Foundation High School Program

A new, more flexible graduation program that allows students to pursue their interests will be in place for all students who enter high school, beginning in the 2014-2015 school year.

The program contains up to four parts:
• A 22-credit foundation program which is the core of the new Texas high school diploma
• Five endorsement* options that allow students to focus on a related series of courses
• A higher performance category called Distinguished Level of Achievement
• Performance Acknowledgments that note outstanding achievement

The Foundation requirements (22 credits) include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English (4 credits)</th>
<th>Mathematics (3 credits)</th>
<th>Science (3 credits)</th>
<th>Social Studies (3 credits)</th>
<th>Languages Other Than English (2 credits)</th>
<th>Physical Education (1 credit)</th>
<th>Fine Arts (1 credit)</th>
<th>Electives (5 credits)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English I</td>
<td>Algebra I</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>World History or World Geography</td>
<td>2 credits in the same language or 2 credits from Computer Science I, II, III</td>
<td>Speech: Demonstrated proficiency</td>
<td>Fine Arts: Demonstrated proficiency</td>
<td>Electives: 5 credits</td>
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<tr>
<td>English II</td>
<td>Geometry</td>
<td>Integrated Physics &amp; Chemistry or an advanced science course</td>
<td>U.S. Government (one-half credit)</td>
<td>U.S. History</td>
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<tr>
<td>English III</td>
<td></td>
<td>An advanced science course</td>
<td>Economics (one-half credit)</td>
<td>Languages Other Than English (2 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>An advanced English course</td>
<td>An advanced math course</td>
<td>Science Other Than English (2 credits)</td>
<td>Languages Other Than English (2 credits)</td>
<td>Languages Other Than English (2 credits)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Endorsements Total credits with endorsements 26

Enhancements

Additionally, a student may earn the Distinguished Level of Achievement and/or a Performance Acknowledgment for outstanding performance. The Distinguished Level of Achievement must be earned to be admitted to a Texas public university under the Top 10 percent automatic admission law.

Distinguished Level of Achievement
• Foundation Program requirements
• 4 credits in math including Algebra II
• 4 credits in science
• at least 1 endorsement

Performance Acknowledgments
• dual credit course
• bilingualism and biliteracy
• PSAT, ACT’s Plan, SAT or ACT
• Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate exam
• earning a nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certification or license

*A student entering 9th grade must indicate an endorsement he or she plans to follow. A student may change or add an endorsement at any time.

A student may graduate without earning an endorsement if, after his or her sophomore year, the student’s parent signs a form permitting the student to omit the endorsement requirement.