

Text of Proposed Amendment to 19 TAC

Chapter 74. Curriculum Requirements

Subchapter A. Required Curriculum

§74.3. Description of a Required Secondary Curriculum.

- (a) (No change.)
- (b) Secondary Grades 9-12.
 - (1) A school district that offers Grades 9-12 must provide instruction in the required curriculum as specified in §74.1 of this title. The district must ensure that sufficient time is provided for teachers to teach and for students to learn the subjects in the required curriculum. The school district may provide instruction in a variety of arrangements and settings, including mixed-age programs designed to permit flexible learning arrangements for developmentally appropriate instruction for all student populations to support student attainment of course and grade level standards.
 - (2) The school district must offer the courses listed in this paragraph and maintain evidence that students have the opportunity to take these courses:
 - (A) English language arts--English I, II, III, and IV and at least one additional advanced English course;
 - (B) mathematics--Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Precalculus, and Mathematical Models with Applications;
 - (C) science--Integrated Physics and Chemistry, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and at least two additional science courses selected from Aquatic Science, Astronomy, Earth and Space Science, Environmental Systems, Advanced Animal Science, Advanced Biotechnology, Advanced Plant and Soil Science, Anatomy and Physiology, Engineering Design and Problem Solving, Food Science, Forensic Science, Medical Microbiology, Pathophysiology, Scientific Research and Design, and Principles of Engineering. The requirement to offer two additional courses may be reduced to one by the commissioner of education upon application of a school district with a total high school enrollment of less than 500 students. Science courses shall include at least 40% hands-on laboratory investigations and field work using appropriate scientific inquiry;
 - (D) social studies--United States History Studies Since 1877, World History Studies, United States Government, World Geography Studies, Personal Financial Literacy, and Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits;
 - (E) physical education--at least two courses selected from Foundations of Personal Fitness, Adventure/Outdoor Education, Aerobic Activities, or Team or Individual Sports;
 - (F) fine arts--courses selected from at least two of the four fine arts areas (art, music, theatre, and dance)--Art I, II, III, IV; Music I, II, III, IV; Theatre I, II, III, IV; or Dance I, II, III, IV;
 - (G) career and technical education--coherent sequences of courses selected from at least three of the following sixteen career clusters:
 - (i) Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources;
 - (ii) Architecture and Construction;
 - (iii) Arts, Audio/Video Technology, and Communications;
 - (iv) Business Management and Administration;
 - (v) Education and Training;

- (vi) Finance;
 - (vii) Government and Public Administration;
 - (viii) Health Science;
 - (ix) Hospitality and Tourism;
 - (x) Human Services;
 - (xi) Information Technology;
 - (xii) Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security;
 - (xiii) Manufacturing;
 - (xiv) Marketing;
 - (xv) Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics; and
 - (xvi) Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics;
- (H) languages other than English--Levels I, II, and III or higher of the same language;
- (I) technology applications-- Computer Science I and Computer Science II or Advanced Placement (AP) Computer Science and at least two courses selected from Computer Science III, Digital Art and Animation, Digital Communications in the 21st Century, Digital Design and Media Production, Digital Forensics, Digital Video and Audio Design, Discrete Mathematics for Computer Science, Fundamentals of Computer Science, Game Programming and Design, Independent Study in Evolving/Emerging Technologies, Independent Study in Technology Applications, Mobile Application Development, Robotics Programming and Design, 3-D Modeling and Animation, Web Communications, Web Design, and Web Game Development; and
- (J) speech--Communication Applications.
- (3) Districts may offer additional courses from the complete list of courses approved by the State Board of Education to satisfy graduation requirements as referenced in this chapter.
- (4) The school district must provide each student the opportunity to participate in all courses listed in subsection (b)(2) of this section. The district must provide students the opportunity each year to select courses in which they intend to participate from a list that includes all courses required to be offered in subsection (b)(2) of this section. If the school district will not offer the required courses every year, but intends to offer particular courses only every other year, it must notify all enrolled students of that fact. A school district must teach a course that is specifically required for high school graduation at least once in any two consecutive school years. For a subject that has an end-of-course assessment, the district must either teach the course every year or employ options described in Subchapter C of this chapter (relating to Other Provisions) to enable students to earn credit for the course and must maintain evidence that it is employing those options.
- (5) For students entering Grade 9 beginning with the 2007-2008 school year, districts must ensure that one or more courses offered in the required curriculum for the recommended and advanced high school programs include a research writing component.
- (c) (No change.)