAT, PSAT/NMSQT or the ASVAB based on their grade and or current status in passing their state required graduation exam.

While most 11th graders will be taking the PSAT/NMSQT for the 3rd time we are excited to offer another opportunity for those students who have not yet passed the ISTEP+ in either English, Math or Both.

With the passage of Graduation Pathways, students are now able to individualize their graduation requirements to align to their postsecondary goal. No longer must all students fit into the same academic mold, but rather, they can choose the options that best meet their postsecondary needs and aspirations. This means that instead of all students using the ISTEP+ as their graduation test exam there is some flexibility as to the manner in which they will meet the testing graduation benchmark. The Graduation Pathways requirements will start with freshmen beginning high school in 2019-20. This is the graduating class of 2023. However, students graduating in 2019, 2020, 2021, or 2022 may satisfy graduation requirements by either passing the current graduation qualifying exams (ISTEP 10 or completing the Graduation Pathways –Postsecondary-Ready Competencies (#3 below). This chart outlines the options for students through the Graduation Pathways option.

Graduation Requirements	Graduation Pathway Options
1) High School Diploma (Students must complete the course requirements of one of the following.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core 40 designation; • Academic Honors designation; • Technical Honors designation; • General designation.
2) Learn and Demonstrate Employability Skills (Students must complete <i>at least one</i> of the following.)	Learn employability skills standards through locally developed programs. Employability skills are demonstrated by <u>one</u> the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project-Based Learning Experience; OR • Service-Based Learning Experience; OR • Work-Based Learning Experience.
3) Postsecondary-Ready Competencies (Students must complete <i>at least one</i> of the following.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honors Designation: Fulfill all requirements of either the Academic or Technical Honors designation; OR • ACT: College-ready benchmarks; OR • SAT: College-ready benchmarks; OR • ASVAB: Earn at least a minimum AFQT score to qualify for placement into one of the branches of the US military; OR • State- and Industry-recognized Credential or Certification; OR • Federally-recognized Apprenticeship; OR • Career-Technical Education Concentrator: Must earn a <u>C average</u> or higher in at least 6 high school credits in a career sequence; OR • AP/IB/Dual Credit/Cambridge International courses or CLEP Exams: Must earn a <u>C average</u> or higher in at least three courses; OR • Locally Created Pathway that meets the framework from and earns the approval of the State Board of Education.

The benchmarks for the tests listed in Post Secondary-Ready Competencies are as following:

SAT: 480 in Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (English) and 530 in Math

ACT: 18 in English, 22 in Reading, 22 in Math, and 23 in Science

(A student must earn the college-ready score in two of the four subjects –in Reading or English AND Math or Science.

ASVAB: (Armed Service Vocational Aptitude Battery) To meet this Postsecondary-ready Competency for the Graduation Pathways, a student must earn at least a minimum AFQT score to qualify for placement into one of the branches of the US military, which is currently set at the score of 31. **TAKING THIS TEST IN NO WAY BINDS YOU TO ENLIST IN THE MILITARY**, it is just a test that is used for placement purposes. Scores will not be released for recruiting purposes by the school.

Since your student has not passed the ISTEP 10 in one of the categories to date we will be assigning them to take the ASVAB on October 10th. Seniors are not required to be at school on this date but we **HIGHLY RECOMMEND** that you are sure that your senior is here that day to allow them this extra chance to pass a graduation qualifying test. We will expect your student to be here on this day unless you excuse them in writing via the School Counseling office. We want to give your student every chance possible to be able to graduate with their class and this testing opportunity is vital. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.