Required Curriculum

SHELLY RAMOS

CURRICULUM STANDARDS AND STUDENT SUPPORT
State law requires schools to offer the required curriculum.

Foundation Curriculum—
• English language arts
• Mathematics
• Science
• Social studies

Enrichment Curriculum—
• Career and technical education
• Fine arts
• Health education, with emphasis on physical and mental health
• Languages other than English
• Physical education
• Technology applications
No state requirements for **instructional time**. This is locally established.

However, schools must ensure that “sufficient time is provided for teachers to teach and students to learn” all of the TEKS for a subject or course.

A variety of flexible instructional arrangements and settings are permitted.
SBOE rules establish what schools must make available to students.

**Required Elementary Curriculum**

Must offer any course for which there are TEKS at a specific grade level—

- English language arts & reading, K-5
- Mathematics, K-5
- Science, K-5
- Social studies, K-5
- Fine arts, K-5 art, music, and theatre
- Health, K-5
- Languages other than English (LOTE), to the extent possible
- Physical education (PE), K-5
- Technology applications, K-2 and 3-5
Required Secondary Curriculum

Middle School: Must offer any course for which there are TEKS at a specific grade level—

- English language arts & reading, 6-8
- Mathematics, 6-8
- Science, 6-8
- Social studies, 6-8
- Fine arts: offer 3 of the 4 disciplines
  Students must complete at least one TEKS-based fine arts course in grades 6, 7, or 8
- Health education, 6 and 7-8
- LOTE, to the extent possible
- PE, 6-8
- Technology applications, 6-8
Required Secondary Curriculum

High School: The school district must offer the courses listed and maintain evidence that students have the opportunity to take courses identified by SBOE rule in TAC, §74.3(b).

http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/rules/tac/chapter074/ch074a.html#74.3

A few notes:

- Career and technical education: a coherent sequence of courses from at least three career clusters
- LOTE: levels I, II, and III or higher of the same language
- Science: exemption for districts with fewer than 500 students
The TEKS are curriculum standards that identify what students must know and be able to do at the end of each subject or course.

Curriculum and instructional materials are determined by the local education agency.

http://tea.texas.gov/curriculum/teks/
The SBOE regularly reviews and updates the TEKS.

2019-2020

- New K-8 TEKS for English and Spanish language arts and reading
- Streamlined social studies TEKS for grades 6-8 and five high school courses (Economics, U.S. History, World History, World Geography, and U.S. Government)

2020-2021

- New high school TEKS for English language arts and reading and ESOL
- Streamlined social studies TEKS for K-5
The current TEKS are the required curriculum standards and will remain in TAC until the new TEKS are implemented.

The new reading and language arts TEKS are indicated in the TAC with “Adopted 2017” in the title.

The streamlined social studies are currently available on the Social Studies TEKS Streamlining web page and will be added to the TAC on their effective date, August 1, 2019.
Upcoming revisions to state curriculum standards:

- English language proficiency standards (ELPS)**
- Health education
- Physical education
- Science
- CTE (STEM and health science)

**The ELPS are required to be included in instruction for each subject in the required curriculum.
19 TAC Chapter 110. Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for English Language Arts and Reading

Subchapter C. High School

§110.36. English Language Arts and Reading, English I (One Credit), Adopted 2017.

§110.37. English Language Arts and Reading, English II (One Credit), Adopted 2017.

§110.38. English Language Arts and Reading, English III (One Credit), Adopted 2017.

§110.39. English Language Arts and Reading, English IV (One Credit), Adopted 2017.
Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)

- Readiness and supporting standards relate only to student assessment and are not inclusive of all the TEKS for a particular course.
- Prekindergarten Guidelines are voluntary.
- College and Career Readiness Standards have been incorporated in the TEKS.
Foundation High School Program: the only graduation program available for students who entered grade 9 beginning in 2014-2015

- Foundation only = 22-credit program
- Endorsements and Distinguished Level of Achievement = 26-credit program
- Specific course requirements for endorsements

Foundation High School Program information:
http://tea.texas.gov/graduation-requirements/hb5.aspx
Other Considerations
Texas Administrative Code, Chapter 74, Subchapter C

- Successful course completion and the award of credit is based on demonstrated proficiency of the TEKS.

- Students may enroll in high school courses in grades earlier than grade 9.

- Dual credit courses may be offered in partnership with a state college or university. A memorandum of understanding (MOU) or articulation agreement is required.

- Innovative courses approved by the state may be used toward state elective credit only.
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https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/TXTEA/subscriber/new
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About TEA

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