

1       **AN ACT** *to amend* 118.33 (1) (a) 1. of the statutes; **relating to:** requiring an additional  
2       credit in mathematics for a high school diploma.

*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

**JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PREFATORY NOTE:** This bill draft was prepared for the Joint Legislative Council's Special Committee on Building Wisconsin's Workforce.

3       **SECTION 1.** 118.33 (1) (a) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:  
4       118.33 (1) (a) 1. In the high school grades, at least 4 credits of English including writing  
5       composition, 3 credits of social studies including state and local government, ~~2~~ 3 credits of  
6       mathematics, 2 credits of science and 1.5 credits of physical education.

**NOTE:** Current law prohibits a school board from granting a high school diploma to any pupil unless the pupil has earned at least the following credits in the high school grades: 4 credits of English, including writing composition; 3 credits of social studies, including state and local government; 2 credits of mathematics; 2 credits of science; and 1.5 credits of physical education. [s. 118.33 (1) (a) 1., stats.] The state superintendent must establish course requirements for the credits of English, social studies, mathematics, science, and physical education required for a high school diploma. [s. 118.33 (2) (c), stats.] The credits of mathematics must incorporate instruction in the properties, processes, and symbols of arithmetic and elements of algebra, geometry, and statistics. [s. PI 18.03 (1) (a) 3., Wis. adm. code.]

This SECTION requires that a pupil earn at least 3 credits of mathematics in the high school grades before a school board may grant a high school diploma to the pupil. This SECTION does not specify what courses satisfy the additional mathematics credit.

**COMMENT:** The committee intends that the state superintendent provide flexible course options for pupils to satisfy the additional mathematics credit required for a high school diploma.

7       **SECTION 2. Initial applicability.**

- 1 (1) This act first applies to pupils graduating from high school in 2015.

**NOTE:** The requirement for an additional credit of mathematics in the high school grades first applies to pupils who graduate from high school in 2015.

**COMMENT:** The committee requested that the requirement for an additional credit of mathematics in the high school grades first apply to pupils who graduate from high school 5 years after enactment of the bill. Based on recent session calendars, applying the requirement to pupils who graduate from high school in 2015 will have the same effect as first applying the requirement 5 years after the last possible date of enactment in the 2009–10 legislative session.

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(END)