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College Preparatory Course Prerequisite requirements effective date: academic year 2011-12 entering college freshmen

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College Preparatory Course Prerequisite Requirements
Effective Date: Academic Year 2011-12
Entering College Freshmen

FOUR UNITS OF ENGLISH: At least two units must have strong grammar and composition components, at least one must be in **English literature**, and at least one must be in **American literature**. Completion of **College Preparatory English I, II, III, and IV** will meet this criterion.

FOUR UNITS OF MATHEMATICS: These include **Algebra I** (for which **Applied Mathematics I and II** may count together as a substitute, if a student successfully completes **Algebra II**), **Algebra II**, and **Geometry**. A **fourth higher-level mathematics course** should be selected from among **Algebra III/trigonometry, precalculus, calculus, statistics, discrete mathematics**, or a **capstone mathematics course** and should be taken during the senior year.

THREE UNITS OF LABORATORY SCIENCE: Two units must be taken in two different fields of the physical or life sciences and selected from among **biology, chemistry, or physics**. The third unit may be from the same field as one of the first two units (**biology, chemistry, or physics**) or from **any laboratory science** for which **biology** and/or **chemistry** is a **prerequisite**. Courses in earth science, general physical science, or introductory or general environmental science for which biology and/or chemistry is **not** a prerequisite will not meet this requirement. It is strongly recommended that students take physical science (taught as a laboratory science) as a **prerequisite** to the three required units of laboratory science outlined in this section. **It is also strongly recommended that students desiring to pursue careers in science, mathematics, engineering or technology take one course in all three fields.**

TWO UNITS OF THE SAME FOREIGN LANGUAGE

THREE UNITS OF SOCIAL SCIENCE: One unit of **U.S. History** is required; a half unit of **Economics** and a half unit in **Government** are strongly recommended.

ONE UNIT OF FINE ARTS: One unit in Appreciation of, History of, or Performance in one of the fine arts.

ELECTIVE: One unit must be taken as an elective. A college preparatory course in **Computer Science (i.e., one involving significant programming content, not simply keyboarding)** is **strongly recommended for this elective**. Other acceptable electives include college preparatory courses in **English; fine arts; foreign languages; social science; humanities; laboratory science (excluding earth science, general physical science, general environmental science, or other introductory science courses for which biology and/or chemistry is not a prerequisite); or mathematics above the level of Algebra II.**

ONE UNIT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION OR ROTC

Total: 19

NOTES

1. Each institution may make exceptions in admitting (a) students who do not meet all of the prerequisites, limited to those individual cases in which the failure to meet one or more prerequisites is due to circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the student; or, (b) students who have taken the Tech Prep (Applied Academics) courses rather than the required college preparatory curriculum described above and who meet all other institutional admissions criteria.
2. The College Preparatory Course Prerequisite Requirements are minimal requirements for four-year public college admission. Therefore, students should check early with colleges of their choice to plan to meet additional high school prerequisites that might be required for admission.
3. It is the responsibility of each school district to disseminate this set of requirements to entering freshmen students interested in pursuing a four-year college degree in South Carolina upon graduation from high school and to provide the web address for their viewing: http://www.che.sc.gov/New_Web/GoingToCollege/CollPrepPrereq.htm. **Please note the _ (underscore) character between the words "New" and "Web" in the URL.**
4. This revision of the College Preparatory Course Prerequisite Requirements shall be fully implemented for students entering colleges and universities as freshmen beginning in Fall 2011. In the interim period, either the 2003-04 version of the Prerequisites or the version approved by the Commission on October 5, 2006, is acceptable.

Approved by CHE
October 5, 2006