

# High School Course Placement and Exemption Requirements

This document explains how incoming high school students are placed into courses and how exemption requests are reviewed during registration. Placement is based on official academic records, completed prerequisite courses, credit requirements, and alignment with the American curriculum sequence and Qatar Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE) regulations.

## Subject Requirements Overview

| Subject Area          | Grade 9                              | Grade 10                      | Grade 11                                        | Grade 12                                                                                                                               |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>English</b>        | English I (Literature & Composition) | English II (World Literature) | English III (American Literature / Linguistics) | English IV / College Composition / Advanced English                                                                                    |
| <b>Science</b>        | Biology                              | Chemistry                     | Physics                                         | Advanced Science (e.g., AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Physics, Environmental Science, or other approved course)                         |
| <b>Mathematics</b>    | Algebra I                            | Geometry                      | Algebra II                                      | Pre-Calculus, Statistics, or approved senior-level Math (e.g., Calculus, AP Statistics, AP Calculus AB/BC, or other advanced elective) |
| <b>Social Studies</b> | U.S. History & Geography             | World History                 | U.S. Government & Economics                     | Mandatory Social Studies Course (e.g., Contemporary World Issues, Sociology, Psychology, International Relations, or AP equivalent)    |

## Mandatory Compulsory Subjects in Qatar

In compliance with MoEHE requirements for private schools in Qatar:

1. **Arabic Language:** Required for all Arab students in Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12, following the Qatari National Curriculum.
2. **Islamic Studies:** Required for all Muslim students in Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12, following the Qatari National Curriculum.
3. **Qatar History:** Required for all students up to and including Grade 9.

## General Placement Guidelines

- **Grade-level placement:** Students are placed according to the last grade successfully completed, age-appropriate grade level, school records, credit transfer review, and graduation pathway requirements.
- **Course placement:** Students are placed in the next course in sequence only when the prerequisite course has been completed and documented. For example, a student

entering Grade 11 should normally have completed Grade 9 and Grade 10 English, Math, Science, and Social Studies requirements.

- **Missing prerequisites:** If a required prerequisite is missing, unclear, or not verified, the student may be required to take the missing course, complete credit recovery, or follow an adjusted graduation plan.
- **Different course titles:** Courses with different names, such as Integrated Science or Humanities, may be accepted only after the school reviews the transcript and course description or syllabus to confirm content alignment.
- **Advanced placement:** Honors, AP, or advanced course placement may require prior grades, standardized test scores, teacher recommendations, placement assessments, or review by the academic team.

## Exemption Requirements

**Exemptions are not automatic.** A student may be exempted from a required course only when the school receives official, verified evidence that the student has already completed an equivalent course with sufficient instructional content and credit value.

- Official signed and stamped transcripts must show the course title, grade level, final grade, and credit or year completed.
- Course descriptions or syllabi are required when a course title does not clearly match the American curriculum sequence.
- The school may deny an exemption when documentation is incomplete, unofficial, inconsistent, or not aligned with graduation and equivalency requirements.
- Exemption from a course does not exempt the student from total credit requirements, external examination requirements, or MoEHE compulsory subjects.

## Required Documents for Placement, and Exemption Review

1. **Official academic transcripts:** Signed and stamped records for completed Grades 9-12.
2. **Transfer Certificate (TC):** For students coming from outside Qatar, the TC must be attested by all competent authorities.
3. **Course descriptions or syllabi:** Required when previous course titles differ from the standard American curriculum sequence or when subject content must be verified.
4. **Standardized test scores:** PSAT, SAT, ACT, AP, or other recognized scores, if available, may support advanced placement or proficiency claims.

## High School Diploma Equivalency (Grade 12)

Parents are reminded that for the final High School Diploma to be equated by the MoEHE, students must:

- Complete 12 years of schooling.
- Pass at least **two external exams** (e.g., SAT with a minimum of 400 in English and 400 in Math, or two AP exams with a score of 2 or higher or ACT1 with a score of 18 or higher).