Text of Proposed Amendments to 19 TAC

Chapter 74. Curriculum Requirements

Subchapter B. Graduation Requirements

§74.11. High School Graduation Requirements.

(a) To receive a high school diploma, a student entering Grade 9 in the 2014-2015 school year and thereafter must complete the following:

(1) in accordance with subsection (c) of this section, requirements of the Foundation High School Program specified in §74.12 of this title (relating to Foundation High School Program);

(2) testing requirements for graduation as specified in Chapter 101 of this title (relating to Assessment); and

(3) demonstrated proficiency, as determined by the district in which the student is enrolled, in delivering clear verbal messages; choosing effective nonverbal behaviors; listening for desired results; applying valid critical-thinking and problem-solving processes; and identifying, analyzing, developing, and evaluating communication skills needed for professional and social success in interpersonal situations, group interactions, and personal and professional presentations.

(b) A school district shall clearly indicate the distinguished level of achievement under the Foundation High School Program, an endorsement, and a performance acknowledgment on the [~~diploma and~~] transcript or academic achievement record (AAR) of a student who satisfies the applicable requirements.

(c) A student entering Grade 9 in the 2014-2015 school year and thereafter shall enroll in the courses necessary to complete the curriculum requirements for the Foundation High School Program specified in §74.12 of this title and the curriculum requirements for at least one endorsement specified in §74.13 of this title (relating to Endorsements).

(d) A student may graduate under the Foundation High School Program without earning an endorsement if, after the student's sophomore year:

(1) the student and the student's parent or person standing in parental relation to the student are advised by a school counselor of the specific benefits of graduating from high school with one or more endorsements; and

(2) the student's parent or person standing in parental relation to the student files with a school counselor written permission, on a form adopted by the Texas Education Agency (TEA), allowing the student to graduate under the Foundation High School Program without earning an endorsement.

(e) A student may earn a distinguished level of achievement by successfully completing the curriculum requirements for the Foundation High School Program and the curriculum requirements for at least one endorsement required by the Texas Education Code (TEC), §28.025(b-15), including four credits in science and four credits in mathematics to include Algebra II.

(f) An out-of-state or out-of-country transfer student (including foreign exchange students) or a transfer student from a Texas nonpublic school is eligible to receive a Texas diploma, but must complete all requirements of this section to satisfy state graduation requirements. Any course credit required in this section that is not completed by the student before he or she enrolls in a Texas school district may be satisfied through the provisions of §74.23 of this title (relating to Correspondence Courses and Distance Learning) and §74.24 of this title (relating to Credit by Examination) or by completing the course or courses according to the provisions of §74.26 of this title (relating to Award of Credit).

(g) Elective credits may be selected from the following:

(1) high school courses not required for graduation that are listed in the following chapters of this title:

(A) Chapter 110 of this title (relating to Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for English Language Arts and Reading);

(B) Chapter 111 of this title (relating to Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Mathematics);

(C) Chapter 112 of this title (relating to Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Science);

(D) Chapter 113 of this title (relating to Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Social Studies);

(E) Chapter 114 of this title (relating to Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Languages Other Than English);

(F) Chapter 115 of this title (relating to Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Health Education);

(G) Chapter 116 of this title (relating to Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Physical Education);

(H) Chapter 117 of this title (relating to Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Fine Arts);

(I) Chapter 118 of this title (relating to Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits);

(J) Chapter 126 of this title (relating to Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Technology Applications);

(K) Chapter 127 of this title (relating to Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Career Development); and

(L) Chapter 130 of this title (relating to Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Career and Technical Education);

(2) state-approved innovative courses as specified in §74.27 of this title (relating to Innovative Courses and Programs);

(3) Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC)--one to four credits; and

(4) Driver Education--one-half credit.

(h) College Board Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate courses may be substituted as appropriate for required courses. A single College Board Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate course may not count toward more than one credit required for graduation. If a College Board Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate course is substituted for a required course, that course may not satisfy a requirement for an advanced course, but may count toward both a required course and an endorsement. College Board Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate courses may satisfy elective credit requirements.

(i) Courses offered for dual credit at or in conjunction with an institution of higher education that provide advanced academic instruction beyond, or in greater depth than, the essential knowledge and skills for the equivalent high school course required for graduation may satisfy graduation requirements, including requirements for required courses, advanced courses, and courses for elective credit as well as requirements for endorsements.

(j) A student may not be enrolled in a course that has a required prerequisite unless:

(1) the student has successfully completed the prerequisite course(s);

(2) the student has demonstrated equivalent knowledge as determined by the school district; or

(3) the student was already enrolled in the course in an out-of-state, an out-of-country, or a Texas nonpublic school and transferred to a Texas public school prior to successfully completing the course.

(k) A district may award credit for a course a student completed without meeting the prerequisites if the student completed the course in an out-of-state, an out-of-country, or a Texas nonpublic school where there was not a prerequisite.

(l) Each school district shall annually report to the TEA the names of the locally developed courses, programs, institutions of higher education, and internships in which the district's students have enrolled as authorized by the TEC, §28.002(g-1). The TEA shall make available information provided under this subsection to other districts. If a district chooses, it may submit any locally developed course for approval under §74.27 of this title as an innovative course.

§74.12. Foundation High School Program.

(a) Credits. A student must earn at least 22 credits to complete the Foundation High School Program.

(b) Core courses. A student must demonstrate proficiency in the following.

(1) English language arts--four credits. Three of the credits must consist of English I, II, and III. (Students with limited English proficiency who are at the beginning or intermediate level of English language proficiency, as defined by §74.4(d) of this title (relating to English Language Proficiency Standards), may satisfy the English I and English II graduation requirements by successfully completing English I for Speakers of Other Languages and English II for Speakers of Other Languages.) After the successful completion of English I, II, and III, the [~~The~~] additional credit may be selected from one full credit or a combination of two half credits from two different courses, subject to prerequisite requirements, from the following courses:

(A) English IV;

(B) Independent Study in English;

(C) Literary Genres;

(D) Creative Writing;

(E) Research and Technical Writing;

(F) Humanities;

(G) Public Speaking III;

(H) Communication Applications, which must be combined with another half credit from the other courses listed in subparagraphs (A)-(G) and (I)-(T) of this paragraph;

(I) Oral Interpretation III;

(J) Debate III;

(K) Independent Study in Speech;

(L) Independent Study in Journalism;

(M) Advanced Broadcast Journalism III;

(N) Advanced Journalism: Newspaper III;

(O) Advanced Journalism: Yearbook III;

(P) Advanced Placement (AP) English Literature and Composition;

(Q) International Baccalaureate (IB) Language Studies A1 Higher Level;

(R) after the successful completion of English I, II, and III, a locally developed English language arts course or other activity, including an apprenticeship or training hours needed to obtain an industry-recognized credential or certificate that is developed pursuant to the Texas Education Code (TEC), §28.002(g-1);

(S) Business English; and

(T) a college preparatory English language arts course that is developed pursuant to the TEC, §28.014.

(2) Mathematics--three credits. Two of the credits must consist of Algebra I and Geometry.

(A) The additional credit may be selected from one full credit or a combination of two half credits from two different courses, subject to prerequisite requirements, from the following courses or a credit selected from the courses listed in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph:

(i) Mathematical Models with Applications;

(ii) Mathematical Applications in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources;

(iii) Digital Electronics; [~~and~~]

(iv) Robotics Programming and Design ; and [~~.~~]

(v) Financial Mathematics.

(B) The additional credit may be selected from one full credit or a combination of two half credits from two different courses, subject to prerequisite requirements, from the following courses:

(i) Algebra II;

(ii) Precalculus;

(iii) Advanced Quantitative Reasoning;

(iv) Independent Study in Mathematics;

(v) Discrete Mathematics for Problem Solving;

(vi) Algebraic Reasoning;

(vii) Statistics;

(viii) AP Statistics;

(ix) AP Calculus AB;

(x) AP Calculus BC;

(xi) AP Computer Science;

(xii) IB Mathematical Studies Standard Level;

(xiii) IB Mathematics Standard Level;

(xiv) IB Mathematics Higher Level;

(xv) IB Further Mathematics Higher Level;

(xvi) Engineering Mathematics;

(xvii) Statistics and Risk Management;

(xviii) Discrete Mathematics for Computer Science;

(xix) pursuant to the TEC, §28.025(b-5), after the successful completion of Algebra II, a mathematics course endorsed by an institution of higher education as a course for which the institution would award course credit or as a prerequisite for a course for which the institution would award course credit. The Texas Education Agency (TEA) shall maintain a current list of courses offered under this subparagraph; and

(xx) after the successful completion of Algebra I and Geometry, a locally developed mathematics course or other activity, including an apprenticeship or training

hours needed to obtain an industry-recognized credential or certificate that is developed pursuant to the TEC, §28.002(g-1).

(3) Science--three credits. One credit must consist of Biology, AP Biology, or IB Biology.

(A) One credit must be selected from the following laboratory-based courses:

(i) Integrated Physics and Chemistry;

(ii) Chemistry;

(iii) AP Chemistry;

(iv) IB Chemistry;

(v) Physics;

(vi) Principles of Technology;

(vii) AP Physics 1: Algebra-Based; and

(viii) IB Physics.

(B) The additional credit may be selected from one full credit or a combination of two half credits from two different courses, subject to prerequisite requirements, from the following laboratory-based courses:

(i) Chemistry;

(ii) Physics;

(iii) Aquatic Science;

(iv) Astronomy;

(v) Earth and Space Science;

(vi) Environmental Systems;

(vii) AP Biology;

(viii) AP Chemistry;

(ix) AP Physics 1: Algebra-Based;

(x) AP Physics 2: Algebra-Based;

(xi) AP Physics C : Electricity and Magnetism ;

(xii) AP Physics C: Mechanics;

(xiii) [~~(xii)~~] AP Environmental Science;

(xiv) [~~(xiii)~~] IB Biology;

(xv) [~~(xiv)~~] IB Chemistry;

(xvi) [~~(xv)~~] IB Physics;

(xvii) [~~(xvi)~~] IB Environmental Systems;

(xviii) [~~(xvii)~~] Advanced Animal Science;

(xix) [~~(xviii)~~] Advanced Plant and Soil Science;

(xx) [~~(xix)~~] Anatomy and Physiology;

(xxi) [~~(xx)~~] Medical Microbiology;

(xxii) [~~(xxi)~~] Pathophysiology;

(xxiii) [~~(xxii)~~] Food Science;

(xxiv) [~~(xxiii)~~] Forensic Science;

(xxv) [~~(xxiv)~~] Advanced Biotechnology;

(xxvi) [~~(xxv)~~] Principles of Technology;

(xxvii) [~~(xxvi)~~] Scientific Research and Design;

(xxviii) [~~(xxvii)~~] Engineering Design and Problem Solving;

(xxix) [~~(xxviii)~~] Principles of Engineering;

(xxx) [~~(xxix)~~] pursuant to the TEC, §28.025(b-5), after the successful completion of physics, a science course endorsed by an institution of higher education as a course for which the institution would award course credit or as a prerequisite for a course for which the institution would award course credit. The TEA shall maintain a current list of courses offered under this clause; and

(xxxi) [~~(xxx)~~] a locally developed science course or other activity, including an apprenticeship or training hours needed to obtain an industry-recognized credential or certificate that is developed pursuant to the TEC, §28.002(g-1).

(C) Credit may not be earned for both physics and Principles of Technology to satisfy science credit requirements.

(4) Social studies--three credits. Two of the credits must consist of United States History Studies Since 1877 (one credit), United States Government (one-half credit), and Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits (one-half credit). The additional credit may be selected from the following courses:

(A) World History Studies; and

(B) World Geography Studies . [~~; and~~]

[~~(C) Combined World History/World Geography.~~]

(5) Languages other than English (LOTE)--two credits.

(A) The credits may be selected from the following:

(i) any two levels in the same language; or

(ii) two credits in computer programming languages selected from Computer Science, I, II, and III.

[~~(iii) The provision relating to Computer Science I, II, and III in clause (ii) of this subparagraph applies to credits earned before September 1, 2016. Credits earned for Computer Science I, II, and III may not satisfy LOTE credit requirements on or after September 1, 2016, and may not be used to comply with this paragraph. The provision relating to Computer Science I, II, and III in clause (ii) of this subparagraph expires September 1, 2017.~~]

(B) If a student, in completing the first credit of LOTE, demonstrates that the student is unlikely to be able to complete the second credit, the student may substitute another appropriate course as follows:

(i) Special Topics in Language and Culture;

(ii) World History Studies or World Geography Studies for a student who is not required to complete both by the local district;

(iii) another credit selected from Chapter 114 of this title (relating to Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Languages Other Than English); or

(iv) computer programming languages.

(C) The determination regarding a student's ability to complete the second credit of LOTE must be agreed to by:

(i) the teacher of the first LOTE credit course or another LOTE teacher designated by the school district , the principal or designee, and the student's parent or person standing in parental relation;

(ii) the student's admission, review, and dismissal (ARD) committee if the student receives special education services under the TEC, Chapter 29, Subchapter A; or

(iii) the committee established for the student under Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 United States Code, Section 794) if the student does not receive special education services under the TEC, Chapter 29, Subchapter A, but is covered by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

(D) A student, who due to a disability, is unable to complete two credits in the same language in a language other than English, may substitute a combination of two credits from English language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies or two credits in career and technical education or technology applications for the LOTE credit requirements. The determination regarding a student's ability to complete the LOTE credit requirements will be made by:

(i) the student's ARD committee if the student receives special education services under the TEC, Chapter 29, Subchapter A; or

(ii) the committee established for the student under Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 United States Code (USC), §794) if the student does not receive special education services under the TEC, Chapter 29, Subchapter A, but is covered by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

(6) Physical education--one credit.

(A) The required credit may be selected from any combination of the following one-half to one credit courses:

(i) Foundations of Personal Fitness;

(ii) Adventure/Outdoor Education;

(iii) Aerobic Activities; and

(iv) Team or Individual Sports.

(B) In accordance with local district policy, the required credit may be earned through completion of any Texas essential knowledge and skills-based course that meets the requirement in subparagraph (E) of this paragraph for 100 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity per five-day school week and that is not being used to satisfy another specific graduation requirement.

(C) In accordance with local district policy, credit for any of the courses listed in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph may be earned through participation in the following activities:

(i) Athletics;

(ii) Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC); and

(iii) appropriate private or commercially sponsored physical activity programs conducted on or off campus. The district must apply to the commissioner of education for approval of such programs, which may be substituted for state graduation credit in physical education. Such approval may be granted under the following conditions.

(I) Olympic-level participation and/or competition includes a minimum of 15 hours per week of highly intensive, professional, supervised training. The training facility, instructors, and the activities involved in the program must be certified by the superintendent to be of exceptional quality. Students qualifying and participating at this level may be dismissed from school one hour per day. Students dismissed may not miss any class other than physical education.

(II) Private or commercially sponsored physical activities include those certified by the superintendent to be of high quality and well supervised by appropriately trained instructors. Student participation of at least five hours per week must be required. Students certified to participate at this level may not be dismissed from any part of the regular school day.

(D) In accordance with local district policy, up to one credit for any one of the courses listed in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph may be earned through participation in any of the following activities:

(i) Drill Team;

(ii) Marching Band; and

(iii) Cheerleading.

(E) All substitution activities allowed in subparagraphs (B)-(D) of this paragraph must include at least 100 minutes per five-day school week of moderate to vigorous physical activity.

(F) Credit may not be earned more than once for any course identified in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph. No more than four substitution credits may be earned through any combination of substitutions allowed in subparagraphs (B)-(D) of this paragraph.

(G) A student who is unable to participate in physical activity due to disability or illness may substitute an academic elective credit (English language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies) or a course that is offered for credit as provided by the TEC, §28.002(g-1), for the physical education credit requirement. The determination regarding a student's ability to participate in physical activity will be made by:

(i) the student's ARD committee if the student receives special education services under the TEC, Chapter 29, Subchapter A;

(ii) the committee established for the student under Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 USC, §794) if the student does not receive special education services under the TEC, Chapter 29, Subchapter A, but is covered by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; or

(iii) a committee established by the school district of persons with appropriate knowledge regarding the student if each of the committees described by clauses (i) and (ii) of this subparagraph is inapplicable. This committee shall follow the same procedures required of an ARD or a Section 504 committee.

(7) Fine arts--one credit.

(A) The credit may be selected from the following courses subject to prerequisite requirements:

(i) Art, Level I, II, III, or IV;

(ii) Dance, Level I, II, III, or IV;

(iii) Music, Level I, II, III, or IV;

(iv) Music Studies;

(v) [~~(iv)~~] Theatre, Level I, II, III, or IV;

(vi) Musical Theatre, Level I, II, III, or IV;

(vii) Technical Theatre, Level I, II, III, or IV;

(viii) [~~(v)~~] Principles and Elements of Floral Design;

(ix) [~~(vi)~~] Digital Art and Animation; and

(x) [~~(vii)~~] 3-D Modeling and Animation.

(B) In accordance with local district policy, credit may be earned through participation in a community-based fine arts program not provided by the school district in which the student is enrolled. The district must apply to the commissioner of education for approval of such programs, which may be substituted for state graduation credit in fine arts. Approval may be granted if the fine arts program provides instruction in the essential knowledge and skills identified for a fine arts course as defined by Chapter 117, Subchapter C, of this title (relating to High School).

(c) Elective courses--five credits. The credits must be selected from the list of courses specified in §74.11(g), (h), or (i) of this title (relating to High School Graduation Requirements) or from a locally developed course or activity developed pursuant to the TEC, §28.002(g-1), for which a student may receive credit and that does not satisfy a specific course requirement.

(d) Substitutions. No substitutions are allowed in the Foundation High School Program, except as specified in this chapter.

§74.13. Endorsements.

(a) A student shall specify in writing an endorsement the student intends to earn upon entering Grade 9.

(b) A district shall permit a student to enroll in courses under more than one endorsement before the student's junior year and to choose, at any time, to earn an endorsement other than the endorsement the student previously indicated. This section does not entitle a student to remain enrolled to earn more than 26 credits.

(c) A student must earn at least 26 credits to earn an endorsement.

(d) A school district may define advanced courses and determine a coherent sequence of courses for an endorsement area, provided that prerequisites in Chapters 110-118, 126, 127, and 130 of this title are followed.

(e) To earn an endorsement a student must demonstrate proficiency in the following.

(1) The curriculum requirements for the Foundation High School Program as defined by §74.12 of this title (relating to Foundation High School Program).

(2) A fourth credit in mathematics that may be selected from one full credit or a combination of two half credits from two different courses, subject to prerequisite requirements, from the following courses:

(A) Algebra II;

(B) Precalculus;

(C) Advanced Quantitative Reasoning;

(D) Independent Study in Mathematics;

(E) Discrete Mathematics for Problem Solving;

(F) Algebraic Reasoning;

(G) Statistics;

(H) Advanced Placement (AP) Statistics;

(I) AP Calculus AB;

(J) AP Calculus BC;

(K) AP Computer Science;

(L) International Baccalaureate (IB) Mathematical Studies Standard Level;

(M) IB Mathematics Standard Level;

(N) IB Mathematics Higher Level;

(O) IB Further Mathematics Higher Level;

(P) Engineering Mathematics;

(Q) Statistics and Risk Management;

(R) Discrete Mathematics for Computer Science;

(S) pursuant to the Texas Education Code (TEC), §28.025(b-5), after the successful completion of Algebra II, a mathematics course endorsed by an institution of higher education as a course for which the institution would award course credit or as a prerequisite for a course for which the institution would award course credit. The Texas Education Agency (TEA) shall maintain a current list of courses offered under this subparagraph; and

(T) after the successful completion of Algebra I and Geometry, a locally developed mathematics course or other activity, including an apprenticeship or training hours needed to obtain an industry-recognized credential or certificate that is developed pursuant to the TEC, §28.002(g-1) . [~~; and~~]

[~~(U) Mathematical Models with Applications, if credit is earned prior to September 1, 2015, or September 1 of a subsequent year in which either of the courses listed in subparagraph (F) or (G) of this paragraph has been developed and approved by the State Board of Education, whichever is later.~~]

(3) A student may complete a course listed in paragraph (2) of this subsection before or after completing a course listed in §74.12(b)(2)(A) of this title.

(4) The fourth mathematics credit may be a college preparatory mathematics course that is developed and offered pursuant to the TEC, §28.014.

(5) An additional credit in science that may be selected from one full credit or a combination of two half credits from two different courses, subject to prerequisite requirements, from the following courses:

(A) Chemistry;

(B) Physics;

(C) Aquatic Science;

(D) Astronomy;

(E) Earth and Space Science;

(F) Environmental Systems;

(G) AP Biology;

(H) AP Chemistry;

(I) AP Physics 1: Algebra-Based;

(J) AP Physics 2: Algebra-Based;

(K) AP Physics C : Electricity and Magnetism ;

(L) AP Physics C: Mechanics;

(M) [~~(L)~~] AP Environmental Science;

(N) [~~(M)~~] IB Biology;

(O) [~~(N)~~] IB Chemistry;

(P) [~~(O)~~]IB Physics;

(Q) [~~(P)~~]IB Environmental Systems;

(R) [~~(Q)~~] Advanced Animal Science;

(S) [~~(R)~~] Advanced Plant and Soil Science;

(T) [~~(S)~~] Anatomy and Physiology;

(U) [~~(T)~~]Medical Microbiology;

(V) [~~(U)~~] Pathophysiology;

(W) [~~(V)~~] Food Science;

(X) [~~(W)~~] Forensic Science;

(Y) [~~(X)~~] Advanced Biotechnology;

(Z) [~~(Y)~~]Principles of Technology;

(AA) [~~(Z)~~] Scientific Research and Design;

(BB) [~~(AA)~~] Engineering Design and Problem Solving;

(CC) [~~(BB)~~] Principles of Engineering;

(DD) [~~(CC)~~] pursuant to the TEC, §28.025(b-5), after the successful completion of physics, a science course endorsed by an institution of higher education as a course for which the institution would award course credit or as a prerequisite for a course for which the institution would award course credit. The TEA shall maintain a current list of courses offered under this subparagraph;

(EE) [~~(DD)~~] a locally developed science course or other activity, including an apprenticeship or training hours needed to obtain an industry-recognized credential or certificate that is developed pursuant to the TEC, §28.002(g-1);

(FF) [~~(EE)~~] pursuant to the TEC, §28.025(c-3), a student pursuing an arts and humanities endorsement who has the written permission of the student's parent or a person standing in parental relation to the student may substitute a course that is not being used to satisfy another specific graduation requirement selected from:

(i) Chapter 110 of this title (relating to Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for English Language Arts and Reading);

(ii) Chapter 113 of this title (relating to Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Social Studies) or Chapter 118 of this title (relating to Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits);

(iii) Chapter 114 of this title (relating to Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Languages Other Than English); or

(iv) Chapter 117 of this title (relating to Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Fine Arts); and

(GG) [~~(FF)~~] credit may not be earned for both physics and Principles of Technology to satisfy science credit requirements.

(6) Two additional elective credits that may be selected from the list of courses specified in §74.11(g), (h), or (i) of this title (relating to High School Graduation Requirements).

(f) A student may earn any of the following endorsements.

(1) Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). A student may earn a STEM endorsement by completing the requirements specified in subsection (e) of this section, including Algebra II, chemistry, and physics or Principles of Technology and:

(A) a coherent sequence of courses for four or more credits in career and technical education (CTE) that consists of at least two courses in the same career cluster and [~~, including~~] at least one advanced CTE course [~~, which includes any course that is the third or higher course in a sequence~~] . The courses may be selected from Chapter 130 of this title (relating to Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Career and Technical Education), Chapter 127 of this title (relating to Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Career Development), or CTE innovative courses approved by the commissioner of education. The final course in the sequence must be selected [~~obtained~~] from [~~one of the CTE career clusters listed in~~] Chapter 130, Subchapter O, of this title (relating to Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) or Career Preparation I or II and Problems and Solutions in Chapter 127, Subchapter B, of this title if the course addresses a STEM-related field ; or

(B) a coherent sequence of four credits in computer science selected from the following:

(i) Fundamentals of Computer Science; or

(ii) Computer Science I; or

(iii) Computer Science II; or

(iv) Computer Science III; or

(v) Digital Forensics; or

(vi) Discrete Mathematics for Computer Science; or

(vii) Game Programming and Design; or

(viii) Mobile Application Development; or

(ix) Robotics Programming and Design; or

(x) Independent Studies in Technology Applications; or

(xi) AP Computer Science; or

(xii) IB Computer Science, Standard Level; or

(xiii) IB Computer Science, Higher Level; or

(C) three credits in mathematics by successfully completing Algebra II and two additional mathematics courses for which Algebra II is a prerequisite by selecting courses from subsection (e)(2) of this section; or

(D) four credits in science by successfully completing chemistry, physics, and two additional science courses by selecting courses from subsection (e)(5) of this section; or

(E) in addition to Algebra II, chemistry, and physics, a coherent sequence of three additional credits from no more than two of the categories or disciplines represented by subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), and (D) of this paragraph.

(2) Business and industry. A student may earn a business and industry endorsement by completing the requirements specified in subsection (e) of this section and:

(A) a coherent sequence of courses for four or more credits in CTE that consists of at least two courses in the same career cluster and [~~, including~~] at least one advanced CTE course

[~~, which includes any course that is the third or higher course in a sequence~~] . The courses may be selected from Chapter 130 of this title, Chapter 127 of this title, or CTE innovative courses approved by the commissioner. The final course in the sequence must be selected [~~obtained~~] from one of the [~~CTE career clusters listed in the~~] following:

(i) Chapter 130, Subchapter A, of this title (relating to Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources); or

(ii) Chapter 130, Subchapter B, of this title (relating to Architecture and Construction); or

(iii) Chapter 130, Subchapter C, of this title (relating to Arts, Audio/Video Technology, and Communications); or

(iv) Chapter 130, Subchapter D, of this title (relating to Business Management and Administration); or

(v) Chapter 130, Subchapter F, of this title (relating to Finance); or

(vi) Chapter 130, Subchapter I, of this title (relating to Hospitality and Tourism); or

(vii) Chapter 130, Subchapter K, of this title (relating to Information Technology); or

(viii) Chapter 130, Subchapter M, of this title (relating to Manufacturing); or

(ix) Chapter 130, Subchapter N, of this title (relating to Marketing); or

(x) Chapter 130, Subchapter P, of this title (relating to Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics); or

(xi) Career Preparation I or II and Problems and Solutions in Chapter 127, Subchapter B, of this title if the course addresses a career from a field listed in clauses (i)-(x) of this subparagraph; or

(B) four English [~~elective~~] credits by selecting courses from Chapter 110 of this title to include three levels in one of the following areas:

(i) public speaking; or

(ii) debate; or

(iii) advanced broadcast journalism; or

(iv) advanced journalism: newspaper; or

(v) advanced journalism: yearbook; or

(vi) advanced journalism: literary magazine; or

(C) four technology applications credits by selecting from the following:

(i) Digital Design and Media Production; or

(ii) Digital Art and Animation; or

(iii) 3-D Modeling and Animation; or

(iv) Digital Communications in the 21st Century; or

(v) Digital Video and Audio Design; or

(vi) Web Communications; or

(vii) Web Design; or

(viii) Web Game Development; or

(ix) Independent Study in Evolving/Emerging Technologies; or

(D) a coherent sequence of four credits from subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) of this paragraph.

(3) Public services. A student may earn a public services endorsement by completing the requirements specified in subsection (e) of this section and:

(A) a coherent sequence of courses for four or more credits in CTE that consists of at least two courses in the same career cluster and [~~, including~~] at least one advanced CTE course [~~, which includes any course that is the third or higher course in a sequence~~] . The courses may be selected from Chapter 130 of this title, Chapter 127 of this title, or CTE innovative courses approved by the commissioner. The final course in the sequence must be selected [~~obtained~~] from one of the [~~CTE career clusters listed in the~~] following:

(i) Chapter 130, Subchapter E, of this title (relating to Education and Training); or

(ii) Chapter 130, Subchapter G, of this title (relating to Government and Public Administration); or

(iii) Chapter 130, Subchapter H, of this title (relating to Health Science); or

(iv) Chapter 130, Subchapter J, of this title (relating to Human Services); or

(v) Chapter 130, Subchapter L, of this title (relating to Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security); or

(vi) Career Preparation I or II and Problems and Solutions in Chapter 127, Subchapter B, of this title if the course addresses a field from a cluster listed in clauses (i)-(v) of this subparagraph; or

(B) four courses in Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC).

(4) Arts and humanities. A student may earn an arts and humanities endorsement by completing the requirements specified in subsection (e) of this section and:

(A) five social studies credits by selecting courses from Chapter 113 of this title or Chapter 118 of this title (relating to Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits); or

(B) four levels of the same language in a language other than English by selecting courses in accordance with Chapter 114 of this title; or

(C) two levels of the same language in a language other than English and two levels of a different language in a language other than English by selecting courses in accordance with Chapter 114 of this title; or

(D) four levels of American sign language by selecting courses in accordance with Chapter 114 of this title; or

(E) a coherent sequence of four credits by selecting courses from one or two categories or disciplines in fine arts from Chapter 117 of this title or innovative courses approved by the commissioner; or

(F) four English [~~elective~~] credits by selecting from the following:

(i) English IV; or

(ii) Independent Study in English; or

(iii) Literary Genres; or

(iv) Creative Writing; or

(v) Research and Technical Writing; or

(vi) Humanities; or

(vii) Communication Applications; or

(viii) AP English Literature and Composition; or

(ix) IB Language Studies A1 Higher Level.

(5) Multidisciplinary studies. A student may earn a multidisciplinary studies endorsement by completing the requirements specified in subsection (e) of this section and:

(A) four advanced courses that prepare a student to enter the workforce successfully or postsecondary education without remediation from within one endorsement area or among endorsement areas that are not in a coherent sequence; or

(B) four credits in each of the four foundation subject areas to include English IV and chemistry and/or physics; or

(C) four credits in Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, or dual credit selected from English, mathematics, science, social studies, economics, languages other than English, or fine arts.

(g) A course completed as part of the set of four courses needed to satisfy an endorsement requirement may also satisfy a requirement under §74.12(b) and (c) of this title and subsection (e)(2), (4), (5), and (6) of this section , including an elective requirement. The same course may count as part of the set of four courses for more than one endorsement.

§74.14. Performance Acknowledgments.

(a) A student may earn a performance acknowledgment on the student's [~~diploma and~~] transcript for outstanding performance in a dual credit course by successfully completing:

(1) at least 12 hours of college academic courses, including those taken for dual credit as part of the Texas core curriculum, and advanced technical credit courses, including locally articulated courses, with a grade of the equivalent of 3.0 or higher on a scale of 4.0; or

(2) an associate degree while in high school.

(b) A student may earn a performance acknowledgment on the student's [~~diploma and~~] transcript for outstanding performance in bilingualism and biliteracy as follows.

(1) A student may earn a performance acknowledgment by demonstrating proficiency in accordance with local school district grading policy in two or more languages by:

(A) completing all English language arts requirements and maintaining a minimum grade point average (GPA) of the equivalent of 80 on a scale of 100; and

(B) satisfying one of the following:

(i) completion of a minimum of three credits in the same language in a language other than English with a minimum GPA of the equivalent of 80 on a scale of 100; or

(ii) demonstrated proficiency in the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Level IV or higher in a language other than English with a minimum GPA of the equivalent of 80 on a scale of 100; or

(iii) completion of at least three credits in foundation subject area courses in a language other than English with a minimum GPA of 80 on a scale of 100; or

(iv) demonstrated proficiency in one or more languages other than English through one of the following methods:

(I) a score of 3 or higher on a College Board Advanced Placement examination for a language other than English; or

(II) a score of 4 or higher on an International Baccalaureate examination for a higher-level languages other than English course; or

(III) performance on a national assessment of language proficiency in a language other than English of at least Intermediate High or its equivalent.

(2) In addition to meeting the requirements of paragraph (1) of this subsection, to earn a performance acknowledgment in bilingualism and biliteracy, an English language learner must also have:

(A) participated in and met the exit criteria for a bilingual or English as a second language (ESL) program; and

(B) scored at the Advanced High level on the Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS).

(c) A student may earn a performance acknowledgment on the student's [~~diploma and~~] transcript for outstanding performance on a College Board Advanced Placement test or International Baccalaureate examination by earning:

(1) a score of 3 or above on a College Board Advanced Placement examination; or

(2) a score of 4 or above on an International Baccalaureate examination.

(d) A student may earn a performance acknowledgment on the student's [~~diploma and~~] transcript for outstanding performance on an established, valid, reliable, and nationally norm-referenced preliminary college preparation assessment instrument used to measure a student's progress toward readiness for college and the workplace or on an established valid, reliable, and nationally norm-referenced assessment instrument used by colleges and universities as part of their undergraduate admissions process [~~the PSAT®, the ACT PLAN®, the SAT®, or the ACT®~~] by:

(1) earning a score on the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®) that qualifies the student for recognition as a commended scholar or higher by the College Board and National Merit Scholarship Corporation, as part of the National Hispanic Recognition Program (NHRP) of the College Board or as part of the National Achievement Scholarship Program of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation;

(2) achieving the college readiness benchmark score on at least two of the four subject tests on the ACT Aspire™ [~~ACT PLAN®~~] examination;

(3) earning a combined critical reading and mathematics score of at least 1250 on the SAT®; or

(4) earning a composite score on the ACT® examination of 28 (excluding the writing subscore).

(e) A student may earn a performance acknowledgment on the student's [~~diploma and~~] transcript for earning a state-recognized or nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certification or license as follows.

(1) A student may earn a performance acknowledgment with:

(A) performance on an examination or series of examinations sufficient to obtain a nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certification; or

(B) performance on an examination sufficient to obtain a government-required credential to practice a profession.

(2) Nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certification shall be defined as an industry-validated [~~industry validated~~] credential that complies with knowledge and skills standards promulgated by a nationally or internationally recognized business, industry, professional, or government entity representing a particular profession or occupation that is issued by or endorsed by:

(A) a national or international business, industry, or professional organization;

(B) a state agency or other government entity; or

(C) a state-based industry association.

(3) Certifications or licensures for performance acknowledgements shall:

(A) be age appropriate for high school students;

(B) represent a student's substantial course of study and/or end-of-program knowledge and skills;

(C) include an industry-recognized [~~industry-recognized~~] examination or series of examinations, an industry-validated [~~industry-validated~~] skill test, or demonstrated proficiency through documented, supervised field experience; and

(D) represent substantial knowledge and multiple skills needed for successful entry into a high-skill occupation.