

Chapter 36: Graduation Requirements

Rule 36.4 Assessments Required for Graduation

1. Beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, all students enrolled in one (1) of the three (3) end-of-course Subject Area Test courses **must** pass the course **and** participate in the applicable end-of-course Subject Area Test,
2. Beginning with school year 2025-2026, students shall graduate by passing the course and meeting one (1) of the following options:
 - Passing the applicable end-of-course Subject Area Test, or
 - Using options outlined in Chapter 36, Rule 36.5, or
 - Using the end-of-course Subject Area Test score with the overall course grade based on the Concordance Table for each of the three (3) end-of-course Subject Area Tests as provided to school districts by the Mississippi Department of Education. (Students must be enrolled to utilize this option.)
3. Any Mississippi public school student who fails to pass a required end-of-course Subject Area Test, prior to school year 2016-2017, will be offered opportunities to retake the test. Effective 2025-2026 School Year, the U.S. History exam will no longer be administered. Students who were enrolled as a graduating Senior in the 2024-2025 school year and continued to be enrolled in the 2025-2026 school year and/or thereafter will not be required to retake the assessment. Student who are not enrolled at the beginning of the 2025-2026 school year who failed this assessment but still need the assessment to graduate will be required to meet one of the other options in lieu of the assessment.

Archived Information Regarding Chapter 36, Rule 36.4

Academic end-of-course Subject Area Tests were phased in during the 2001-2002 school year to replace the Functional Literacy Examination (FLE) as a requirement for graduation.

1. Students who began 9th grade PRIOR to 1999-2000 must pass the Functional Literacy Examination (FLE).
2. Students who began 9th grade in school year 1999-2000 must pass the Functional Literacy Examination (FLE) plus the Subject Area Test in U.S. History.
3. Students who began 9th grade in school year 2000-2001 must pass the mathematics section of the FLE plus the Subject Area Tests in U.S. History and English II.
4. Students who began 9th grade in 2001-2002 must pass the mathematics section of the FLE plus the Subject Area Tests in U.S. History, English II, and Biology.
5. Students who began 9th grade in 2002-2003 must pass the end-of-course Subject Area Tests in U. S. History, English II, Biology, and Algebra I. Students who began 9th grade in 2003-2004 and each year thereafter must pass all required end-of-course Subject Area Tests in U.S. History, English II, Biology, and Algebra I.

6. Beginning with school year 2014-2015, students shall graduate by passing the course and meeting one (1) of the following options:
 - a. Passing the applicable end-of-course Subject Area Test, or
 - b. Using options outlined in Chapter 36, Rule 36.5, or
 - c. Using the end-of-course Subject Area Test score with the overall course grade based on the Concordance Table for each of the four (4) end-of-course Subject Area Tests as provided to school districts by the Mississippi Department of Education. (Students must be enrolled in order to utilize this option.)
7. Beginning with school year 2015-2016, enrolled students had the option of achieving a combined minimum score from the end-of-course Subject Area Tests to meet the requirement for graduation in lieu of passing the applicable end-of-course Subject Area Test. This option required combining four (4) end-of-course assessment scores. This option will no longer be available to student beginning with the 2025-2026 school year unless the student had already taken the U.S. History end-of-course assessment and received a valid score.
8. Prior to the 2025-2026 school year, all students enrolled in one (1) of the four (4) end-of-course Subject Area Test courses **must** pass the course and participate in the applicable end-of-course Subject Area Test in order to earn the Carnegie Unit.

Source: *Miss Code Ann. §§ 37-17-6 and 37-16-7 (Revised 4/2015, 4/2016, 6/2018, 7/2025)*