

## **Maryland Recognized Rigorous Secondary School Programs of Study**

The eligibility options for a student graduating from secondary school in Maryland during the 2005 or 2006 calendar years are:

- ***Maryland Scholars.*** This program, part of the national State Scholars Initiative and patterned after the recommendations of the National Commission on Excellence in Education, requires at least:
  - Four credits of English
  - Three credits of math (Algebra I, Algebra II and geometry)
  - Three credits of lab science (biology, chemistry, physics preferred)
  - Three credits of social studies (U.S. History, world history and government)
  - Two credits of the same foreign language
  - Minimum 2.5 GPA
  
- ***A set of courses similar to the State Scholars Initiative.*** This program of study requires passing grades in the following:
  - Four years of English;
  - Three years of Math (including Algebra I and a higher level course such as Algebra II, Geometry, or Data Analysis and Statistics);
  - Three years of science (including at least two courses from biology, chemistry or physics);
  - Three years of social studies; and
  - One year of a foreign language.
  
- ***Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) courses and test scores.*** This program requires a minimum of two Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) courses in high school and a minimum passing score on the exams for those classes. Students must score 3 or higher on AP exams and 4 or higher on IB exams.