

Gorman High School

Top 12 Questions Relating to Gorman High School (GHS/GLC) students:

1. What are GHS/GLC's high school requirements?

The Gorman Learning Center's high school graduation requirements can be found on the GHS/GLC web site at www.gormanlc.com. They are also found in this handbook. Graduation requirements vary by school district and are categorically specific. All parents should receive a copy with their master agreement from their IST at the time of enrollment. It is important to adhere to these requirements in order to graduate on time with the appropriate courses. Stability at the high school level assists in ensuring a timely graduation.

2. How does college co-enrollment work?

Co-enrollment at community colleges is recommended for students ages 16 and up – if the student is mature enough to handle college level work and the college environment. A student may take a maximum of two college courses while enrolled in a minimum of four GHS/GLC courses (Max 2 at CC/ Min 4 at GLC) – During summer, the rule is Max 1 at CC/ Max 2 at GHS/GLC. These are the co-enrollment rules. A student may apply at a college utilizing the high school enrollment package obtained from the college's admissions office (See Steps to Co-enrollment). Students may need a special student consideration sheet signed by the GHS/GLC counselor if they are under 16 yrs, and are determined to apply. College applicants may be required to take the college entrance exam as well. There are no tuition fees for High School students. As for College-required books, the student should take a printout of classes to the college bookstore. The student must let the bookstore know at that time that they are a student of the Gorman Learning Center. The college, if it is a vendor, will then inform the student of when they may pick up their books. GLC will pay the college directly. GLC will not, under any

circumstances, reimburse the parent or student. In order to receive both High School and college credits, the student must let their IST know what courses they are taking at the college prior to the course beginning, and must also provide a copy of the syllabus and monthly work samples for the IST to turn in with the monthly paperwork. Upon completion of the college courses, the IST will put the college course and number of college units awarded on a report card to be turned in to the office and put on the student's transcript. Note: One college unit equals 3.3 High School units as long as it is documented correctly by the student and IST. This amount will be calculated by the Student Services Department.

3. What is VAPA?

VAPA stands for Visual and Performing Arts. A high school student needs to obtain 20 units in this category in order to fulfill the graduation requirement. Also, this category can be combined with the required 10 Foreign Language units to make for a total of 30 VAPA units. This is done when a student is adamant about not taking a Foreign Language and has no plans to go directly to a UC. The VAPA category can be filled with many things (See chart of examples).

4. What is Vocational Ed.?

Vocational education is any subject that is career- or vocationally-directed. The requirement in this category is a minimum of 20 units done during the high school years. There are many ways to fulfill this requirement (See chart of examples). For this category the VAPA/Voc. Ed. time log must be kept, and turned in monthly to the IST. Work permits can be issued when needed from Lynnette Coutts in the GHS/GLC Student Services Dept. 909-307-6312 or lynnette@gormanlc.com.

5. When are students usually grad checked?

The high school counselor checks the student's progress automatically at least two times during the course of their high school experience. Students are checked the first time after completion of their 9th grade year. Then they are checked again after completion of their 11th grade year. Both times a grad plan is given to the IST for discussion with the parent. At the point of the second check, the student must follow the plan exactly to be finished on time. An IST or a parent can request that the high school counselor grad check their student at any time during the course of high school and they will be priority checked at that time. For grad status and checks contact Lynnette Coutts in the Student Services Department.

6. Does Gorman have high school field trips?

Currently there are three high school field trips. The first major trip of the year is the freshman orientation trip. This is a weekend trip to Catalina Island at Toyon Bay and is life science oriented. The second trip is for 10th and 11th graders and it is a two-day college experience trip to Pepperdine University in Malibu. The Third trip is a "Grad Night" trip for graduating seniors and consists of an elegant evening at a dinner theater. Other trips will be offered to high school students throughout the year in their areas as offered to all students. Information will be given directly to the IST's for distribution to the parents for ALL high school field trips. Information will also be on the web-site at www.gormanlc.com, and in "The Gorman Grapevine." Call Lynnette Coutts at 909-307-6312 to sign up for participation in HS field trips. These trips are FREE for Gorman High School students. Parents and siblings may not attend.

7. Does Gorman have a graduation ceremony, and if so what does it consist of?

YES – GHS/GLC has a traditional Graduation Ceremony. Graduation ceremonies take place in the month of June of each year. Graduation is held at the Redlands Bowl in Redlands, CA. Graduate information is sent out to all those expected to graduate. Caps and gowns are required for the ceremony and are purchased by the student through GHS/GLC. A photographer is present to take pictures of the graduates. Diplomas are sent in the mail 4-6 weeks after graduation and a certificate is presented at the actual event. A GHS/GLC committee chooses a Valedictorian and a Salutatorian, as well as students to receive awards for academic excellence according to specified criteria. Students may invite as many people as they like, and refreshments are served after the ceremonies.

8. What are the “Focus and Prep” meetings for high school students?

The Focus and Prep meetings and parent information meetings are designed to introduce high school students to important college and vocation resources. Vocational and college information is given out as well as comprehensive information on putting together an educational portfolio. The Focus and Prep meetings will be offered four times a year by area. ISTs will be sent the information for distribution to the parents/students. Meeting dates and times will also be listed on the web-site, and in the “Gorman Grapevine” newsletter as well. Attendance to these meetings for high school students is not mandatory, but highly recommended.

9. What do I need to know about testing at the High School level?

Testing at the high school level can be complex and confusing, but there are main areas that all students need to be aware of. Most testing is date sensitive; therefore it is important to pay attention to registration and testing dates. All students from the 2006 graduating class are required to take the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) – IST’s will notify their

students of when and where they will take the CAHSEE. Ninth through eleventh graders are required by the state to participate in any state standardized testing (STAR) – 12th graders are exempt. Denice Burchett is currently the testing coordinator for these two exams and is in charge of informing the IST and distributing testing materials. Her contact information e-mail is: dburchett@gormanlc.com. These two exams are mandatory. Please contact her if you have specific testing questions. GHS/GLC administers both of these tests. The SAT test is given at the student's local public high school. These tests are date sensitive and need to be registered for in advance. Students need to contact their local public high school for registration information. A student can also register online – just go to www.collegeboard.com, and look for the SAT exams. These exams are not mandatory but are recommended for college reporting purposes, and financial aid (Cal-Grant) purposes.

10. What is the deal with Driver's Education?

A student may take the academic part of the Driver's Education with GHS/GLC, to fill 5 units of the health/safety requirement. But they will not be issued any paperwork for DMV reporting. A full Driver's Training course must be taken outside of GHS/GLC before a student may get their permit. GORMAN WILL NOT ISSUE PINK SLIPS FOR DMV. A student can receive the 5 units of credit for taking Driver's Ed. at an outside agency – the student must send in a copy of the certificate of completion to Lynnette Coutts in the Student Services Department in order to receive credit for that class.

11. What about AP/Honors courses?

Gorman High School does not currently offer AP courses, but instead offers a full course listing of UC approved curriculum. The "A-G" list is detailed on the www.gormanlc.com website. Universities will recognize these courses as equal to or better than AP. GHS is currently developing "Honors" courses that

are similar to the UC approved courses, but are further supplemented in order to achieve the “Honors” distinction. If a student is accelerated and desires to get college credit by a “test out” method, GHS suggests that the student check into which colleges offer “CLEP” testing for high school students. This is a great way to get a head start on college credit – it may save time and money, and it looks great to UC. These exams are not easy – they are set at the college level. For more information on “CLEP” testing go to www.collegeboard.com.

12 What – there’s SUMMER SCHOOL?

There are actually two separate types of summer academic programs operating at GHS/GLC. The first is a more structured program open to students K-12. If a student is interested in signing up for summer program #1, they must be referred by their IST, and do all of the proper paperwork and documentation with an assigned summer IST. The second summer program is only offered at the high school level. Program #2 was created for high school students needing to make up credits or those just desiring to work ahead. Program #2 is less structured, but still requires proper documentation. With program #2 – a high school level student may request that their IST assign work for a maximum of two courses for credit over summer. Monthly assignment reports, monthly work logs, and work samples may be collected at the end of summer for credit issued by the IST on a report card to the Student Services Department. A maximum of 10 units can be earned over summer – unless the calculation considers a course taken at a community college. Ask your IST if either of these programs will benefit you.

THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- *Even at the High School level, a primary caregiver must still be available to work with the student.*
- *11th and 12th grade students applying for admission to GHS/GLC must submit a current transcript from their last high school of attendance to the Student Services Department prior to enrolling.*
- *High School students may NEVER take more than eight classes within one semester. The norm is six or seven during the regular year and a max of two during summer at the option of the IST.*

- *Special permission from the Student Services Department must be obtained for a student to take eight courses.*
- *If a student is UC Bound – have them use the UC systems college mentoring system at <http://www.csmentor.edu>. This system tracks the student's college bound progress according to what UC expects.*