



SFUSD SAN FRANCISCO
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

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New Requirements to Graduate from SFUSD Begin with Incoming Freshman

August 11, 2010 (San Francisco) – Students entering San Francisco’s public high schools next week will be the first class in SFUSD to be required to complete all coursework necessary for admission to a public California university. These new graduation requirements, known as the “a-g,” refer to the rigorous sequence of courses in seven subject areas required to be eligible for acceptance into the University of California.

To assure that future SFUSD graduates have every possible opportunity to go to college, Superintendent Carlos Garcia and the Board of Education decided to phase in making a-g mandatory starting with the graduating class of 2014. (In 2009, half of SFUSD graduates completed the a-g coursework though it was not required for graduation.)

For a student to be eligible for the University of California they must take the required a-g course sequence and earn a “C” or better in each class. If a student doesn’t achieve the grade requirement of a “C” or above, he or she will still be eligible to graduate from SFUSD though not eligible for admission into the UC system at the time of graduation. Accommodations will be made for some students with disabilities or newcomers who cannot meet these new requirements.

While more rigorous, the change from what is currently required of graduates is slight. For most students it will require two years of foreign language, instead of the one year currently required of graduates, and three years of college preparatory mathematics, instead of two years.

WHAT Incoming high school freshmen in San Francisco’s public schools across the city attend **freshman orientations**.

WHEN Friday August 13 (see times below)

WHERE **Lincoln HS** / 9:00-11:00 a.m. / 2162 24th Ave. (at Quintara)

Mission HS / 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. / 3750 18th St. (at Dolores)

**AUDIO/
VISUAL:** At Lincoln High, students will be team-building with body balloon-popping relays, a game of Simon Says, and hip-hop music. Mission High students will be greeted by staff, tour the school, and have hot dogs for lunch cooked and served up by Mission High staff.

**HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
& MINIMUM College Admission
“a-g” Requirements**

High School Subject Area	High School Course Requirements (A-G) for students who wish to apply to the University of California or California State Universities
English <i>“B” Requirement</i>	4 years college preparatory English
Mathematics <i>“C” Requirement</i>	3 years, including Algebra, Geometry, and intermediate Algebra. 4 years recommended
Science <i>“D” Requirement</i>	2 years with lab required; 3 recommended
Social Science <i>“A” Requirement</i> <i>CA State Dept of Education (CDE) requirement</i>	2 years: U.S. History, World History, Principles of American Democracy
Language Other Than English <i>“E” Requirement</i>	2 years of the same Language Other Than English required, 3 years recommended
Visual and Performing Arts <i>“F” Requirement</i>	1 year in Visual & Performing Arts (Dance, Drama/Theater, Music or Visual Art)
Physical Education <i>CA State Dept of Education (CDE) requirement</i>	None
Health Education	None
College & Career course	None
Electives <i>“G” Requirement</i>	<i>“G” Requirement</i> – 1 year or more of advanced courses in Math, Arts, English, lab Sciences, Foreign Language or Social Sciences
Total Credits/Units for graduation	15 units with a ‘C’ or better to meet college entrance requirements
Assessments	SAT Reasoning Test or ACT 2 SAT subject Tests Subject A –English Placement

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