

Seton Catholic Central

International Student Graduation Requirements

General Graduation Requirements (22.5 credits):

- 4 credits of English
- 4 credits of History (Including American History, Government and Economics)
- 3 credits of Math
- 3 credits of Science
- 2 credits of Religion (4-1/2 credit courses; one each academic year)
- 2 credits of Physical Education (4-1/2 credit courses; one each academic year)
- 1 credit of Computer Science/Technology
- 1 credit of Music/Art (1-1 credit course, or 2-1/2 credit courses)
- ½ credit of Health
- 1 credit of a Second Language (Students entering above grade 9 will receive credit for their native language)

***Students must take each of these courses and successfully pass the class with a 65% or higher. The appropriate units of transfer credit will be awarded to students based on transcripts provided.*

New York State Regents Exam Requirements (5):

1. 1 Regents Science
2. 1 Regents Math
3. American History
4. English 11
5. Global 10 (*Exempt by the New York State Department of Education for students entering at grade 11 or higher*)

Important Requirement Details:

- International Students entering Seton in the ninth grade offer themselves the best opportunity to progress academically alongside their peers. Students who transfer into a higher grade are forced to try to cram massive requirements into a smaller time frame.
- It takes *at least* four complete semesters to graduate from Seton Catholic with a diploma. This is assuming that the student arrives in the United States with the English proficiency to dive right in and take an upper level course load. If the student requires additional ESL assistance, five semesters is more probable for a diploma, in order to give the student time to adjust

- If a student enters Seton Catholic with the intention of graduating, it is highly recommended that he/she be placed in the 10th or 11th grade based on his/her academic abilities. If a student excels in the English language, he/she can be placed in the 11th grade, and expect to meet all junior level courses. However, if the student requires additional English assistance (ESL), it is preferable that he/she be placed in the 10th grade to give he/she ample time to get caught up. Even students applying to Seton who are older should not immediately insist on being placed in the 11th or 12th grade. This will place additional pressure on the student, as their peers will be far more advanced than they will.
- Transfer students are students who enter Seton High School above the ninth grade. Transfer students will be given credit for high school courses taken in their native country prior to their attendance at Seton. Although this helps to fulfill the required credit hours, it does not have any affect on the New York State Regents requirements, which each student is required to take.
- If a student requires the ESL assistance due to low SLEP (Secondary Language English Proficiency) scores, ESL classes are offered at Seton Catholic. ESL classes count towards the 4 required credits of English, but do not prepare the student for the difficult English 11 Regents Exam.
- The SLEP (Secondary Language English Proficiency) exam is given to most international students prior to arrival to Seton Catholic. Scores on this exam influence how each student is placed in the English program, but do not guarantee placement.
- Any student who feels that his/her background and knowledge is capable of challenging a New York State Regents exam will be allowed to do so in either January or June by getting permission from the current relative faculty member. A NYS Regents Exam Challenge Form must be completed in order to do so in order to guarantee that all parties involved are aware of these plans. In order to successfully challenge a course, the student must score an 85% or higher. If accomplished, a full credit will be given to the student for only the challenged course, and the Regents score will be displayed on his/her final transcript.
- Since Seton offers a semester scheduling, an academic year is September-June, including two separate semesters (September-January and January-June). This gives students a higher academic challenge which prepares students for college, and also the opportunity to take more classes each year.
- PreCalculus, Calculus, and AP (Advanced Placement) courses look great on college applications, but do not have any effect on core graduation requirements. It is important for students to remember that, even though they are interested in taking these upper-level courses, that their core graduation requirements must be fulfilled first. This includes physical education and religion. Seton Catholic now offers CAP (College Advanced Placement) classes through Clinton Community College. This allows students to earn college and high school credit simultaneously.
- Placement exams will be required for any student wishing to skip a course level. This will primarily affect the Math, History, and English Departments. For example, any student wishing to take Global 10 without its preface (Global 9) will be required to test out of Global 9 before doing so. Likewise, any student who feels that his/her abilities surpass any math or English course will be required to demonstrate so through assessment.
- Graduation is always in June. Diplomas are issued by the state of New York, and are not available in January. As a result of this, students entering Seton for the spring semester should expect to repeat that same grade the following school year if they intend to graduate.
- Any transfer student beginning their high school career at Seton in the second semester, is required to fulfill both the physical education and religion requirements that same semester, because both of those classes are required each academic year, and the student was not able to take one of these two classes the first semester.