

🎓 Typical High School Graduation Requirements & How to Fulfill Them with Real Life Learning

💡 *This chart reflects a general average across U.S. states. Always check your own state's homeschool laws—but remember, homeschoolers have flexibility in how credits are earned and documented.*

Subject	Standard Requirement	Creative, Real-Life Ways to Fulfill It
English	4 credits	Reading living books, writing journals, essays, blogs, letters, poetry, creating stories, participating in book clubs, studying film/lit adaptations, public speaking
Math	3–4 credits	Budgeting, using spreadsheets, calculating costs, tracking spending, managing a bank account, grocery math, planning savings, tax simulations, business math
Science	2–3 credits (1 lab preferred)	Gardening, animal care, food science, health tracking, weather journaling, watching science documentaries, kitchen chemistry, first aid, anatomy study, nature walks
Social Studies	2–3 credits	Watching documentaries, reading historical fiction and biographies, visiting museums, doing genealogy, current events discussions, church history, map studies
PE	1 credit	Hiking, biking, dancing, playing sports, walking, home workouts, chores, fitness apps, outdoor labor, swimming
Health	0.5–1 credit	Learning nutrition, planning meals, tracking hydration, personal hygiene, studying mental health, CPR/first aid, sleep and screen time awareness
Fine Arts	1 credit	Drawing, painting, photography, digital design, music practice, theater, creative writing, fashion design, calligraphy, crafts
Electives	3–6 credits (varies)	Business skills, volunteering, child development, life skills, entrepreneurship, tech and media projects, independent studies, community service

Subject	Standard Requirement	Creative, Real-Life Ways to Fulfill It
Foreign Language	2 credits (some states)	Using language learning apps, watching shows in other languages, translating simple phrases, speaking with native speakers, writing in target language
Bible / Faith	Optional (parent's discretion)	Daily devotions, Scripture memory, prayer journaling, service in ministry, leading Bible studies, studying Christian worldview or apologetics



Tips for Homeschool Credit:

- **1 Credit** = approximately **120–150 hours** of work
- **½ Credit** = approximately **60–75 hours**
- You can assign credit based on hours, **completed projects**, or **mastery**
- Real-life experiences count—just keep good notes, logs, or portfolios