

PHS Class/ Graduation Requirements

If students are on a block schedule (four 1.0 credit classes per semester, rather than eight 0.5 credits per semester) all four years of their high school career (e.g. attends PHS all four years of high school), then they will have to have a total of **28 credits to graduate**.

If a student has **not** been on block schedule all four years of high school, then the student must reach out to his/her school counselor to confirm how many credits are required for him/her to graduate. In order to earn a High School Diploma in Georgia, students must complete the following class requirements:

- 4 credits of English to include Ninth Grade Lit & Comp and American Lit & Comp.
- 4 credits of Math to include Algebra, Geometry, and Advanced Algebra.
- 4 credits of Science to include a Life Science (Environmental Science, Chemistry, or Earth Systems), Physical Science or Physics, and Biology.
- 4 credits of Social Studies to include American Government and Civics, World History, United States History, and "Personal Finance and Economics."
- 0.5 credit of Health and 0.5 credit of Personal Fitness to be taken in the 9th grade during 1 class period.
- 3 credits of World Language/ Career Technical Agricultural Education (CTAE)/ Fine Arts classes (may be a combination).
- Electives to meet that high school's credit requirements.

Pickens High School has a **Career Pathway program** that offers complete pathways in the following areas:

Wildlife Management, Floriculture Production and Management, Ag. Animal Production and Management, Ag. Mech Tech., Avian Science and Biotechnology, Business Communications, Audio-Video Tech Film, Game Design, Culinary Arts, Engineering Applications, Sports Medicine, Allied Health & Medicine, and Carpentry.

Completion of a Career Pathway is not a requirement for graduation, but is highly recommended. Students who complete a Pathway and pass their End of Pathway Assessment earn a cord to wear at graduation. It is possible to complete multiple pathways during your time at PHS.

Credits Needed to be Promoted to the Next Grade Level

- 6 credits are needed to be a Sophomore
- 13 credits are needed to be a Junior
- 20 credits are needed to be a Senior
- 28 credits are needed to graduate from Pickens High School

Academic Class Offerings

Below is a list of the academic classes offered here at Pickens High School.

Mathematics
Foundations of Algebra
Algebra, Yearlong Algebra, and Honors. Algebra I (EOC)
Geometry, Yearlong Geometry, and Honors Geometry
Advanced Algebra and Honors Adv. Algebra
College Readiness Math (Capstone)
Pre-Calculus and Honors Pre-Calculus
AP Calculus AB
AP Calculus BC
AP Statistics
Advanced Financial Algebra
Advanced Mathematical Decision Making (for Tech College Bound Students)
Science
Environmental Science, Honors Env. Sci., and AP Env. Sci.
Biology, Honors Biology, and Yearlong AP/Honors Biology (EOC)
Physical Science, Honors Physical Science, and Physics
Chemistry, Honors Chemistry, and Yearlong AP/Honors Chemistry
Forensic Science
Zoology
Earth Systems

English
9th Lit Comp, Yearlong 9th Lit and Basic Reading & Writing, and Honors 9th Lit Comp
10th Lit Comp, Honors 10th Lit Comp, and AP English Lang/Comp (cannot substitute for Am Lit)
American Lit Comp, Honors Am Lit Comp, and AP English Lang and Comp/Am Lit (may substitute for Am Lit) (EOC)
British Literature
AP English Lit and Comp
Dramatic Writing/Advanced Comp (counts as 2 credits)
Tech Readiness English (Tech College Bound Only)
Advanced Comp.
Social Studies
American Government and Honors Am. Government/Civics
World History and Honors World History
AP European History (academic elective)
US History, Honors US History, and Yearlong AP/Honors. US History (EOC)
"Personal Finance and Economics" and AP Microeconomics
AP Psychology (academic elective)

Elective Class Offerings and Pathway Sequences

We are proud to offer multiple avenues for students to complete their elective courses at PHS. Students must complete 3 CTAE/ Fine Arts/ World Languages classes (can be a combination of the three) in order to meet the graduation requirements for the state of Georgia. Although not required, we highly encourage students to consider embarking on one or more Pathways while completing their high school diploma.

Please know that if a student intends on going to a four year college or university, the student must complete two foreign language classes in a sequence (e.g Spanish I and Spanish II). If a student wishes to attend a college or university in Georgia, the student can take the Computer Science Pathway (Intro to Digital Technology, AP Computer Science Principles, and Game Design) to satisfy the foreign language requirement.

Elective courses with flexibility:

- Sports Medicine (can be used as a CTAE elective or fourth science)
- Animal Science (can be used as a CTAE elective or fourth science)
- General Horticulture (can be used as a CTAE elective or fourth science)
- Forestry Science (can be used as a CTAE elective or fourth science)
- Poultry Science (can be used as a CTAE elective or fourth science)
- Computer Science (can be used as a CTAE elective, a World Language class if Game Design is also completed, fourth science, or fourth math)
- Game Design: Animation and Simulation (can be used as a CTAE elective, a World Language class if Computer Science is also completed, fourth science, or fourth math)

PHS Career, Technical & Agricultural Education (CTAE) Pathways

Pathway	Course 1	Course 2	Course 3	Additional Courses Offered
<i>Agricultural Mechanics Systems</i>	Basic Ag Science	Ag. Mech Tech I	Ag. Mech Tech II	
<i>Animal Science & Production</i>	Basic Ag Science	Animal Science and Biotechnology	Ag. Animal Production and Management	
<i>Poultry & Avian Science</i>	Basic Ag Science	Poultry Science	Avian Science and Biotechnology	
<i>Plant and Landscape Systems</i>	Basic Ag Science	General Horticulture and Plant Science	Floriculture Production and Management	
<i>Forestry/Wildlife Systems</i>	Basic Ag Science	Forestry Science	Wildlife Management	
<i>Carpentry</i>	Industry Fundamentals and Occupational Safety	Introduction to Construction	Carpentry I	
<i>Plumbing</i>	Industry Fundamentals and Occupational Safety	Introduction to Construction	Plumbing I	
<i>Electrical</i>	Industry Fundamentals and Occupational Safety	Introduction to Construction	Electrical I	
<i>Masonry</i>	Industry Fundamentals and Occupational Safety	Introduction to Construction	Masonry I	
<i>Audio Video Technology and Film</i>	Audio, Video Technology and Film I	Audio, Video, Technology and Film II	Audio, Video, Technology and Film III	
<i>Business and Technology</i>	Introduction to Business and Technology	Business and Technology	Business Communications	
<i>Culinary Arts (10th, 11th, & 12th grade only)</i>	Introduction to Culinary Arts	Culinary Arts I	Culinary Arts II	
<i>Early Childhood Education</i>	Early Childhood Education I	Early Childhood Education II	Early Childhood Education III	
<i>Allied Health and Medicine</i>	Introduction to Healthcare	Essentials of Healthcare and Human Anatomy	Allied Health	
<i>Sports Medicine</i>	Introduction to Healthcare	Essentials of Healthcare and Human Anatomy	Sports Medicine	
<i>Information Technology</i>	Introduction to Digital Technology	AP Computer Science Principles	Game Design: Animation and Simulation	

Engineering and Technology	Foundations of Engineering and Technology	Engineering Concepts	Engineering Applications	
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PHS Fine Arts Pathways

Pathway	Course 1	Course 2	Course 3	Additional Courses Offered
Dance	Dance I	Dance II	Dance III	Dance IV
Visual Arts/Comprehensive	Visual Arts/Comprehensive I	Visual Arts/Comprehensive II	Visual Arts/Comprehensive III	Visual Arts/Comprehensive IV
Theater Arts/Adv Drama	Theater Arts/Adv Drama I	Theater Arts/Adv Drama II	Theater Arts/Adv Drama III	Theater Arts/Adv Drama IV Dramatic Writing
Theater Arts/Musical Theater	Theater Arts/Adv Drama I	Theater Arts/Musical Theater	N/A	N/A
Music Appreciation	Music Appreciation I	Music Appreciation II	N/A	N/A
Band	Beginning Band I & II (yearlong)	Intermediate Band I & II (yearlong)	Advanced Band I & II (yearlong)	Mastery Band I & II (yearlong)

PHS World Language Pathways

Pathway	Course 1	Course 2	Course 3	Additional Courses Offered
Spanish	Spanish I	Spanish II	Honors Spanish III	
French	French I	French II	Honors French III	

PHS Wellness Course Sequence (Does NOT count as pathway completion)

Pathway	Course 1	Course 2	Course 3	Course 4
Strength & Conditioning	Health & Personal Fitness	Physical Conditioning	Weight Training	Adv Weight Training
	Course 5	Course 6	Course 7	Course 8
	Body Sculpting	Adv Body Sculpting	Exercise and Weight Control	Adv Exercise and Weight Control

	Course 1	Course 2	Course 3	Course 4
Recreational Games	Health & Personal Fitness	General Physical Education I	General Physical Ed II	General Physical Education III
	Course 5	Course 6	Course 7	Course 8
	Introduction to Team Sports	Intermediate Team Sports	Introduction to Lifetime Sports	Intermediate Lifetime Sports

PHS Academic Elective Course Sequence (Does NOT count as pathway completion)

Pathway	Course 1	Course 2	Course 3	Course 4
Journalism (prior approval required)	Journalism I	Journalism II	Journalism III	Journalism IV
Psychology (AP Psychology limited to 11th & 12 grade only)	Psychology/ AP Psychology	N/A	N/A	N/A

PHS Dual Enrollment Option B Graduation Programs (Beginning in 10th Grade; Dual Enrollment College Application Required)

Air Conditioning Technology

Automotive Technology/Collision Repair

Cosmetology

Criminal Justice

Medical Assisting

Welding

**Additional programs may be available; If interested in Dual Enrollment Option B, please contact the College and Career Coach and/or your School Counselor.*

PHS Work Based Learning (11th & 12th Grade only). Application and prior approval required)

Work-based programs available for each CTAE pathway. Please contact WBL Coordinator, Ms. Carissa Parker, for more information.

Student Organizations and Clubs

<i>Note: Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs) are listed separately</i>	
Club	Mission/Purpose/Advisor(s)
Art Club	Students learn about different art mediums and techniques. The art club gives students an opportunity to work in their sketchbooks and on individual art projects. Art history will also be introduced. Advisor: Nikki Towery
Automotive Club	PHS Automotive Club will provide opportunities for enhanced automotive related repair knowledge and workplace skills. Students will be provided an opportunity to develop soft skills and career readiness. Students will increase employability skills for seeking careers in the automotive industry and other mechanically based careers. The Automotive Club will promote vehicle safety among the community's youth. Advisor: Daniel Bell
Beta Club	Open to students with an overall average of 90 or above beginning in their sophomore year. The National Beta Club recognizes achievement, while promoting community service, character, and leadership skills. The Beta Club is a charter member of the National Beta Club. Students participate in a wide variety of other community and school-service activities, including serving as teacher helpers. Advisor: Connie Nelson
Chess Club	Chess Club is open to all students, regardless of skill level. Whether you are a skilled player who wants to sharpen your skills, just enjoy playing the game, or you're a beginner who wants to learn how to play the game, we welcome you. Advisor: Karen Gurty
Comic Club	Comic Book Club is the place for kids who love to read, draw, write, and learn about the tricks behind the best comics or graphic novels. If you want to have fun with your friends, are a creative thinker, or if you can see yourself becoming involved in this industry someday, then this is the place for you! Advisor: Karen Gurty
Dragons are Green	Dragons are Green is dedicated to raising awareness of environmental issues and educating our students on how to be good stewards of the earth. Our goal is to establish a school-wide recycling program, as well as raise the funds for a filtered water bottle refill station. Advisor: Amy Coleman
Drama/Thespian	Club where students go over thespian business, discuss show business and play drama games. Only active thespians, students involved in the after-school shows or students who are in the drama classes may attend. Advisor: Sara Harbin
Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA)	An organization of individuals seeking to live out their faith on and off campus. Open to any individual (does not have to be a member of an athletic team) at PHS who wishes to fellowship with other Christian young people. Meets monthly. Advisors: Taylor Haney & Kyle Rasco
Gay Straight Alliance (GSA)	The GSA is a student-run club, which provides a safe place for students to meet, support each other, talk about issues related to sexual orientation and gender identity and expression, and work with homophobia and transphobia. Advisors: Seana Thompson & Christi Hobgood
Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl	To promote reading, learn about literature, and enjoy competing with other school teams associated with the Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl in the state of Georgia. Advisor: Karen Gurty
Interact	Interact clubs bring together young people ages 12-18 to develop leadership skills while discovering the power of Service Above Self. Advisors: Christi Hobgood
Key Club	Key Club is an international, student-led organization that provides its members with

	opportunities to provide service, build character, and develop leadership. Advisor: Shelley Buck
Mu Alpha Theta	A National Mathematics Honor Society dedicated to inspiring a keen interest in mathematics, developing strong scholarship in the subject, and promoting the enjoyment of mathematics. Advisors: Kathy Daymude & Suzette Hermann
National Technical Honor Society	The National Technical Honor Society recognizes student achievement and leadership in career and technical education, promotes educational excellence, awards scholarships, and enhances career opportunities. Initial induction requires a student to be at least a sophomore, have a plan to complete a CTAE pathway, actively participate in a related Career and Technical Student Service Organization (CTSO), and have a 3.5 GPA. Seniors in good standing either who participate in Work-based learning or who complete a capstone project will receive a NTHS honor cord to wear at graduation. Advisors: Angela Quarles & Carissa Parker
Octagon Club	Students with a common goal of making our communities a better place through volunteerism. JOOI (Junior Optimist Octagon International) is a service-learning organization that connects all JOOI clubs throughout the US, Canada and the Caribbean. Students participate in school and community service projects and activities that promote the goal of bringing out the best in children and the community. Advisors: Shaina Nix
Partners Club	Supports and assists Special Olympic athletes in training and competition in local Special Olympics. Members help provide social opportunities for the athletes by sponsoring activities for them. such as dances, bowling parties, movie nights, hayrides, and skate nights. The club displays a strong bond of friendship and loyalty between club members and our special students on and off the field. Advisor: Curtis Freeman
Student Government Association	The Student Government Association is comprised of Student Council representatives and class officers. The Student Government's purpose is to teach students the principles of representative democracy in order to make them more effective citizens and participants in our local, state, and national governments; to encourage leadership qualities; to foster a strong community spirit within the school; to establish close cooperation among the students, faculty, and staff of PHS; and to promote the general welfare of the school and greater community. Advisor: Shelley Buck
Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD)	Mission: to empower young people to successfully confront risks and pressures that challenge them in daily life. We create, equip, and sustain a network of student-led chapters and communities focused on peer-to-peer educations. We foster a sense of belonging and promote resiliency, leadership, and advocacy skills so that young people make positive life decisions. Advisor: Judith Barber
Teen Age Republicans (TARS)	Teen Age Republicans have the great opportunity to serve their community and country while learning about the political process. As a TAR, students become aware of national and international issues and how current events impact their lives. Advisor: Holly Rylee
Thespian Troupe	The Thespian Troupe is an invitation-only honorary group within the Drama Club, including students who have participated in a minimum of 100 hours in two or more theater productions. Selected members will attend a state leadership conference and the state theater festival. Advisor: Sarah Harbin
TOME Student Literacy Society	The mission of Tome Student Literacy Society is to promote multiple literacies among 3rd-12th grade students across the United States through service, collaboration, competition-based club activities and clean, entertaining, encouraging literature. Tome Society provides student competition, an annual It list of clean, entertaining and encouraging children's and young adult literature, book club activities, curriculum materials for educators and an annual conference for both students and educators. All activities promote self-esteem, leadership skills, character ethics as well as nurturing critical thinking, creativity and imagination in the digital age. Advisor: Kristie Moss

Travel Club	PHS Travel Club is an extension of the 515 Pathway to the World community organization. The goal is to help students experience the world and discuss all sorts of benefits to travel. Advisors: Jaqueline Powell
Y-Club	The mission of the Y-Club is to maintain and extend, throughout the home, school, and community, high standards of Christian character. Advisor: Suzette Hermann
Young Democrats	Young Democrats have the great opportunity to serve their community and country while learning about the political process. Within our chapter, we aim to provide a powerful and collective voice for politically-active high school students. Advisors: Rick Sells & Seana Thompson

Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSO)

CTSO	Mission/Purpose/Advisor(s) and Past/Planned Activities
CTI <i>*requires enrollment in CTAE course</i>	The mission of Career & Technical Instruction (CTI) is to provide unique and meaningful leadership experiences for students who are currently enrolled in secondary Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education (CTAE) courses at PHS through participation in community projects, leadership conferences and workshops, and work-based learning opportunities. CTI also works to enhance CTAE related skills in order to improve employability and transition into the job market after high school through Workplace Readiness classes, Work Based Learning coursework, and Vocational Services. Advisor: Pam Jacobs
Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) <i>*requires enrollment in CTAE course</i>	To promote personal growth and leadership development through family and consumer science education. Focusing on the multiple roles of family members (wage earner, community leader) members develop skills for life. Advisors: Sue Gibbons and Katherine White
Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) <i>*requires enrollment in CTAE course</i>	We bring business and education together in a positive working relationship through innovative leadership and career development programs. We bring our mission to life through the application of our motto: Service, Education, and Progress. Advisor: Ginger Rizoti
Future Health Care Professionals (HOSA) <i>*requires enrollment in CTAE course</i>	Allows students to develop leadership skills and occupational skills in the healthcare field and encourages students to become active in community projects. Advisors: Leslie Zuidema & Kyle Rasco
Skills USA <i>*requires enrollment in CTAE course</i>	Skills USA is a national nonprofit student organization serving 285,000 students enrolled in career and technical training programs at high schools and colleges. Skills USA's programs provide students with opportunities to learn and practice leadership as well as employment skills. Advisors: Dennis Wilson & Carissa Parker
Technology Student Association (TSA) <i>*requires enrollment in CTAE course</i>	To prepare students to be successful leaders and responsible citizens in a technological society through co-curricular activities within the technology education program. Advisor: Angela Quarles
National FFA Organization (FFA) <i>*requires enrollment in CTAE course</i>	FFA is the premier youth organization preparing members for leadership and careers in the science, business and technology of agriculture. Advisors: Cassidy Byess & Jason Cantrell