

Statement on College Readiness

While individual Maine colleges and universities vary in their requirements for admission and placement, they all recommend the following high school preparation in the core academic areas:

- ✿ **Four years of English** courses that incorporate a variety of texts (fiction, non-fiction, essays, memoirs, journalism) and that emphasize expository and analytic writing skills.
- ✿ **Four years of math** courses that include at least Algebra 1 and 2, and Geometry, taken as separate courses or as an integrated sequence of courses, and a 12th-grade college-preparatory math course that provides a solid foundation in quantitative and algebraic reasoning. For those students planning to major in mathematics, science, or a technical or professional field that requires advanced math skills, a pre-calculus or calculus course is strongly recommended.
- ✿ **At least three years of laboratory science**--offered as either separate courses or as integrated core classes--that include the study of biology, chemistry, and physics. Science courses should emphasize the writing of technical reports and the quantitative representations and analyses of data.
- ✿ **At least three years of history and social science** in courses that emphasize the reading of primary and secondary texts, the writing of analytic and expository essays, and the use of quantitative data and research findings.
- ✿ **At least two years of study in a language other than English.**

In addition, most colleges expect students to have taken some classes in the **visual or performing arts** and all colleges expect that they will know how to use a **computer**. Students should take every opportunity to learn about these subjects.

Students and parents should consult their high school guidance counselor and college admissions office for a more complete list.

