

Jamaica

Background

Academic Calendar	September-June
What is year nine called?	Form three, year nine
Where is year nine typically located?	Final year of lower secondary school
Native Language(s)	English
Graduation Timeline	
6 + 3 + 2 = 11 or +2 = 13	11 or 13 years total: six years primary, three years lower secondary and then two or four years of upper secondary

ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF PROOF OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

This section is divided into two “tiers.” All tiers are acceptable forms of proof of graduation. Each tier has a separate expected timeline for completion and builds upon the previous tier.

Tier One

1. Caribbean Examination Council (CXC) *Secondary Education Certificate* (CSEC) [Must pass **five** or more examinations in separate subjects to qualify as an acceptable form of proof of high school graduation]

Expected Timeline of Completion	11 years (three years or six semesters from the initial start of year nine)
Issuing Body	Caribbean Examination Council (CXC) or Overseas Examination Commission (OEC)
First Available Date of Issue (Typical)	August

2. *General Certificate of Secondary Education* (GCSE) [Must pass **five** or more examinations in separate subjects to qualify as an acceptable form of proof of high school graduation]

Expected Timeline of Completion	11 years (three years or six semesters from the initial start of year nine)
Issuing Body	Various examination boards
First Available Date of Issue (Typical)	August

3. *General Certificate of Education* (GCE) [Must pass **five** or more examinations in separate subjects to qualify as an acceptable form of proof of high school graduation]

Expected Timeline of Completion	11 years (three years or six semesters from the initial start of year nine)
Issuing Body	Various examination boards
First Available Date of Issue (Typical)	August

4. *International General Certificate of Secondary Education* (IGCSE) [Must pass **five** or more examinations in separate subjects to qualify as an acceptable form of proof of high school graduation]

Expected Timeline of Completion	11 years (three years or six semesters from the initial start of year nine)
Issuing Body	Various examination boards
First Available Date of Issue (Typical)	August

Tier Two

The expected timeline for completion of all Tier Two forms of proof of acceptable high school graduation is upon successful on time completion of year 13. Earning a Tier Two form of proof of high school graduation will advance the expected date of high school graduation **two years** from the on-time expected timeline of a Tier One document.

1. Caribbean Examination Council (CXC) *Advanced Proficiency Examinations/Diploma* (CAPE) [Must pass two or more examinations in separate subjects to qualify as an acceptable form of proof of high school graduation]

Expected Timeline of Completion	13 years (five years or 10 semesters from the initial start of year nine)
Issuing Body	Caribbean Examination Council (CXC) or Overseas Examination Commission (OEC)
First Available Date of Issue (Typical)	August

2. *Advanced International Certificate of Education* (AICE)

Expected Timeline of Completion	13 years (five years or 10 semesters from the initial start of year nine)
Issuing Body	Various examination boards
First Available Date of Issue (Typical)	August

NOT ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF PROOF OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

1. Secondary School Certificate

Expected Timeline of Completion	10 years (two years or four semesters from the initial start of year nine)
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2. Jamaican School Certificate

Expected Timeline of Completion	11 years (three years or six semesters from the initial start of year nine)
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CREDITING POLICIES

If course credits are indicated on the transcript, the following units provided on the document will be awarded credit as follows:

Units of Credit	U.S. Equivalent Credit Per Year
4+	1.00
3	0.75

Units of Credit	U.S. Equivalent Credit Per Year
2	0.50
1	0.25

GRADING SCALES

For school transcripts in years nine through 11 (form three through form five), if **alpha grades are present**, apply the CSEC grading scale below. For years 12 and 13, if **alpha grades are present**, apply the CAPE grading scale below.

Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate (CSEC)					
Numeric Grade	U.S. Grade Equivalent	Quality Points	Numeric Grade	U.S. Grade Equivalent	Quality Points
I	A	4	IV	D	1
II	B	3	V	D	1
III	C	2	VI	F	0

Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate (CSEC)

Grade	Translation	U.S. Grade Equivalent	Quality Points
A	Outstanding	A	4
B	Good	B	3
C	Fairly Good	C	2
D	Moderate	D	1
E	Weak	D	1
F	Poor	F	0

Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Examinations (CAPE)

Numeric Grade	U.S. Grade Equivalent	Quality Points	Numeric Grade	U.S. Grade Equivalent	Quality Points
I	A	4	V	C	2
II	A	4	VI	D	1
III	B	3	VII	F (Failure)	0
IV	C	2			

Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Examinations (CAPE)

Grade	Translation	U.S. Grade Equivalent	Quality Points
A	Excellent	A	4
B	Very Good	A	4
C	Good	B	3
D	Satisfactory	C	2
E	Acceptable	C	2
F	Weak	D	1
G	Unsatisfactory	F (Failure)	0

GCSE Ordinary Level (O-Level) Examination

Grade	U.S. Grade Equivalent	Quality Points	Grade	U.S. Grade Equivalent	Quality Points
A	A	4	E	C	2
B	B	3	F, G	D	1
C	B	3	H or Ungraded	F	0
D	C	2			

IGCSE

Grade	U.S. Grade Equivalent	Quality Points	Grade	U.S. Grade Equivalent	Quality Points
A	A	4	E	C	2
B	B	3	F, G	D	1
C	B	3	Ungraded	F	0
D	C	2			

AICE For half-credit, full-credit (AS-level equivalent) and double-credit (A-level equivalent) courses		
Numeric Grade	U.S. Grade Equivalent	Quality Points
A	A	4
B	B	3
C	B	3
D	C	2
E	C	2

AICE For half-credit, full-credit (AS-level equivalent) and double-credit (A-level equivalent) courses		
Subject Points	U.S. Grade Equivalent	Quality Points
10	A	4
8	B	3
6	B	3
4	C	2
2	C	2

AICE For half-credit, full-credit (AS-level equivalent) and double-credit (A-level equivalent) courses		
Half-subject Points	U.S. Grade Equivalent	Quality Points
5	A	4
4	B	3
3	B	3
2	C	2
1	C	2

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

» The following are less commonly known course titles **approved** for use in an academic certification:

<i>English/ Native Language</i>	<i>Math</i>	<i>Science</i>	<i>Social Science</i>	<i>Additional Courses</i>
Communication Studies		Environmental Science	Caribbean Studies	Religious Education
		Human and Social Biology		

» The following course titles have been reviewed and **not approved** for use in an academic certification:

- Commerce.
- [Click here](#) for the welcome email students receive with additional information on documents to submit for this country.

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

- » [Course Title Usage guide.](#)
- » [Determination of Credit resource.](#)
- » [International initial-eligibility flyer.](#)
- » [Student account task information.](#)
- » [NCAA Guide of International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility.](#)
- » [Country-specific webpages.](#)
- » [Multi-country references.](#)

