

GRADUATION PROGRAMS

Passed by the 83rd Texas Legislature, House Bill 5 (HB5) revises the graduation program for a **STUDENT ENTERING GRADE 9 IN THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR AND ALL SUBSEQUENT YEARS**. HB5 states that the Foundation Plan with an Endorsement is the default high school graduation plan for all students. This plan requires that a student entering grade 9 specify in writing which endorsement he/she will earn.

DISCIPLINE	FOUNDATION HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM
ENGLISH	4 Credits: English I, II, III, and one additional English course
MATHEMATICS	3 Credits: Algebra I, Geometry, and one additional math course
SCIENCE	3 Credits: Biology, IPC or an advanced science course, and one additional science course
SOCIAL STUDIES	3 Credits: World Geography or World History, U.S. History, U.S. Government/Economics
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	1 Credit: Physical Education or state approved alternative (athletics, marching band, etc.)
FINE ARTS	1 Credit: Fine Arts
LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH	2 Credits: both credits in the same language
ELECTIVES	4 Credits: Electives
TOTAL = 21	
1	FOUNDATION HSP WITHOUT AN ENDORSEMENT <i>(Committee Approval Is Required)</i>
	+ 3 Credits: Elective Credits
TOTAL CREDITS WITHOUT ENDORSEMENT = 24	
2	FOUNDATION HSP WITH AN ENDORSEMENT <i>(The 5 Endorsements are listed in detail below)</i>
	+ 5 CREDITS - A STUDENT MAY EARN AN ENDORSEMENT BY SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETING: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four credits in mathematics • Four credits in science • Three additional elective credits
STEM	Includes courses directly related to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • science, including environmental science • technology, including computer science • engineering (PLTW) • advanced math • robotics
BUSINESS & INDUSTRY	Includes courses directly related to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • database management • information technology • communications • accounting • finance • marketing • graphic design • architecture • construction • welding • culinary arts and hospitality • automotive technology • agricultural science
PUBLIC SERVICES	Includes courses directly related to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • health sciences and medical occupation • education and training • military service in the armed forces (to include the Coast Guard and National Guard) • law enforcement
ARTS & HUMANITIES	Includes courses directly related to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • political science • world languages • cultural studies • English literature • history • fine arts
MULTIDISCIPLINARY STUDIES	Allows a student to select courses from the curriculum of each endorsement area and earn credits in a variety of advanced courses from multiple content areas sufficient to complete the distinguished level of achievement.
TOTAL CREDITS WITH ENDORSEMENTS = 26	
3	DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT <i>(Eligible for College Automatic Admissions)</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • four credits in math, including credit in Algebra II • four credits in science • completion of curriculum requirements for at least one endorsement
TOTAL CREDITS WITH ENDORSEMENTS = 26	
PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	A student may earn a performance acknowledgment on the student's transcript... <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For outstanding performance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ in a dual credit course ✓ in bilingualism and bi-literacy ✓ on an AP test or IB exam ✓ on the PSAT, the ACT-Plan, the SAT, or the ACT 2. For earning a nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certification or license