



# Endorsement Requirements

CATEGORIES	COURSEWORK	ENDORSE	ENDORSE WITH HONORS	ENDORSE WITH HIGH HONORS	
<b>Grade Level Academy Course-work</b>	1.0 Investigations in Green Tech Energy* <b>AND</b> Agriculture~ (9th)	YES	YES	YES	
	1.0 ES-Energy, Power, & Society* <b>OR</b> 1.0 SS-Sustainable Resource Management~ (10th)	YES	YES	YES	
	1.0 ES-Energy Industry Fundamentals* <b>OR</b> 1.0 SS-Plant & Animal Science~ (11th)	YES	YES	YES	
	1.0 Green Tech Senior Capstone*~ (12th)	YES	YES	YES	
	1.0 AP Environmental Science*	YES	YES	YES	
<b>Additional Required Academy Course-work</b>	3.0 Biology, Chemistry <b>AND</b> Physics	YES			
	3.0 Biology, Chemistry, <b>AND</b> Physics - 1 or 2 at Honors or AP level		YES		
	3.0 Hon Biology, Hon Chemistry, <b>AND</b> AP Physics I <b>OR</b> AP/College Bio			YES	
	0.5 Engineering Drafting/CAD I (10th)	YES			
	0.5 Engineering Drafting/CAD II (11th or 12th)		YES	YES	
	Select 0.5 credits from list below <i>SS - #must take a tech credit from the list below</i>	YES			
	Select 1.0 credits from list below		YES		
	Select 1.5 credits from list below			YES	
	0.5 Business Communications      0.5 Business Economics 0.5 Entrepreneurship              0.5 Horticulture I 0.5 #Woodworking & Design I      0.5 #Woodworking & Design II		0.5 Business Essentials      0.5 Business Law 0.5 Horticulture II 0.5 #Computer Applications		
	<b>Or Facilitator Approved</b>				
<b>Resume</b>	Resume will be started during Junior year and continually edited through Graduation. Resume will be used for any applications for WBL internships at the end of Junior year for enrollment placements Senior Year	YES	YES	YES	
<b>GPA</b>	Grade Level Academy Coursework GPA	3.0	3.5	4.0	
	All Academy Coursework - GPA	3.0	3.25	3.75	
	Overall High School weighted GPA	2.75	3.0	3.5	
<b>eHours</b>	eHours Total – <i>Extension hours or points, earned outside the regular school day and not tied to a course grade, are specific to each academy focus of study.</i>	200	300	400	

## WHAT IS A 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY ENDORSEMENT?

The 21st Century Endorsement is a special notation on a student's transcript that indicates the student was part of a 21st Century Academy and attained a certain level of accomplishments specified for the academy. All 21st Century Academy students are encouraged to earn an endorsement.

## HOW ARE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY ACADEMY ENDORSED STUDENTS RECOGNIZED?

- Students receive a specific notation on their transcript
- Students are identified in the high school graduation program
- Students earn a special red, black, and white honor cord for graduation
- Students who do not endorse but complete all coursework within the Academy are recognized as completers.

The following endorsements can be attained by students in all academies and will be marked on their transcript as follows:

- ◆ Academy Name - **Endorsed**
- ◆ Academy Name - **Endorsed with Honors**
- ◆ Academy Name - **Endorsed with High Honors**

## WHY SHOULD A STUDENT GET AN ENDORSEMENT?

- The endorsement is a good indication for colleges and employers that the student is dedicated and has a passion for a specific area.
- An endorsement is an honors designation.
- An endorsement recognizes a student for their subject-matter concentration.
- An endorsement is a great self-marketing tool.
- Students who complete endorsement requirements have a professional portfolio of coursework, extension experiences, student professional learning experiences & projects that can be shared with potential colleges, post-secondary institutions & employers.



**HOW DOES A STUDENT EARN AN ENDORSEMENT?** All academies have endorsement requirements. All Academies require an Individual Plan of Study, Academy Coursework, Extension Hours (eHours), GPA, Work-Based Learning/Market Value Asset, and Senior Capstone Presentation: *(please refer to specific Academy endorsement tables on Academy webpage: [21stcentury.olatheschools.com](https://21stcentury.olatheschools.com))*

► **Some specifics related to Extension Hours:** eHours are specific to each academy. They are extended learning opportunities earned outside the regular school day and not tied to a course grade.

- Continuously earned over all 4 high school years
- A minimum of [50] eHours earned each of the 4 years, including senior year
- eHours are tracked by the student and submitted to their academy facilitator for tracking (<https://academyendorsement.olatheschools.com>)
- Approval for what is accepted as an eHour is determined by the academy facilitator(s)
- Student may begin earning eHours as soon as they are accepted into an academy (2nd semester of 8th grade)

### Examples of eHours include:

- Leading community presentations
- Academy related volunteer/community service
- Attending an Academy related guest speaker session
- Participating in academy related competitions
- Providing service to the Academy
- Participating in academy events
- Submitting scholarship/award applications
- Participating in post-secondary visit related to the academy
- Facilitator approved
- Participating in an academic conference or a summer internship
- Taking prep classes for post-secondary admittance exams (i.e., ACT Test Prep classes)
- Taking a post-secondary entrance or certification exam (i.e., ACT, SAT, Compass, etc.)
- Participating in Employability Skills Workshops
- Participating in approved Work-Based Learning Experience outside of school day (Internship, client-based project)
- Presenting the Senior Capstone Project (outside school day)

► **Work Based Learning (WBL) experiences:** The purpose of a WBL is to connect skills students are learning in the classroom to authentic, real-world experiences. This helps students connect their school learning with post-secondary and career opportunities. Student WBL experiences take many forms during a student's 4-year academy experience. This includes various career presentations during school, job shadowing (typically short term), earning industry-standard certifications, practicing skills/knowledge in an authentic learning experience, doing projects for clients, internships, and more. WBL experiences may earn the student a **Market Value Asset (MVA)** which is part of the district's Portrait of a Graduate.

► **Senior Capstone Project and Presentation:** To earn an endorsement, all academies require students to complete a Senior Capstone and give a public presentation. Each student's capstone is individualized. It may consist of a content specific project and/or a placement with a community business partner (or another facilitator directed project). Students will be evaluated in their capstone course. Specific instructions and feedback is provided for the presentation.

🔗 **Market Value Asset (MVA):** Students typically earn a **Market Value Asset (MVA)** as part of their capstone project. An MVA can be earned in other ways, as well. Please visit the district's *Portrait of a Graduate* information page for more information.