

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS ACADEMY

1055 W MOANA LN STE 201 RENO, NV 89509 (209) 863-8400

HIGH SCHOOL COURSE LIST & DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

Course Types

- LA** These courses in the Liberal Arts introduce the students to the great writers, thinkers, saints, and Church Doctors that have contributed throughout the ages to making Catholic culture so rich. The students will be reading the source texts and, through oral discussion in the home and assigned writing, will offer their own responses to the authors. LA courses require strong to college ready reading and writing skills.
- CP** The College Preparatory course type is assigned to courses that are more textbook- or workbook-based. While strong reading and high school writing skills are required for CP courses, the work often is more focused on comprehension rather than developing reasoning skills as in the coursework in LA courses. While Science, Math, and Languages are an important part to a comprehensive Catholic, Liberal Arts education, they are typically classified as CP courses because they do not contain enough classical works to qualify as LA courses.
- GE** The General Education course type is assigned to courses that qualify as basic high school skills. These are not necessarily college-preparatory courses, but they can draw high school credits while the student is working on developing or remediating key college-prep skill areas. Non-academic courses like Physical Education are GE. All Non-STAA Courses (NSC) are assigned GE course credits.
- NSC** The Non-STAA Course category is not shown on this document. However, St. Thomas Aquinas Academy will gladly accept properly reported NSC courses as part of the student's plan to complete the diploma requirements. As stated in the Diploma Requirements, over 50% of a student's academic credits in each year of high school must be St. Thomas Aquinas Academy courses. Dramatic departure from the STAA core plan tends to compromise the cohesiveness of the program and may leave holes in the development of certain college-preparatory skills. Please discuss any planned swapping of STAA courses for NSC courses with your academic planning advisor to verify that your plan will skill keep your student on track for graduation.

RELIGION				
Grade	Course	Type	Credits	
_____	REL-008 Apologetics	LA	5.0	
_____	REL-118 New Testament Study	LA	5.0	
_____	REL-120 Old Testament	LA	10.0	
_____	REL-428 Old Testament I	LA	5.0	
_____	REL-429 Old Testament II	LA	5.0	
_____	REL-032 Church History I	LA	5.0	
_____	REL-033 Church History II	LA	5.0	
_____	REL-034 Church History III	LA	5.0	
_____	REL-028 Moral Apologetics	LA	5.0	
_____	REL-330 Catholicism	CP	10.0	
_____	REL-537 Church History	CP	10.0	
_____	REL-545 Catholic Morality	CP	10.0	
_____	REL-647 Catholic Apologetics	GE	5.0	
_____	REL-121 Old Testament	GE	5.0	
_____	REL-388 Scripture Study	GE	10.0	
_____	REL-524 Catholic Vocations	GE	5.0	
Religion Credits Required for Diploma			30.0	
Total Recommended Religion Credits for College-bound Students			40.0	

U.S. HISTORY				
Grade	Course	Type	Credits	
_____	USH-182 American History	LA	10.0	
_____	USH-157 U.S. Geography	GE	10.0	
_____	USH-342 U.S. Hist&Geogr	GE	10.0	
_____	USH-178 U.S. Studies	GE	10.0	
U.S. History Credits Required for Diploma			10.0	
Total Recommended U.S. History Credits for College-bound Students			10.0	

ECONOMICS				
Grade	Course	Type	Credits	
_____	ECO-186 Economics	CP	5.0	
_____	ECO-541 Economics	CP	5.0	
_____	ECO-544 Economics	CP	5.0	
_____	ECO-245 Intro to Economics	GE	2.5	
Economics Credits Required for Diploma			5.0	
Total Recommended Economics Credits for College-bound Students			5.0	

GOVERNMENT/CIVICS				
Grade	Course	Type	Credits	
_____	GOV-187 Govt and Economics	LA	10.0	
_____	GOV-116 Govt and Natural Law	LA	5.0	

_____	GOV-185	U.S. Government	CP	5.0
_____	GOV-534	U.S. Government	GE	2.5

Government/Civics Credits Required for Diploma 5.0

Total Recommended Government/Civics Credits for College-bound Students 5.0

WORLD HISTORY

Grade	Course	Type	Credits
_____	SOC-359	Greek History I	LA 5.0
_____	SOC-413	Greek History II	LA 5.0
_____	SOC-211	Old World History	LA 10.0
_____	SOC-319	Roman History	LA 10.0
_____	SOC-365	World History	CP 10.0
_____	SOC-179	World Geography	GE 5.0
_____	SOC-301	Greek History	GE 5.0
_____	SOC-377	Old World History	GE 10.0
_____	SOC-482	Roman History	GE 5.0

World History Credits Required for Diploma 20.0

Total Recommended World History Credits for College-bound Students 30.0

LITERATURE

Grade	Course	Type	Credits
_____	LIT-426	Greek Literature I	LA 5.0
_____	LIT-427	Greek Literature II	LA 5.0
_____	LIT-535	American Literature	LA 10.0
_____	LIT-621	Old World Lit. and Drama	LA 10.0
_____	LIT-212	Old World Literature	LA 10.0
_____	LIT-399	Shakespeare	LA 5.0
_____	LIT-320	Roman Literature	LA 10.0
_____	LIT-159	Classical Literature	CP 5.0
_____	LIT-158	Literature	CP 10.0
_____	LIT-196	Literature	GE 10.0
_____	LIT-644	Greek Literature	GE 5.0
_____	LIT-005	American Literature	GE 10.0
_____	LIT-378	Old World Literature	GE 10.0
_____	LIT-651	Roman Literature	GE 10.0
_____	LIT-049	Roman Literature	GE 5.0
_____	LIT-069	World Literature	GE 10.0

Literature Credits Required for Diploma 30.0

Total Recommended Literature Credits for College-bound Students 40.0

FINE ARTS

Grade	Course	Type	Credits
_____	FA -171	Art Appreciation I	LA 2.5
_____	FA -532	Art Appreciation I	LA 2.5
_____	FA -533	Art Appreciation II	LA 2.5
_____	FA -166	Greek Playwrights	LA 5.0
_____	FA -180	Music Appreciation	LA 5.0

_____	FA -194	Shakespeare	LA 10.0
_____	FA -133	Roman Drama	LA 7.5
_____	FA -172	Art Appreciation I	CP 2.5
_____	FA -530	Art Appreciation II	CP 2.5
_____	FA -173	Art Apprec and Analysis	GE 2.5
_____	FA -645	Art Appreciation	GE 2.5
_____	FA -153	Art Appreciation	GE 2.5
_____	FA -344	Art Appreciation	GE 0.0
_____	FA -635	Art Appreciation	GE
_____	FA -531	Art Appreciation III	GE 2.5
_____	FA -263	Art History	GE 0.0
_____	FA -181	Art Prac and Analysis	GE 10.0
_____	FA -693	Art Prac&Intro to Draftin	GE 0.0
_____	FA -333	Art Practice	GE 5.0
_____	FA -290	Art Practice	GE 2.5
_____	FA -190	Art Practice	GE 5.0
_____	FA -332	Art Practice	GE 5.0
_____	FA -408	Art Practice	GE 5.0
_____	FA -589	American Folk Music	GE 1.0
_____	FA -636	Music Appreciation	GE
_____	FA -672	Music Appreciation	GE 5.0
_____	FA -649	Roman Architecture I	GE 2.5
_____	FA -650	Roman Architecture II	GE 5.0
_____	FA -707		GE 0.0

Fine Arts Credits Required for Diploma 20.0

Total Recommended Fine Arts Credits for College-bound Students 30.0

PHYS. SCIENCE

One year of Life Science and one year of Physical Science is required for graduation. College-bound students are encouraged to complete three years of science. Math and science majors are encouraged to complete four years of science.

Grade	Course	Type	Credits
_____	SCI-324	Astronomy I	LA 5.0
_____	SCI-325	Astronomy II	LA 5.0
_____	LSC-502	Biology	CP
_____	SCI-176	Astronomy Lab.	CP
_____	SCI-669	Advanced Chemistry	CP 10.0
_____	SCI-070	Chemistry	CP 10.0
_____	SCI-321	Classical Physics	CP 10.0
_____	SCI-398	Physics	CP 10.0
_____	SCI-581	Physics	CP 10.0
_____	LSC-188	Biology	GE 10.0
_____	LSC-379	Introductory Biology	GE 10.0
_____	SCI-519	General Science	GE 5.0
_____	SCI-126	Physical Science	GE 10.0
_____	SCI-448	World Geography	GE 5.0

_____	SCI-236	Astronomy Lab.	GE	
_____	SCI-528	Chemistry	GE	10.0
_____	SCI-251	Chemistry	GE	10.0
_____	SCI-417	Introductory Chemistry	GE	10.0
_____	SCI-132	Earth Science	GE	10.0
_____	SCI-275	Introductory Physics	GE	10.0

Phys. Science Credits Required for Diploma 10.0

Total Recommended Phys. Science Credits for College-bound Students 20.0

LANGUAGE ARTS

Courses classified as Composition courses include critical thinking, logic, composition, essay writing, and reasoning. English Mechanics courses include spelling, oral reading skills, penmanship, punctuation, and grammar. Mechanics courses are written into the curriculum based on the needs of each student. Even though you will be using multiple books for English remember that you are actually only teaching two courses – composition and mechanics. Try to group English Mechanics together in your daily school schedule. Composition may be taught at a separate time.

Grade	Course	Type	Credits
_____	ENG-680	Analytical Thinkg II	LA 0.0
_____	ENG-682	Classical Rhetoric	LA 0.0
_____	ENG-477	Classical Rhetoric	LA 10.0
_____	ENG-671	Crit Thinking III	LA 3.0
_____	ENG-094	Formal Logic	LA 3.0
_____	ENG-676	Essays I	LA 0.0
_____	ENG-677	Essays II	LA 0.0
_____	ENG-675	Logic	LA 0.0
_____	ENG-678	Major Papers	LA 0.0
_____	ENG-679	Analytical Thinkg I	CP 0.0
_____	ENG-045	Crit Thinking I	CP 3.0
_____	ENG-046	Crit Thinking II	CP
_____	ENG-047	Crit Thinking III	CP 3.0
_____	ENG-044	Critical Reading	CP 3.0
_____	ENG-209	Formal Comp. I	CP 3.0
_____	ENG-208	Formal Comp. II	CP 3.0
_____	ENG-557	Introductory Comp. C	CP 2.5
_____	ENG-575	Major Papers	CP 10.0
_____	ENG-210	Research Papers	CP 3.0
_____	ENG-681	College Study Skills	CP 0.0
_____	ENG-543	Adv Grammar	CP 2.0
_____	ENG-205	Formal Gram I	CP 3.0
_____	ENG-206	Formal Gram II	CP 3.0
_____	ENG-207	Formal Gram III	CP 3.0
_____	ENG-683	Creative Writing	CP 0.0
_____	ENG-043	Classical Comp & Gram	GE 6.0
_____	ENG-331	Composition	GE 6.0
_____	ENG-368	Composition	GE 6.0
_____	ENG-322	Composition	GE 0.0

_____	ENG-684	Composition I	GE	0.0
_____	ENG-696	Composition II	GE	6.0
_____	ENG-512	Creative Writing	GE	
_____	ENG-695	Creative Wrt I	GE	6.0
_____	ENG-156	Language Arts	GE	10.0
_____	ENG-050	Diagraming I	GE	1.5
_____	ENG-483	Diagraming II	GE	3.0
_____	ENG-374	Grammar	GE	3.0
_____	ENG-665	Grammar	GE	
_____	ENG-663	Grammar	GE	
_____	ENG-455	Grammar	GE	3.0
_____	ENG-404	Grammar	GE	1.0
_____	ENG-664	Grammar	GE	3.0
_____	ENG-273	Grammar and Punc.	GE	3.0
_____	ENG-248	Intermed Gram I	GE	3.0
_____	ENG-274	Intro to Diagraming	GE	2.0
_____	ENG-327	Intro to Punctuation	GE	1.0
_____	ENG-315	Punctuation	GE	
_____	ENG-201	Punctuation A	GE	1.0
_____	ENG-203	Punctuation B	GE	1.0
_____	ENG-200	Punctuation C	GE	1.0
_____	ENG-204	Punctuation D	GE	1.0
_____	ENG-667	Punctuation Intro.	GE	1.0
_____	ENG-014	Penmanship	GE	2.0
_____	ENG-465	Penmanship E	GE	2.0
_____	ENG-472	Penmanship F	GE	2.0
_____	ENG-568	Penmanship G	GE	2.0
_____	ENG-469	Reading Skill	GE	
_____	ENG-312	Reading Skill	GE	
_____	ENG-249	English Lab.	GE	2.0
_____	ENG-468	Spelling	GE	3.0
_____	ENG-467	Spelling	GE	3.0
_____	ENG-466	Spelling	GE	3.0
_____	ENG-167	Spelling	GE	2.5
_____	ENG-278	Comp&Engl Mechanics	GE	0.0
_____	ENG-685	Composition II	GE	0.0
_____	ENG-279	English Mechanics	GE	0.0

Language Arts Credits Required for Diploma 30.0

Total Recommended Language Arts Credits for College-bound Students 40.0

LANGUAGES

High school students must complete 20 credits in the same language to qualify for graduation. We recommend Latin, but you may register any modern foreign language as a Non-STAA Course in order to earn credits to satisfy the Language requirement.

Grade	Course	Type	Credits
_____	LAN-216	Classical Latin I	LA 10.0

_____	LAN-402	Classical Latin II	LA	10.0
_____	LAN-574	Classical Latin III	LA	10.0
_____	LAN-486	French	CP	10.0
_____	LAN-670	French	CP	10.0
_____	LAN-583	Latin	CP	10.0
_____	LAN-385	Latin	CP	10.0
_____	LAN-250	Latin	CP	10.0
_____	LAN-367	Spanish	CP	10.0
_____	LAN-138	Spanish	CP	10.0
_____	LAN-391	French	GE	
_____	LAN-265	Introductory Latin	GE	5.0
_____	LAN-363	Latin	GE	10.0
_____	LAN-373	Latin	GE	5.0
_____	LAN-276	Latin Intro.	GE	2.5
_____	LAN-077	Language (Family Choice)	GE	10.0

Languages Credits Required for Diploma 20.0

Total Recommended Languages Credits for College-bound Students 20.0

MATHEMATICS

The MAT subject area tallies credits in Pre-Algebra, Consumer Math, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, and college level maths. Students are required to complete 10.0 credits in Algebra, 10.0 credits in Geometry, and 10.0 credits in the MAT subject area. A second year of Algebra can be used to satisfy the MAT requirements. College-bound students should plan on studying math all four years of high school.

Grade	Course	Type	Credits
_____	MAT-578	Advanced Math	CP 10.0
_____	MAT-624	Pre-Calculus	CP 10.0
_____	MAT-526	Pre-Calculus	CP 10.0
_____	MAT-164	Pre-Algebra	GE 10.0
_____	MAT-163	Pre-Algebra	GE 10.0
_____	MAT-487	Pre-Algebra	GE 10.0
_____	MAT-128	Consumer Math	GE 10.0

Mathematics Credits Required for Diploma 10.0

Total Recommended Mathematics Credits for College-bound Students 20.0

ALGEBRA

Grade	Course	Type	Credits
_____	ALG-001	Algebra I	CP 15.0
_____	ALG-003	Algebra I	CP 10.0
_____	ALG-506	Algebra I	CP 10.0
_____	ALG-508	Algebra II	CP 10.0
_____	ALG-569	Algebra II	CP 10.0
_____	ALG-536	Algebra II	CP 10.0
_____	ALG-002	Algebra I	GE 10.0
_____	ALG-105	Math Lab&Algebra	GE 10.0
_____	ALG-470	Math Lab: Alg and Geom	GE

Algebra Credits Required for Diploma 10.0

Total Recommended Algebra Credits for College-bound Students 20.0

GEOMETRY

Grade	Course	Type	Credits
_____	GEO-108	Geometry	CP 15.0
_____	GEO-488	Geometry	CP 10.0
_____	GEO-400	Geometry	GE 10.0
_____	GEO-119	Math Lab&Geometry	GE 10.0

Geometry Credits Required for Diploma 10.0

Total Recommended Geometry Credits for College-bound Students 10.0

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Grade	Course	Type	Credits
_____	PE -673	Physical Education	GE 10.0

Physical Education Credits Required for Diploma 20.0

Total Recommended Physical Education Credits for College-bound Students 20.0

ELECTIVES

Grade	Course	Type	Credits
_____	EL -521	Keyboarding	GE 5.0

Electives Credits Required for Diploma 0.0

Total Recommended Electives Credits for College-bound Students 0.0

Following are the conditions for receiving a diploma from St. Thomas Aquinas Academy. Exceptions and individualized plans are made for students with documented learning disabilities or special needs.

Attendance

The student must complete eight full quarters with St. Thomas Aquinas Academy, four quarters of 11th grade and four quarters of 12th grade. A quarter is 45 school days (nine weeks). By law, a school day is defined as three or more hours of academic activity. We strongly recommend at least five to six hours of daily academic activity to achieve academic excellence.

Transcripts

To graduate, your student must have four years of high school transcripts transferred to St. Thomas Aquinas Academy. If you homeschooled independently for Grades 9 and 10 and transfer to St. Thomas Aquinas Academy for Grades 11 and 12, please call to set an appointment with an advisor to discuss options for satisfying this requirement.

Early Graduation

St. Thomas Aquinas Academy does not issue early diplomas. The student must complete four full years of high school, with at least the last two years with St. Thomas Aquinas Academy specifically. A full year includes the equivalent of six to eight full time courses (60-80 credits). If you are interested in early graduation for your student we suggest you look into the GED, high school proficiency examination for your state (not available in all states), teaching-parent issued diplomas, and/or early enrollment in college (depending on the policy of the college).

Minimum Required Credits

California has a slightly different system for credits from other states. 10.0 high school credits are earned for a full time course, a course in which the student studies 36 to 45 hours per quarter for four quarters (144 to 180 course hours per year). In most states one credit means one year of course work. In California, 10.0 means one year of course work.

We require a minimum of 240 credits in the following subjects to qualify for graduation:

- . at least 30.00 credits in Religion (3 years/450 hours)
- . at least 30.00 credits in English (3 years/450 hours)
- . at least 20.00 credits in Languages (2 years/300 hours)
- . at least 30.00 credits in Mathematics (3 years/450 hours)
- . at least 5.00 credits in Economics (1 semester/75 hours)
- . at least 5.00 credits in Government (1 semester/75 hours)
- . at least 10.00 credits in U.S. History (1 year/150 hours)
- . at least 20.00 credits in World History (2 years/300 hours)
- . at least 30.00 credits in Literature (3 years/450 hours)
- . at least 20.00 credits in Science (2 years/300 hours)
- . at least 20.00 credits in Fine Arts (2 years/300 hours)
- . at least 20.00 credits in Physical Ed. (2 years/300 hours)

Recommended Credits for College Bound Students:

If your student is college bound we recommend the following:

- . at least 30.00 credits in Religion (3 years/450 hours)
- . at least 40.00 credits in English (4 years/600 hours)
- . at least 20.00 credits in Languages (2-4 years/300-600 hours)
- . at least 40.00 credits in Mathematics (4 years/600 hours)
- . at least 5.00 credits in Economics (1 semester/75 hours)
- . at least 5.00 credits in Government (1 semester/75 hours)
- . at least 10.00 credits in U.S. History (1 year/150 hours)
- . at least 30.00 credits in World History (3 years/450 hours)
- . at least 30.00 credits in Literature (3 years/450 hours)
- . at least 40.00 credits in Science (4 years/600 hours)
- . at least 30.00 credits in Fine Arts (3 years/450 hours)
- . at least 20.00 credits in Physical Ed. (2 years/300 hours)

Minimal Math Requirements

Three years of math are required and must include at least one year of Algebra I and one year of Geometry. Credits can be earned for Consumer Math, Pre-Algebra, Algebra, Geometry, Pre-Calculus, and advanced, college level math.

How Much and How Long?

The minimum number of credits needed per year to earn a diploma is 60 credits in the required subjects. The student will need to earn 15 to 16 credits each quarter. This breaks down to around 6 or 7 full time courses in the above-named subjects, which is around 4 to 6 hours a day for 45 days a quarter of course time. General studying and course work includes (but is not limited to) reading aloud, independent reading, writing, research for papers, written exercises, oral presentation, course work corrections, testing, performances, and preparing progress reporting packets for St. Thomas Aquinas Academy to review. We recommend a minimum of 1080 hours of academics each school year.

Standardized Testing

- . St. Thomas Aquinas Academy requires that your student take a standardized test in 11th grade and at least one more in grades 9, 10, or 12. Furthermore, the student must demonstrate reasonable scholastic achievement on his or her standardized tests. If any of the student's scores fall below the 50th national percentile we cannot mark the testing requirement as satisfied. Students with an overall score or any of the major subscores (Math, English, Science, Writing, and the like) that fall below the 50th national percentile may retest as many times as needed or utilize another standardized test until the scores on at least two high school tests meet or exceed the 50th national percentile.
- . Recommended Standardized Testing options: PSAT, SAT, CHSPE, ACT, Iowa Basics, GED, and the like.

High School Appropriate Work

The student's course work must be high school level or above. For a student that might have remediation needs in some areas, our advisors will have St. Thomas Aquinas Academy approved alternatives. Of course, exceptions and individualized plans are made for students with documented learning disabilities or special needs.

Age of Student

St. Thomas Aquinas Academy is a K-12 homeschool program, not an adult education or self-directed program. The student must be instructed and graded by a teaching-parent, legal guardian, or a qualified instructor hired by the student's family. We do not issue diplomas to students older than the age of 19 unless arrangements have been made at the beginning of 11th grade because of documented learning disabilities, special needs, illness, or other extreme circumstances (subject to the Academy's review and approval. Official documentation is required for all of the listed circumstances).

Paperwork Sent to the Academy

Semester reporting is required to be eligible for a high school diploma. The paperwork submitted:

- . must clearly show that the student demonstrates reasonable scholastic achievement in his or her daily course work
- . must be received by St. Thomas Aquinas Academy in a timely fashion (Semester 1 must be received by February 28th and Semester 2 must be received by June 30th).
- . must be neat and orderly
- . must include the requested paper work (approved Course Registration, neat and complete Semester Forms, High School Weekly Assignment Sheets, work samples, etc.)

The Basics of Semester Reporting: Once a year...

...you must submit a Course Registration form. This is a statement of what courses your student will be studying. An advisor will review your plan to make sure it is appropriate to achieve your student's academic goals. The Course Registration form is due on or before September 30th or thirty days after the curriculum planning phone appointment, whichever comes later.

The Basics of Semester Reporting: At the end of every semester (so, twice a year)...

...1 Semester Report form. This is a report of the text; progress (in terms of course plan weeks, page, or chapter numbers completed); approximate hours spent in Math, Foreign Languages, and Non-STAA Courses; and grade for each course.

...16-18 High School Weekly Assignment Sheets (one for each week in the semester). These are maintained weekly by the student and teaching-parent so the communication between the parent & student about assignments, due dates, time spent, organization, scheduling, and grades does not break down. St. Thomas Aquinas Academy automatically generates these for students, but customized, equivalent forms are accepted. Whether using the official High School Weekly Assignment Sheets or a customized version, each week must clearly demonstrate that (1) it was communicated to the student what coursework was required for that school week; (2) that time was tracked in the courses that need it (Foreign Languages, Math, and Non-STAA Courses); and (3) that the student's coursework was graded on AT LEAST a weekly basis by his or her teaching-parent or tutor.

...2 quality work samples for each course you are reporting—one from each quarter. In our materials we discuss at length what a quality work sample looks like. Some examples: a report, book report, essay, composition piece, math test, science quiz, and the like. If you are not using a study guide for literature we do ask for two book reports or essays of comparable length to STAA book report formats per quarter.

...1 neat and complete Non-STAA Course (NSC) form for each quarter a Non-STAA Course is studied. While there is a great deal of flexibility in our program, we cannot award credits for courses we are unfamiliar with. Using our guidelines, you may develop a course and submit it to STAA for approval. Only St. Thomas Aquinas Academy approved courses may earn high school credits and mention on your student's transcript. As a homeschooler you may study the course with or without St. Thomas Aquinas Academy approval, but without our approval it will not appear on the report cards. When in doubt, ask! Our advisors will be happy to discuss with you which courses we can accept and which we cannot.

...School Days in Attendance. This is reported on the Semester Report form and is essential! The goal is at least ninety six-hour school days each semester (minimum 1080 hours of academics per year).

Semester 1 packets including all of the above listed paper and information are due before February 28. Semester 2 packets are due before July 1.

Substitutions and Non-STAA Courses

. While we encourage and accept reasonable book substitutions and the development of home-generated courses (courses NOT designed by St. Thomas Aquinas Academy), each year of high school over fifty percent of the high school student's academic credits must be from courses designed by St. Thomas Aquinas Academy for high school students in order to stay in our diploma program. For instance, if a student is taking Religion (10 credits), English (10 credits), Latin (10 credits), History (10 credits), Literature (10 credits), and Science (10 credits) then over 30 credits of this 60 credit plan must be from St. Thomas Aquinas Academy designed courses, following STAA weekly course plans.

. We refer to substitutions and home-generated courses as Non-STAA Courses (NSC). St. Thomas Aquinas Academy will gladly accept properly reported NSC courses as part of the student's academic plan. As stated in the High School Diploma Requirements, over 50% of a student's academic credits in each year of high school must be from St. Thomas Aquinas Academy courses. Dramatic departure from the STAA core plan tends to compromise the cohesiveness of the program and may leave holes in the development of certain college-preparatory skills. Please discuss any planned swapping of STAA courses for NSC courses with your academic planning advisor to verify that your plan will skill keep your student on track for graduation.

. Properly reported Non-STAA Courses showing adequate academic achievement WILL be eligible to appear on the report cards and transcript with a credit/no credit grade and labeled "Non-STAA Courses."

"Can we enroll in STAA and not participate in the high school diploma program?"

Yes, you may enroll your student in St. Thomas Aquinas Academy and choose not to participate in the diploma program. The STAA diploma program is an optional program available to enrolled students who wish to obtain a high school diploma and transcripts from St. Thomas Aquinas Academy. There is a per student fee due with the Course Registration form by September 30th of each year for all students who will be participating in St. Thomas Aquinas Academy's report card and/or high school diploma program. As of 1/5/2012, the annual fee to participate in the Report Card, Transcripts, and Diploma Program is \$35.00 per student.