

Existing law requires all public high schools to give instruction in Civics and Free Enterprise as a prerequisite to graduation. Provides that instruction in Civics be given for two semesters, equal to one unit of credit, and include a section on Free Enterprise.

New law, applicable to students who enter ninth grade on or after July 1, 2014, allows students to satisfy this graduation requirement by taking one of the following courses: Government, AP US Government and Politics: Comparative, or AP US Government and Politics: US.

Existing law requires that to be eligible for a Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) award, students graduating from high school during the 2017-18 school year and thereafter shall complete 19 units of a specified core curriculum, including four units in social studies. Requires that one of these units be U.S. History, AB US History, or IB US History.

New law revises the options for the three remaining social studies units as follows:

Unit 2: Existing law allows one unit of Civics.

Prior law allowed ½ unit of Government, AP US Government and Politics: Comparative, or AP US Government and Politics: US and ½ unit of Economics, AP Macroeconomics, or AP Microeconomics as an alternative to Civics.

New law allows one unit of any of these government-related courses as an alternative to Civics and removes the economics courses from this group of options.

Units 3 & 4: Existing law: Allows Western Civilization, European History, or AP European History; World Geography, AP Human Geography, or IB Geography; World History, AP World History, or World History IB; History of Religion; or IB Economics.

New law: Adds Economics, AP Macroeconomics, and AP Microeconomics as alternatives to IB Economics.

Effective Aug. 1, 2014.

(Amends R.S. 17:274.1(A) and (B)(1) and 3048.1(A)(1)(f)(iv))