



**SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION**

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**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC PROGRAMS**

High School Course Requirements for Applicants  
To 4-Year Programs  
In South Carolina Public Colleges and Universities

Four units of English: at least two must have strong grammar and composition course work, at least one in English literature and at least one in American literature (completion of college preparatory English I, II, III and IV will meet this criterion)

Three units of mathematics: including algebra I & II. It would be best to take geometry. It would be even better to take a fourth math course such as trigonometry or calculus even though it isn't required.

Two units of laboratory science: at least one unit each of two laboratory sciences chosen from biology, chemistry, or physics. Two units of the same science won't do, but taking one from all three will be a big help. Courses in earth science or physical science won't meet this requirement.

Two units of the same foreign language

One unit of advanced mathematics or computer science or a combination of these; or one unit of world history, world geography, or western civilization

One unit of U.S. history

Two units of additional social studies: half unit each in economics and government are strongly recommended

One unit of physical education or ROTC

Each institution may make exceptions in admitting students who do not meet all of the prerequisites, limited to those individual cases in which the failure to meet one or more prerequisites is due to circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the student.