

## GOVERNOR GUINN MILLENNIUM SCHOLARSHIP NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION CORE CURRICULUM FACT SHEET

Pursuant to *Nevada Revised Statute* 396.930.2(a), the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) Board of Regents is charged with defining the core curriculum that a student must complete in high school to be eligible for the Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship (GGMS). Effective with the high school graduating class of 2009 and in addition to all other eligibility requirements, students must complete a high school core curriculum as follows:

Nevada Board of Regents Handbook, Title 4, Chapter 18:

## 19.15 Core Curriculum Requirements

19.15.1 The Board recognizes the importance of a rigorous high school curriculum in adequately preparing students to succeed in college-level courses. Therefore, except as otherwise provided in this section for recipients of an advanced diploma, a student who graduates from a Nevada high school in Spring 2009 and thereafter must successfully complete the following curriculum in high school to be eligible for the Millennium Scholarship:

High School Course	Units
English	4
Math (including Algebra II or higher)	4
Science	3
Social Studies and History	3
Total	14

Nevada high school students who receive an advanced diploma (as defined under Nevada Administrative Code 389.663) in Spring 2017 and thereafter shall be deemed to have met the core curriculum requirements and deemed eligible for the scholarship if all other eligibility requirements established in the Chapter are met.

As part of the traditional certification method whereby the school district and/or high school registrars submit a file of eligible GGMS scholars to the Treasurer's Office, beginning with the class of 2009 they will include a response of "Y" to "Core Curriculum" to certify that a student completed the required core curriculum in high school. It is the responsibility of each high school to maintain appropriate documentation.

Most questions arise in consideration of the math courses completed in high school. In order to facilitate the process and provide the most up to date information to high schools, answers to frequently asked questions are provided on Page 2 of this document. The answers provided apply only to the GGMS core curriculum requirements, not to university admission requirements.

Should you need further information or clarification, please refer all questions regarding the Millennium core curriculum to NSHE Director of Student Affairs Renée Davis at renee davis@nshe.nevada.edu.

## **GGMS Core Curriculum Questions and Answers**

- Q. A student took Algebra I in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and entered into Geometry during freshman year in high school. Does the student still need to take four years of math in high school?
- A. If the student received high school credit for Algebra I and it appears on the high school transcript, then it will count as one year toward the four-year requirement. If it does not appear on the high school transcript, then the student will still need to take four years of math during high school.
- Q. If a student dual-enrolls (takes college courses while still in high school), can a college-level remedial course count toward Algebra II or four years of math for purposes of satisfying the Millennium Scholarship Core Curriculum requirements?
- A. An NSHE math course with a number below 100 (often referred to as a remedial course) may be considered equivalent to Algebra II for purposes of GGMS eligibility if school district or private or charter school subject matter staff review the course syllabus and confirm that the two courses are equivalent. Regardless of whether or not the course is equivalent to Algebra II, a college-level remedial math course may count toward the four-year math requirement.
- Q. May completion of a three-credit, one-semester NSHE course count for a "year" of that subject matter for purposes of eligibility for the Millennium Scholarship?
- A. Yes, even if an NSHE course counts as .5 credits on the high school transcript, it is a condensed curriculum and counts as one year for Millennium purposes.
- Q. Are there any math courses that do not count toward the four-year math requirement?
- A. Any high school math course counts to meet the math requirement, but Algebra II or a higher level math course must be completed in order for the student to meet GGMS core curriculum requirements. However, if your high school requires progressive sequencing in math courses (that is, taking a higher level math after Algebra II is completed), then the GGMS core curriculum does not supersede your high school requirements. You must still abide by high school, district and state requirements for graduation.
- Q. If Algebra II is split over two years and a student completes the second half unit their senior year of high school, will that satisfy the math requirement?
- A. As long as the student completes Algebra II or a higher level math class and a total of four years of math, the math requirement is satisfied, even if Algebra II is split over two years.
- Q. What if Algebra II does not appear on the high school transcript, but the student has mastered Algebra II content?
- A. Algebra II is required because research indicates that a student who completes this course is more likely to be successful in college. However, if a course titled Algebra II does not appear on a student's transcript, the student may still meet GGMS core curriculum requirements if the student has successfully completed a higher level math course, as determined by the school district or charter or private school. Alternately, the school district may document that Algebra II content was covered in another course not titled Algebra II, or students may demonstrate mastery over the content of Algebra II through a comprehensive exam on the subject. In any of these cases, the student's high school transcript must still reflect four years of math, and documentation must be maintained in the student's record.