

***** GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS *****

Graduation Exercises

Graduation exercises, ceremonies with caps and gowns, and diplomas shall be limited to high schools and are **not** to be used for kindergarten, grade five, or middle school.

Texas Education Code § 28.025 provides that a person may receive a diploma:

- ◆ after the student completes the curriculum requirements identified by the State Board of Education and meets testing requirements stated in § 39.025(a),
- ◆ when the student successfully completes an individualized education program developed under TEC §29.005, or
- ◆ when a person qualifies for a high school diploma as a veteran under TEC §28.025.

In the Houston Independent School District, regular education students who have completed all academic requirements and have passed all parts of the exit-level TAKS test will be permitted to participate in graduation ceremonies. Students with disabilities served in special education who have completed all of their graduation requirements as designated by their IEP and in accordance with state law are eligible to participate in graduation ceremonies.

Special education students must be offered the opportunity to receive a Certificate of Attendance after completing four years in high school in accordance with TEC §28.025(f). This certificate is not equivalent to a diploma and does not prohibit a student from earning a diploma at a later date.

Students receiving certificates of completion because they have not yet met testing requirements **may not** participate in graduation ceremonies. Students planning to complete graduation requirements in summer school may not participate in spring graduation ceremonies. Principals may present an HISD Certificate of Achievement to foreign exchange students at graduation ceremonies, but should not list them as graduates unless they have completed all graduation requirements.

Each school issuing diplomas conducts graduation ceremonies under the direction of HISD School Administration at the end of the spring semester and at the end of the summer session. Those students completing graduation requirements at the end of the fall semester may participate in the spring graduation ceremonies. Students who complete graduation requirements at an alternative school that does not issue diplomas may participate in graduation ceremonies at their home campus.

Graduation Requirements

The graduation requirements for a particular student are those that are in effect when the student first enters the ninth (9th) grade.

- ◆ Under no circumstance may graduation requirements be waived
- ◆ All students entering 9th grade for the first time during the 2001-2002 school year and thereafter are automatically enrolled in the Recommended High School Program. See the section on Texas Scholars in this chapter for exit procedures. The ARD process may exempt a student from enrolling in the Recommended High School Program.

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- ◆ Graduation Programs for students entering ninth (9th) grade for the first time, 2001-2002 or after
 - HISD Core Program (Minimum High School Program – requires parental consent)
 - HISD Recommended High School Program
 - Distinguished Achievement Program
- ◆ A student must complete the academic course requirements and must pass the state-developed Exit-Level TAKS before the student can graduate.
- ◆ A student with disabilities who has been legally exempted from TAKS/TAKS-A/TAKS-M/TAKS-Alt testing according to state guidelines and has completed graduation requirements specified in their IEP may graduate and receive a diploma.
- ◆ In July 2007, the State Board of Education (SBOE) approved the addition of two credits to the Recommended High School Program and the Distinguished Achievement Program. These programs now require 26 graduation credits, an increase from 24 credits previously required. Beginning with students entering 9th grade in 2007, students must complete 4 years of mathematics and science in order to graduate.
- ◆ Board Policy EIF(LOCAL) permits principals to approve a student's graduation according to the state minimum high school program when there are extenuating circumstances:
 1. The student meets state criteria for classification as at risk and is coded at risk in the student system, and
 2. The student is a second semester senior or returning student who cannot meet the HISD minimum high school program or the recommended high school program requirements during the current academic year, even when interventions are provided.The student must also meet the requirements for exiting the Recommended High School Program.
- ◆ TEC § 28.002 prohibits a school district from varying the curriculum of a course in the required curriculum based on whether a student is in the minimum, recognized, or advanced high school program.
- ◆ All graduates including students with disabilities who meet graduation requirements are awarded the same type of diploma. The Academic Achievement Record (transcript), rather than the diploma, records individual accomplishments, courses completed, and graduation seals.

Note: It is recommended that students be referred for special education services no later than the first semester of the senior year. Referral after that date may require an additional year(s) of implementation of the IEP.

Graduation Seals

- ◆ A State of Texas graduation seal will be placed on each student's transcript to designate which academic program the student completed. A notation of "Completion of IEP" may not be used in place of one of the three SBOE approved graduation programs.
- ◆ A school *may not* affix a seal for a specific graduation program to a student's transcript unless that student has satisfied all designated requirements for that program. A registrar may wait to affix a Distinguished Achievement Program seal, pending receipt of Advanced Placement exam scores after the student's date of graduation.
- ◆ The seal affixed to the transcript must reflect the graduation program for which the student is eligible at the time of graduation. Additional postgraduate course work may not be used to upgrade a graduation program seal.

Certificate of Completion

If a student has completed all academic requirements for graduation but has not passed all parts of the exit level TAKS/TAAS, the student may be issued a certificate of course work completion. This student may **not** participate in graduation ceremonies. If a **Certificate of Completion** is issued, that fact will be designated on the transcript. This certificate is not equivalent to a diploma and does not prohibit a student from earning a diploma if he successfully completes assessment requirements at a later date.

GED

A student who has received a GED certificate or Certificate of High School Equivalency but has not completed either the academic graduation requirements and/or has not passed all parts of the exit-level exams required for graduation is not classified as a graduate and may neither participate in graduation ceremonies nor receive a diploma. Such students may re-enroll in school to complete regular graduation requirements as long as they meet the age requirements for eligibility.

HISD Graduation Requirement Waivers

- ◆ Some schools have approved HISD waivers to expand graduation requirements above the state-mandated requirements to correspond with specific programs offered in those schools. These expanded requirements may include designated hours of service, related activities, or internship; therefore, a student who satisfies all state mandated graduation requirements but falls short of HISD's expanded requirements in effect at the school in which the student is enrolled, will have two options:
 - ▶ Accepting a generic HISD diploma, or
 - ▶ returning to the school at which he is enrolled until such time that the expanded graduation requirements of that school are completed and the student receives a diploma from that school.
- ◆ Schools must have an appeals process for a student who meets all HISD and TEA graduation requirements but does not meet the expanded waiver requirements of the school.

Veteran Diplomas

TEC §28.0251 allows a school district to issue, posthumously or not, a high school diploma to a person who was honorably discharged from the U.S. armed forces, was scheduled to graduate after 1940 and before 1975 and left high school before graduation to serve in World War II, the Korean War, or the Vietnam War.

PLANNING FOR GRADUATION

All students shall begin developing a six-year plan of study during grade 7 and parental involvement shall be substantiated with parent/guardian signatures. Each year the student changes course of study, parental signature shall be required on either the Six-Year Plan or the Course Selection Sheet. The plan and the Course Selection Sheet shall be kept on file by the school counselor/dean.

PERSONAL GRADUATION PLAN

TEC §28.0212 requires a school principal to designate a guidance counselor, teacher, or other appropriate individual to develop and implement a personal graduation plan for each student in junior high, middle school, or high school who

- 1) does not perform satisfactorily on an assessment instrument administered under Subchapter B, Chapter 39; or
- 2) is not likely to receive a high school diploma before the fifth school year following the student's enrollment in grade 9 (as determined by the district)

Additionally, each district is required to provide accelerated instruction to a student enrolled in the district who has taken the secondary exit-level assessment instrument and has not performed satisfactorily on each section or who is at risk of dropping out of school (TEC §29.081).

Each Personal Graduation Plan must:

- 1) Identify educational goals for the student;
- 2) Include diagnostic information, appropriate monitoring and intervention, and other evaluation strategies;
- 3) Include an intensive instruction program, as described by section TEC §28.0213;
- 4) Address participation of the student's parent or guardian, including consideration of the parent's or guardian's educational expectations for the student; and
- 5) Provide innovative methods to promote the student's advancement, including flexible scheduling, alternative learning environments, on-line instruction, and other interventions that are proven to accelerate the learning process and to have been scientifically validated to improve learning and cognitive ability.

For students receiving special education services, an individualized education program developed under TEC §29.005 may be used as the student's Personal Graduation Plan.

A PGP must be developed for students in grades 6 – 12 who fail any section of TAKS and those students not likely to complete high school in four years. **The on-line PGP, accessible to HISD personnel who are authorized users of the Student Information System, provides student advocates** (i.e., teachers, counselors, deans or other principal designee) with an updated view of students' academic performance, while allowing for intervention strategies in areas such as attendance, and

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accelerated/alternative academic options. The PGP must be updated and monitored regularly by the assigned student advocate who works closely with the student and who must provide parents or caregivers with information on the student’s academic performance throughout the year.

For information and/or questions regarding the PGP or to set up PGP training on a campus, contact College, Career and Guidance at 713-556-7196.

**HISD Core Program/Minimum High School Program
 SEAL: HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM**

<u>Course</u>	9th Grade: 1997-98 through 2006- 2007 <u>Credits</u>	9th Grade: 2007-2008 <u>Credits</u>	9 th Grade: 2010-2011 <u>Credits</u>
English	4	4	4
Mathematics	3	3	3
World History	1	1	1
World Geography	1	1	1
US History	1	1	1
US Government	0.5	0.5	0.5
Economics	0.5	0.5	0.5
Science	3	3	3
Health	0.5	0.5	0.5
Physical Education	1.5	1.5	1.0
Speech (2001 Communication Applications)	0.5	0.5	0.5
Second Language (LOTE)	1	1	1
Technology Applications	1	1	0
Fine Arts	0	0	1
Electives	<u>5.5</u>	<u>5.5</u>	<u>6.0</u>
TOTAL	24	24	24

Note: The HISD Core Program exceeds the state minimum graduation by:

- Requiring both World History and World Geography
- Requiring 3 science credits (not 2)
- One credit in language other than English
- Requiring a total of 24 credits

Explanation of the Recommended High School Program

The Recommended High School Program is designed to upgrade significantly high school preparation. It encourages students to take rigorous mathematics, science, and social studies classes, plus computer science, fine arts, and two or three years of a foreign language. It targets high-level proficiencies and is designed to be a full, instead of a minimum, preparation program. It also provides students with the flexibility to build a strong foundation of specialized knowledge and skills in specific academic or career areas.

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HISD Recommended Program

SEAL: RECOMMENDED HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

<u>Course</u>	9th Grade: 1997-98 to 2006-2007	9th Grade: 2007-2008*	9th Grade: 2010-2011*
	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Credits</u>
English	4	4	4
Mathematics	3	4	4
World History	1	1	1
World Geography	1	1	1
US History	1	1	1
US Government	0.5	0.5	0.5
Economics	0.5	0.5	0.5
Science	3	4	4
Health	0.5	0.5	0.5
Physical Education	1.5	1.5	1
Speech (2001 Communication Applications)	0.5	0.5	0.5
Second Language (LOTE)	2	2	2
Technology Applications	1	1	0
Fine Arts (Speech may not substitute)	1	1	1
Electives	<u>3.5</u>	<u>3.5</u>	<u>5.0</u>
	24	26	26

* Beginning with the entering 9th graders in 2007-2008, to receive recognition as a Texas Scholar two courses must be AP, IB, Tech Prep/Articulated or dual credit.

SEAL: DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

<u>Course</u>	9th Grade: 1997-98 to 2006-2007	9th Grade: 2007-2008	9th Grade: 2010-2011*
	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Credits</u>
English	4	4	4
Mathematics	3	4	4
World History	1	1	1
World Geography	1	1	1
US History	1	1	1
US Government	0.5	0.5	0.5
Economics	0.5	0.5	0.5
Science	3	4	4
Health	0.5	0.5	0.5
Physical Education	1.5	1.5	1
Speech (2001 Communications Applications)	0.5	0.5	0.5
Second Language (LOTE)	3	3	3
Technology Applications	1	1	0
Fine Arts (Speech may not substitute)	1	1	1
Electives	<u>2.5</u>	<u>2.5</u>	<u>4.0</u>
	24	26	26

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
FOR STUDENTS BEGINNING 9TH-GRADE in 2001-2002 through 2006-2007

DISCIPLINE	CORE PROGRAM (Minimum High School Program) (24 Credits)	RECOMMENDED PROGRAM (24 Credits)	DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM (24 Credits)
English Language Arts* Proficiency	<p><i>Four Credits</i></p> <p>English I, II, III, and IV The fourth credit of English may be satisfied by: English IV, Research/Technical Writing, Creative/Imaginative Writing, Practical Writing Skills, Literary Genres, Business Communication, Journalism, dual credit college English, AP English Literature and Composition, or IB English.</p> <p>These substitutions also apply to LEP students.</p> <p>LEP immigrants may substitute English I SOL and English II SOL for English I and II.</p> <p>All nonimmigrant LEP students may substitute English I, II, III, IV (Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced, Transitional) for English I, II, III, IV.</p>	<p><i>Four credits</i></p> <p>English I, II, III, and IV</p> <p>AP, IB, or college courses may substitute.</p> <p>LEP immigrants may substitute English I SOL and English II SOL for English I and II.</p> <p>All nonimmigrant LEP students may substitute English I, II, III, IV (Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced, Transitional) for English I, II, III, IV.</p>	<p><i>Four credits</i></p> <p>English I, II, III, and IV</p> <p>AP, IB, or college courses may substitute.</p> <p>LEP immigrants may substitute English I SOL and English II SOL for English I and II.</p> <p>All nonimmigrant LEP students may substitute English I, II, III, IV (Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced, Transitional) for English I, II, III, IV.</p>
<i>Speech</i>	<p><i>One-half credit</i> Communication Applications</p> <p>Professional Communications (CTE)</p>	<p><i>One-half credit</i> Communication Applications</p> <p>Professional Communications (CTE)</p>	<p><i>One-half credit</i> Communication Applications</p> <p>Professional Communications (CTE)</p>

* College Board advanced placement and International Baccalaureate courses may be substituted for requirements in appropriate areas.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
FOR STUDENTS BEGINNING 9TH-GRADE in 2001-2002 through 2006-2007

DISCIPLINE	CORE PROGRAM (Minimum High School Program) (24 Credits)	RECOMMENDED PROGRAM (24 Credits)	DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM (24 Credits)
Mathematics* Proficiency	<p>Three credits to include Algebra I and Geometry</p> <p>By HISD Board policy, three courses in math must be completed in grades 9-12</p>	<p>Three credits must consist of Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II</p> <p>By HISD Board policy, three courses in math must be completed in grades 9-12</p>	<p>Three credits must consist of Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II</p> <p>By HISD Board policy, three courses in math must be completed in grades 9-12</p>
Science* Proficiency	<p>Three credits to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated Physics and Chemistry (Both Chemistry and Physics must be taken to substitute for IPC.) • Biology. <p>If Biology and IPC are taken, the third credit must be selected from the list of SBOE approved courses, grades 9-12.</p> <p>By HISD Board policy, Three credits in science must be completed in grades 9-12.</p>	<p>Three credits</p> <p>One credit must be a biology credit (Biology, AP Biology, or IB Biology). Must choose the remaining credits from the following areas. Not more than one credit can be chosen from each of the areas to satisfy this requirement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated Physics and Chemistry (Both Chemistry and Physics must be taken to substitute for IPC.) • Chemistry, AP Chemistry, or IB Chemistry; • or Physics, Principles of Technology I, AP Physics, or IB Physics <p>Students are encouraged to take courses in biology, chemistry, and physics.</p> <p>By HISD Board policy, three courses in science must be completed in grades 9-12.</p>	<p>Three credits</p> <p>One credit must be a biology credit (Biology, AP Biology, or IB Biology). Must choose the remaining credits from the following areas. Not more than one credit can be chosen from each of the areas to satisfy this requirement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated Physics and Chemistry (Both Chemistry and Physics must be taken to substitute for IPC.) • Chemistry, AP Chemistry, or IB Chemistry; • or Physics, Principles of Technology I, AP Physics, or IB Physics <p>Students are encouraged to take courses in biology, chemistry, and physics.</p> <p>By HISD Board policy, three courses in science must be completed in grades 9-12.</p>

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GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
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DISCIPLINE	CORE PROGRAM (Minimum High School Program) (24 Credits)	RECOMMENDED PROGRAM (24 Credits)	DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM (24 Credits)
<i>Social Studies</i> * Proficiency	<i>Three and one-half credits taken in prescribed sequence</i> World Geography Studies - one credit (Grade 9) World History Studies - one credit (Grade 10) US History Since Reconstruction - one credit (Grade 11) US Government - one-half credit (Grade 12)	<i>Three and one-half credits taken in prescribed sequence</i> World Geography Studies - one credit (Grade 9) World History Studies - one credit (Grade 10) US History Since Reconstruction - one credit (Grade 11) US Government - one-half credit (Grade 12)	<i>Three and one-half credits taken in prescribed sequence</i> World Geography Studies - one credit (Grade 9) World History Studies - one credit (Grade 10) US History Since Reconstruction - one credit (Grade 11) US Government - one-half credit (Grade 12)
<i>Economics</i> * with emphasis on the free enterprise system and its benefits	<i>One-half credit (Grade 12)</i>	<i>One-half credit (Grade 12)</i>	<i>One-half credit (Grade 12)</i>
<i>Languages Other Than English</i> *	<i>One credit</i> in the same language	<i>Two credits</i> any two levels in the same language AP, IB, or dual credit college courses may substitute.	<i>Three credits</i> any three levels in the same language AP, IB, or dual credit college courses may substitute.
<i>Health Education</i>	<i>One-half credit</i> or Health Science Technology (one credit)	<i>One-half credit</i> or Health Science Technology (one credit)	<i>One-half credit</i> or Health Science Technology (one credit)

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FOR STUDENTS BEGINNING 9TH-GRADE in 2001-2002 through 2006-2007

DISCIPLINE	CORE PROGRAM (Minimum High School Program) (24 Credits)	RECOMMENDED PROGRAM (24 Credits)	DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM (24 Credits)
<i>Physical Education</i>	<p><i>One and one-half credits</i></p> <p>Foundations of Personal Fitness Adventure/Outdoor Education Aerobic Activities Team or Individual Sports</p> <p>Can substitute drill team, marching band, and cheerleading during the fall semester only.</p> <p>Can substitute JROTC or athletics both semesters.</p> <p>Could substitute designated career and technical courses both semesters prior to 2010-2011.</p> <p>Students who successfully complete a two or three-credit career and technical education work-based training course prior to the 2011-2012 school year may count the class towards physical education graduation requirements.</p> <p>Credit may not be earned for any PE course more than once and no more than 4 substitutions may be earned through any combination of allowable substitutions.</p>	<p><i>One and one-half credits</i></p> <p>Foundations of Personal Fitness Adventure/Outdoor Education Aerobic Activities Team or Individual Sports</p> <p>Can substitute drill team, marching band, and cheerleading during the fall semester only.</p> <p>Can substitute JROTC or athletics both semesters.</p> <p>Could substitute designated career and technical courses both semesters prior to 2010-2011.</p> <p>Students who successfully complete a two or three-credit career and technical education work-based training course prior to the 2011-2012 school year may count the class towards physical education graduation requirements.</p> <p>Credit may not be earned for any PE course more than once and no more than 4 substitutions may be earned through any combination of allowable substitutions.</p>	<p><i>One and one-half credits</i></p> <p>Foundations of Personal Fitness Adventure/Outdoor Education Aerobic Activities Team or Individual Sports</p> <p>Can substitute drill team, marching band, and cheerleading during the fall semester only.</p> <p>Can substitute JROTC or athletics both semesters.</p> <p>Could substitute designated career and technical courses both semesters prior to 2010-2011.</p> <p>Students who successfully complete a two or three-credit career and technical education work-based training course prior to the 2011-2012 school year may count the class towards physical education graduation requirements.</p> <p>Credit may not be earned for any PE course more than once and no more than 4 substitutions may be earned through any combination of allowable substitutions.</p>

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GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
FOR STUDENTS BEGINNING 9TH-GRADE in 2001-2002 through 2006-2007

DISCIPLINE	CORE PROGRAM (Minimum High School Program) (24 Credits)	RECOMMENDED PROGRAM (24 Credits)	DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM (24 Credits)
<p>Technology Applications * Proficiency</p>	<p>One credit which may be satisfied by Computer Science I, Computer Science II, Desktop Publishing, Digital Graphics and Animation, Multimedia, Telecommunications and Networking, Video Technology, Web Mastering,</p> <p>The following courses, if taken prior to 2010-2011: Business Computer Information Systems I or II, Business Computer Programming, Business Image Management and Multimedia; Computer Applications, Technology Systems (modular computer laboratory-based), Communication Graphics (modular computer laboratory-based), Computer Multimedia and Animation Technology</p> <p>The following courses, if taken in 2010-2011 and following years: Business Information Management I, (1-2 credits) Business Information Management II, Computer Programming, Advanced Computer Programming, Digital & Interactive Media Audio Video Production Principals of Technology</p>	<p>One credit which may be satisfied by Computer Science I, Computer Science II, Desktop Publishing, Digital Graphics and Animation, Multimedia, Telecommunications and Networking, Video Technology, Web Mastering,</p> <p>The following courses, if taken prior to 2010-2011: Business Computer Information Systems I or II, Business Computer Programming, Business Image Management and Multimedia; Computer Applications, Technology Systems (modular computer laboratory-based), Communication Graphics (modular computer laboratory-based), Computer Multimedia and Animation Technology.</p> <p>The following courses, if taken in 2010-2011 and following years: Business Information Management I, (1-2 credits) Business Information Management II, Computer Programming, Advanced Computer Programming, Digital & Interactive Media Audio Video Production Principals of Technology</p>	<p>One credit which may be satisfied by Computer Science I, Computer Science II, Desktop Publishing, Digital Graphics and Animation, Multimedia, Telecommunications and Networking, Video Technology, Web Mastering,</p> <p>The following courses, if taken prior to 2010-2011: Business Computer Information Systems I or II, Business Computer Programming, Business Image Management and Multimedia; Computer Applications, Technology Systems (modular computer laboratory-based), Communication Graphics (modular computer laboratory-based), Computer Multimedia and Animation Technology.</p> <p>The following courses, if taken in 2010-2011 and following years: Business Information Management I, (1-2 credits) Business Information Management II, Computer Programming, Advanced Computer Programming, Digital & Interactive Media Audio Video Production Principals of Technology</p>

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<p>Technology Applications * Proficiency - Continued</p>	<p>Technology Applications Independent Study (Requires Curriculum Dept. approval)</p>	<p>Technology Applications Independent Study (Requires Curriculum Dept. approval)</p> <p>** Additional options described on VII-29.</p>	<p>Technology Applications Independent Study (Requires Curriculum Dept. approval)</p> <p>** Additional options described on VII-29.</p>
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GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
FOR STUDENTS BEGINNING 9TH-GRADE in 2001-2002 through 2006-2007

DISCIPLINE	CORE PROGRAM (Minimum High School Program) (24 Credits)	RECOMMENDED PROGRAM (24 Credits)	DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM (24 Credits)
<i>Fine Arts</i>	<i>None</i>	<p><i>One credit</i></p> <p>which may be satisfied by any course found in 19 TAC Chapter 117 or <i>Principals and Elements of Floral Design (CTE)</i></p> <p>(Speech and Debate may not substitute.)</p> <p>AP, IB, or dual credit college fine arts courses may substitute.</p>	<p><i>One credit</i></p> <p>which may be satisfied by any course found in 19 TAC Chapter 117 or <i>Principals and Elements of Floral Design (CTE)</i></p> <p>(Speech and Debate may not substitute.)</p> <p>AP, IB, or dual credit college fine arts courses may substitute.</p>
<i>Electives</i>	<p><i>Five and one-half credits</i></p> <p>These are elective credits to be selected from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the list of courses approved by the SBOE for Grades 9-12 as specified in TAC §74.1; • state-approved innovative courses, • Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) (one to four credits); or • Driver Education (one-half credit) – transferred from another school district. <p>(Two credits can be earned through “local credit” courses.)</p>	<p><i>Three and one-half credits</i></p> <p>These are elective credits to be selected from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the list of courses d approved by the SBOE for Grades 9-12 as specified in TAC §74.1; • state-approved innovative courses, • Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) (one to four credits); or • Driver Education (one-half credit) – transferred from another school district. 	<p><i>Two and one-half credits</i></p> <p>These are elective credits to be selected from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the list of courses approved by the SBOE for Grades 9-12 as specified in TAC §74.1; • state-approved innovative courses, • Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) (one to four credits); or • Driver Education (one-half credit) – transferred from another school district.

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**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
 FOR STUDENTS BEGINNING 9TH-GRADE in 2007-2008**

DISCIPLINE	CORE PROGRAM (Minimum High School Program) (24 Credits)	RECOMMENDED PROGRAM (26 Credits)	DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM (26 Credits)
<i>English Language Arts*</i> Proficiency	<p>Four Credits</p> <p>English I, II, III, and IV</p> <p>The fourth credit of English may be satisfied by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English IV, • Research/Technical Writing, • Creative/Imaginative Writing, • Practical Writing Skills, • Literary Genres, • Business Communication, • Journalism, • dual credit college English, • AP English Literature and Composition, • IB English. • CTE Business English • AP English Language and Composition, <p>These substitutions also apply to LEP students.</p> <p>LEP immigrants may substitute English I SOL for English 1 & English II SOL for English 2.</p> <p>All nonimmigrant LEP students may substitute English I, II, III, IV (Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced, Transitional) for English I, II, III, IV.</p>	<p>Four credits</p> <p>English I, II, III, and IV</p> <p>AP, IB, or college courses may substitute.</p> <p>LEP immigrants may substitute English I SOL for English 1 & English II SOL for English 2</p> <p>All nonimmigrant LEP students may substitute English I, II, III, IV (Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced, Transitional) for English I, II, III, IV.</p>	<p>Four credits</p> <p>English I, II, III, and IV</p> <p>AP, IB, or college courses may substitute.</p> <p>LEP immigrants may substitute English I SOL for English 1 and English II SOL for English 2.</p> <p>All nonimmigrant LEP students may substitute English I, II, III, IV (Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced, Transitional) for English I, II, III, IV.</p>
<i>Speech</i>	<p>One-half credit Communication Applications</p> <p>Professional Communications (CTE)</p>	<p>One-half credit Communication Applications</p> <p>Professional Communications (CTE)</p>	<p>One-half credit Communication Applications</p> <p>Professional Communications (CTE)</p>

* College Board advanced placement and International Baccalaureate courses may be substituted for requirements in appropriate areas.

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
 FOR STUDENTS BEGINNING 9TH-GRADE in 2007-2008**

DISCIPLINE	CORE PROGRAM (Minimum High School Program) (24 Credits)	RECOMMENDED PROGRAM (26 Credits)	DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM (26 Credits)
<p><i>Mathematics*</i> Proficiency</p>	<p>Three credits to include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Algebra I and • Geometry <p>The third credit may be selected from the list of SBOE approved math courses, grades 9-12, including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mathematical Applications in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources (CTE); • Engineering Mathematics (CTE); • Statistics and Risk Management (CTE) 	<p>Four credits</p> <p>Three of the credits must consist of Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II</p> <p>The fourth credit may be selected from any of the following courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Precalculus; • Independent Study in Mathematics (Including Advanced Mathematical Decision Making (AMDM); • AP Statistics; • AP Calculus AB; • AP Calculus BC; • AP Computer Science; • IB Mathematical Studies Standard Level; • IB Mathematical Standard Level; • IB Mathematics Higher Level; • IB Further Mathematics Standard Level; • concurrent enrollment in college mathematics courses • Mathematical Applications in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources (CTE); • Engineering Mathematics (CTE); • Statistics and Risk Management (CTE) <p>For students who select Mathematical Models with Applications, Algebra 2 is their fourth or final course. They may not take Math Models after taking Algebra 2.</p>	<p>Four credits</p> <p>The credits must consist of Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II and an additional SBOE-approved mathematics course for which Algebra II is a prerequisite:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Precalculus; • Independent Study in Mathematics; • AP Statistics; • AP Calculus AB; • AP Calculus BC; • AP Computer Science; • IB Mathematical Studies Standard Level; • IB Mathematical Standard Level; • IB Mathematics Higher Level; • IB Further Mathematics Standard Level; • concurrent enrollment in college mathematics courses • Engineering Mathematics (CTE); • Statistics and Risk Management (CTE)

* College Board advanced placement and International Baccalaureate courses may be substituted for requirements in appropriate areas.

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
 FOR STUDENTS BEGINNING 9TH-GRADE in 2007-2008**

DISCIPLINE	CORE PROGRAM (Minimum High School Program) (24 Credits)	RECOMMENDED PROGRAM (26 Credits)	DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM (26 Credits)
<p><i>Science*</i> Proficiency</p>	<p>Three credits to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biology and • Integrated Physics and Chemistry (Both Chemistry and Physics must be taken to substitute for IPC.) <p>If Biology and IPC are taken, the third credit must be selected from the list of SBOE approved laboratory –based courses, grades 9-12, including:</p> <p style="color: red;">Three credits in science must be completed in grades 9-12.</p>	<p>Four credits</p> <p>One credit must be Biology (Biology, AP or IB Biology)</p> <p>Two credits selected from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated Physics and Chemistry (IPC must be taken before the senior year of high school and not as the final science requirement.) • Chemistry, AP or IB Chemistry; • Physics, AP or IB Physics; <p>Student may select the fourth required credit from any of the following courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earth and Space Science; • Environmental Systems; • Aquatic Science; • Astronomy; • AP or IB Biology; • AP or IB Chemistry; • AP or IB Physics; • AP Environmental Science; • IB Environmental Systems • Scientific Research and Design • Anatomy and Physiology of Human Systems; • Medical Microbiology; 	<p>Four credits</p> <p>Three credits must consist of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biology credit (Biology, AP or IB Biology), • Chemistry credit (Chemistry, AP or IB Chemistry,.) • Physics credit (Physics, AP or IB Physics), <p>(students on this plan may not count IPC as a science graduation credit)</p> <p>Student may select the fourth required credit from any of the following courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earth and Space Science; • Environmental Systems; • Aquatic Science; • Astronomy; • AP or IB Biology; • AP or IB Chemistry; • AP or IB Physics; • AP Environmental Science; • IB Environmental Systems • Scientific Research and Design • Anatomy and Physiology of Human Systems; • Engineering.

* College Board advanced placement and International Baccalaureate courses may be substituted for requirements in appropriate areas.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
FOR STUDENTS BEGINNING 9TH-GRADE in 2007-2008

DISCIPLINE	CORE PROGRAM (Minimum High School Program) (24 Credits)	RECOMMENDED PROGRAM (26 Credits)	DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM (26 Credits)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pathophysiology • Principles of Technology • Engineering. • Engineering Design and Problem Solving • Advanced Animal Science • Advanced Biotechnology • Advanced Plant and Soil Science • Food Science • Forensic Science 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engineering Design and Problem Solving • Advanced Animal Science • Advanced Biotechnology • Advanced Plant and Soil Science • Food Science • Forensic Science
<i>Social Studies</i> * Proficiency	<i>Three and one-half credits taken in prescribed sequence</i> World Geography Studies - one credit (Grade 9) World History Studies - one credit (Grade 10) US History Since Reconstruction - one credit (Grade 11) US Government - one-half credit (Grade 12)	<i>Three and one-half credits taken in prescribed sequence</i> World Geography Studies - one credit (Grade 9) World History Studies - one credit (Grade 10) US History Since Reconstruction - one credit (Grade 11) US Government - one-half credit (Grade 12)	<i>Three and one-half credits taken in prescribed sequence</i> World Geography Studies - one credit (Grade 9) World History Studies - one credit (Grade 10) US History Since Reconstruction - one credit (Grade 11) US Government - one-half credit (Grade 12)
<i>Economics</i> * with emphasis on the free enterprise system and its benefits	<i>One-half credit (Grade 12)</i>	<i>One-half credit (Grade 12)</i>	<i>One-half credit (Grade 12)</i>
<i>Languages Other Than English</i> *	<i>One credit</i> in the same language	<i>Two credits</i> any two levels in the same language AP, IB, or dual credit college courses may substitute.	<i>Three credits</i> any three levels in the same language AP, IB, or dual credit college courses may substitute.

* College Board advanced placement and International Baccalaureate courses may be substituted for requirements in appropriate areas.

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
 FOR STUDENTS BEGINNING 9TH-GRADE in 2007-2008**

DISCIPLINE	CORE PROGRAM (Minimum High School Program) (24 Credits)	RECOMMENDED PROGRAM (26 Credits)	DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM (26 Credits)
<i>Physical Education</i>	<p><i>One and one-half credits</i></p> <p>to include Foundations of Personal Fitness (one-half credit)</p> <p>(Limit of four credits)</p> <p>Can substitute drill team, marching band, and cheerleading during the fall semester only</p> <p>Can substitute JROTC, athletics,, and designated career and technical courses both semesters.</p> <p>Students who successfully complete a two or three-credit career and technical education work-based training course prior to the 2011-2012 school year may count the class towards physical education graduation requirements.</p>	<p><i>One and one-half credits</i></p> <p>to include Foundations of Personal Fitness (one-half credit)</p> <p>(Limit of four credits)</p> <p>Can substitute drill team, marching band, and cheerleading during the fall semester only.</p> <p>Can substitute JROTC, athletics, , and designated career and technical courses both semesters.</p> <p>Students who successfully complete a two or three-credit career and technical education work-based training course prior to the 2011-2012 school year may count the class towards physical education graduation requirements.</p>	<p><i>One and one-half credits</i></p> <p>to include Foundations of Personal Fitness (one-half credit)</p> <p>(Limit of four credits)</p> <p>Can substitute drill team, marching band, and cheerleading during the fall semester only.</p> <p>Can substitute JROTC, athletics, , and designated career and technical courses both semesters.</p> <p>Students who successfully complete a two or three-credit career and technical education work-based training course prior to the 2011-2012 school year may count the class towards physical education graduation requirements.</p>
<i>Health Education</i>	<p><i>One-half credit</i></p> <p>or Health Science Technology (one credit)</p>	<p><i>One-half credit</i></p> <p>or Health Science Technology (one credit)</p>	<p><i>One-half credit</i></p> <p>or Health Science Technology (one credit)</p>

* College Board advanced placement and International Baccalaureate courses may be substituted for requirements in appropriate areas.

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
 FOR STUDENTS BEGINNING 9TH-GRADE in 2007-2008**

DISCIPLINE	CORE PROGRAM (Minimum High School Program) (24 Credits)	RECOMMENDED PROGRAM (26 Credits)	DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM (26 Credits)
Technology Applications * Proficiency	<p>One credit</p> <p>which may be satisfied by: Computer Science I, Computer Science II, Desktop Publishing, Digital Graphics and Animation, Multimedia, Telecommunications and Networking, Video Technology, Web Mastering,</p> <p>The following courses, if taken prior to 2010-2011: Business Computer Information Systems I or II, Business Computer Programming, Business Image Management and Multimedia; Computer Applications, Technology Systems (modular computer laboratory-based), Communication Graphics (modular computer laboratory-based), Computer Multimedia and Animation Technology</p> <p>The following courses, if taken in 2010-2011 and following years: Business Information Management I, (1-2 credits) Business Information Management II, Computer Programming, Advanced Computer Programming, Digital & Interactive Media Audio Video Production</p>	<p>One credit</p> <p>which may be satisfied by: Computer Science I, Computer Science II, Desktop Publishing, Digital Graphics and Animation, Multimedia, Telecommunications and Networking, Video Technology, Web Mastering,</p> <p>The following courses, if taken prior to 2010-2011: Business Computer Information Systems I or II, Business Computer Programming, Business Image Management and Multimedia; Computer Applications, Technology Systems (modular computer laboratory-based), Communication Graphics (modular computer laboratory-based), Computer Multimedia and Animation Technology.</p> <p>The following courses, if taken in 2010-2011 and following years: Business Information Management I, (1-2 credits) Business Information Management II, Computer Programming, Advanced Computer Programming, Digital & Interactive Media Audio Video Production</p>	<p>One credit</p> <p>which may be satisfied by: Computer Science I, Computer Science II, Desktop Publishing, Digital Graphics and Animation, Multimedia, Telecommunications and Networking, Video Technology, Web Mastering,</p> <p>The following courses, if taken prior to 2010-2011: Business Computer Information Systems I or II, Business Computer Programming, Business Image Management and Multimedia; Computer Applications, Technology Systems (modular computer laboratory-based), Communication Graphics (modular computer laboratory-based), Computer Multimedia and Animation Technology.</p> <p>The following courses, if taken in 2010-2011 and following years: Business Information Management I, (1-2 credits) Business Information Management II, Computer Programming, Advanced Computer Programming, Digital & Interactive Media Audio Video Production</p>

Secondary School Guidelines, 2010-2011
 Graduation Requirements

<p>Technology Applications * Proficiency - Continued</p>	<p>Principals of Technology Technology Applications Independent Study (Requires Curriculum Dept. approval)</p>	<p>Principals of Technology Technology Applications Independent Study (Requires Curriculum Dept. approval)</p> <p>** Additional options described on VII-29.</p>	<p>Principals of Technology Technology Applications Independent Study (Requires Curriculum Dept. approval)</p> <p>** Additional options described on VII-29.</p>
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* College Board advanced placement and International Baccalaureate courses may be substituted for requirements in appropriate areas.

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
 FOR STUDENTS BEGINNING 9TH-GRADE in 2007-2008**

DISCIPLINE	CORE PROGRAM (Minimum High School Program) (24 Credits)	RECOMMENDED PROGRAM (26 Credits)	DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM (26 Credits)
<i>Fine Arts</i>	<p><i>One credit</i></p> <p>which may be satisfied by any course found in 19 TAC Chapter 117 or <i>Principals and Elements of Floral Design (CTE)</i></p>	<p><i>One credit</i></p> <p>which may be satisfied by any course found in 19 TAC Chapter 117 or <i>Principals and Elements of Floral Design (CTE)</i></p> <p>(Speech and Debate may not substitute.)</p> <p>AP, IB, or dual credit college fine arts courses may substitute.</p>	<p><i>One credit</i></p> <p>which may be satisfied by any course found in 19 TAC Chapter 117 or <i>Principals and Elements of Floral Design (CTE)</i></p> <p>(Speech and Debate may not substitute.)</p> <p>AP, IB, or dual credit college fine arts courses may substitute.</p>
<i>Electives</i>	<p><i>Five and one-half credits</i></p> <p>These are elective credits to be selected from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the list of courses approved by the SBOE for Grades 9-12 as specified in TAC §74.1; • state-approved innovative courses, • Junior Reserve Office Training Corps (JROTC) (one to four credits); or • Driver Education (one-half credit) – transferred from another school district. <p>(Two credits can be earned through “local credit” courses.)</p>	<p><i>Three and one-half credits</i></p> <p>These are elective credits to be selected from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the list of courses approved by the SBOE for Grades 9-12 as specified in TAC §74.1; • state-approved innovative courses, • Junior Reserve Office Training Corps (JROTC) (one to four credits); or • Driver Education (one-half credit) – transferred from another school district. 	<p><i>Two and one-half credits</i></p> <p>These are elective credits to be selected from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the list of courses approved by the SBOE for Grades 9-12 as specified in TAC §74.1; • state-approved innovative courses, • Junior Reserve Office Training Corps (JROTC) (one to four credits); or • Driver Education (one-half credit) – transferred from another school district.

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**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
 FOR STUDENTS BEGINNING 9TH-GRADE in 2010-2011**

DISCIPLINE	CORE PROGRAM (Minimum High School Program) (24 Credits)	RECOMMENDED PROGRAM (26 Credits)	DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM (26 Credits)
English Language Arts* Proficiency	<p>Four Credits</p> <p>English I, II, III, and IV</p> <p>The fourth credit of English may be satisfied by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English IV, • Research/Technical Writing, • Creative/Imaginative Writing, • Practical Writing Skills, • Literary Genres, • Business Communication, • Journalism, • dual credit college English, • AP English Literature and Composition, • IB English. • CTE Business English • AP English Language and Composition, <p>These substitutions also apply to LEP students.</p> <p>LEP immigrants may substitute English I SOL for English 1 & English II SOL for English 2.</p> <p>All nonimmigrant LEP students may substitute English I, II, III, IV (Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced, Transitional) for English I, II, III, IV.</p>	<p>Four credits</p> <p>English I, II, III, and IV</p> <p>AP, IB, or college courses may substitute.</p> <p>LEP immigrants may substitute English I SOL for English 1 & English II SOL for English 2</p> <p>All nonimmigrant LEP students may substitute English I, II, III, IV (Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced, Transitional) for English I, II, III, IV.</p>	<p>Four credits</p> <p>English I, II, III, and IV</p> <p>AP, IB, or college courses may substitute.</p> <p>LEP immigrants may substitute English I SOL for English 1 and English II SOL for English 2.</p> <p>All nonimmigrant LEP students may substitute English I, II, III, IV (Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced, Transitional) for English I, II, III, IV.</p>
Speech	<p>One-half credit</p> <p>Communication Applications</p> <p>Professional Communications (CTE)</p>	<p>One-half credit</p> <p>Communication Applications</p> <p>Professional Communications (CTE)</p>	<p>One-half credit</p> <p>Communication Applications</p> <p>Professional Communications (CTE)</p>

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GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
FOR STUDENTS BEGINNING 9TH-GRADE in 2010-2011

DISCIPLINE	CORE PROGRAM (Minimum High School Program) (24 Credits)	RECOMMENDED PROGRAM (26 Credits)	DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM (26 Credits)
Mathematics* Proficiency	<p>Three credits to include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Algebra I and • Geometry <p>The third credit may be selected from the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Algebra II • Precalculus; • Independent Study in Mathematics [including Advanced Mathematical Decision Making (AMDM)] • AP Statistics; • AP Calculus AB; • AP Calculus BC; • AP Computer Science; • IB Mathematical Studies Standard Level; • IB Mathematics Standard Level; • IB Mathematics Higher Level; • IB Further Mathematics Standard Level; • Engineering Mathematics (CTE); • Statistics and Risk Management (CTE) • Mathematical Applications in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources (CTE)¹; • Mathematical Models with Applications¹ <p>¹ If taken prior to Algebra 2</p>	<p>Four credits</p> <p>Three of the credits must consist of Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II</p> <p>The fourth credit may be selected from any of the following courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Precalculus; • Independent Study in Mathematics [including Advanced Mathematical Decision Making (AMDM)] • AP Statistics; • AP Calculus AB; • AP Calculus BC; • AP Computer Science; • IB Mathematical Studies Standard Level; • IB Mathematics Standard Level; • IB Mathematics Higher Level; • IB Further Mathematics Standard Level; • concurrent enrollment in college mathematics courses • Engineering Mathematics (CTE); • Statistics and Risk Management (CTE) • Mathematical Applications in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources (CTE)¹; • Mathematical Models with Applications¹ <p>¹ If taken prior to Algebra 2</p>	<p>Four credits</p> <p>The credits must consist of Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II and an additional SBOE-approved mathematics course for which Algebra II is a prerequisite:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Precalculus; • Independent Study in Mathematics; • AP Statistics; • AP Calculus AB; • AP Calculus BC; • AP Computer Science; • IB Mathematical Studies Standard Level; • IB Mathematical Standard Level; • IB Mathematics Higher Level; • IB Further Mathematics Standard Level; • concurrent enrollment in college mathematics courses • Engineering Mathematics (CTE); • Statistics and Risk Management (CTE)

* College Board advanced placement and International Baccalaureate courses may be substituted for requirements in appropriate areas.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
FOR STUDENTS BEGINNING 9TH-GRADE in 2010-2011

DISCIPLINE	CORE PROGRAM (Minimum High School Program) (24 Credits)	RECOMMENDED PROGRAM (26 Credits)	DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM (26 Credits)
<p><i>Science*</i> Proficiency</p>	<p>Three credits to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biology and • Integrated Physics and Chemistry (Both Chemistry and Physics must be taken to substitute for IPC.) <p>If Biology and IPC are taken, the third credit must be selected from the list of SBOE approved laboratory –based courses, grades 9-12.</p> <p>Three credits in science must be completed in grades 9-12.</p>	<p>Four credits</p> <p>One credit must be Biology (Biology, AP or IB Biology)</p> <p>Two credits selected from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated Physics and Chemistry (IPC must be taken before Chemistry or Physics, and may not fill the final science requirement.) • Chemistry, AP or IB Chemistry; • Physics, Principals of Technology, AP Physics or IB Physics; <p>Student may select the fourth required credit from any of the following courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aquatic Science; • Astronomy; • Earth and Space Science; • Environmental Systems; • AP or IB Biology; • AP or IB Chemistry; • AP Physics B; • AP Physics C; • IB Physics • AP Environmental Science; • IB Environmental Systems • Scientific Research and Design (CTE) • Anatomy and Physiology of Human Systems (CTE); • Medical Microbiology (CTE); • Pathophysiology (CTE) 	<p>Four credits</p> <p>Three credits must consist of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biology credit (Biology, AP or IB Biology), • Chemistry credit (Chemistry, AP or IB Chemistry,.) • Physics credit (Physics, AP or IB Physics), <p>(students on this plan may not count IPC as a science graduation credit)</p> <p>Student may select the fourth required credit from any of the following courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aquatic Science; • Astronomy; • Earth and Space Science; • Environmental Systems; • AP or IB Biology; • AP or IB Chemistry; • AP Physics B; • AP Physics C; • AP Environmental Science; • IB Physics; • IB Environmental Systems • Scientific Research and Design (CTE) • Anatomy and Physiology of Human Systems (CTE); • Medical Microbiology (CTE); • Pathophysiology (CTE) • Engineering Design and Problem Solving (CTE)

* College Board advanced placement and International Baccalaureate courses may be substituted for requirements in appropriate areas.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
FOR STUDENTS BEGINNING 9TH-GRADE in 2010-2011

DISCIPLINE	CORE PROGRAM (Minimum High School Program) (24 Credits)	RECOMMENDED PROGRAM (26 Credits)	DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM (26 Credits)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engineering Design and Problem Solving (CTE) • Advanced Animal Science (CTE) • Advanced Biotechnology (CTE) • Advanced Plant and Soil Science (CTE) • Food Science (CTE) • Forensic Science (CTE) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced Animal Science (CTE) • Advanced Biotechnology (CTE) • Advanced Plant and Soil Science (CTE) • Food Science (CTE) • Forensic Science (CTE)
<p><i>Social Studies</i> * Proficiency</p>	<p><i>Three and one-half credits taken in prescribed sequence</i></p> <p>World Geography Studies - one credit (Grade 9) World History Studies - one credit (Grade 10) US History Since Reconstruction - one credit (Grade 11) US Government - one-half credit (Grade 12)</p>	<p><i>Three and one-half credits taken in prescribed sequence</i></p> <p>World Geography Studies - one credit (Grade 9) World History Studies - one credit (Grade 10) US History Since Reconstruction - one credit (Grade 11) US Government - one-half credit (Grade 12)</p>	<p><i>Three and one-half credits taken in prescribed sequence</i></p> <p>World Geography Studies - one credit (Grade 9) World History Studies - one credit (Grade 10) US History Since Reconstruction - one credit (Grade 11) US Government - one-half credit (Grade 12)</p>
<p><i>Economics</i> * with emphasis on the free enterprise system and its benefits</p>	<p><i>One-half credit (Grade 12)</i></p>	<p><i>One-half credit (Grade 12)</i></p>	<p><i>One-half credit (Grade 12)</i></p>
<p><i>Languages Other Than English</i> *</p>	<p><i>One credit</i> in the same language</p>	<p><i>Two credits</i> any two levels in the same language AP, IB, or dual credit college courses may substitute.</p>	<p><i>Three credits</i> any three levels in the same language AP, IB, or dual credit college courses may substitute.</p>

* College Board advanced placement and International Baccalaureate courses may be substituted for requirements in appropriate areas.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
FOR STUDENTS BEGINNING 9TH-GRADE in 2010-2011

DISCIPLINE	CORE PROGRAM (Minimum High School Program) (24 Credits)	RECOMMENDED PROGRAM (26 Credits)	DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM (26 Credits)
<i>Physical Education</i>	<p><i>One and one-half credit</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foundations of Personal Fitness • Adventure/Outdoor Education • Aerobic Activities • Team or Individual Sports <p>Credit for courses listed above may be earned through participation in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Athletics • JROTC • Appropriate private or commercially-sponsored physical activity programs conducted on or off campus <p>Credit for one of the courses listed above may be earned through participation in any of the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drill Team • Marching Band • Cheerleading <p>All allowed activities must include at least 100 minutes per five-day school week of moderate to vigorous physical activity.</p> <p>(Limit of four credits.)</p>	<p><i>One and one-half credit</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foundations of Personal Fitness • Adventure/Outdoor Education • Aerobic Activities • Team or Individual Sports <p>Credit for courses listed above may be earned through participation in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Athletics • JROTC • Appropriate private or commercially-sponsored physical activity programs conducted on or off campus <p>Credit for one of the courses listed above may be earned through participation in any of the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drill Team • Marching Band • Cheerleading <p>All allowed activities must include at least 100 minutes per five-day school week of moderate to vigorous physical activity.</p> <p>(Limit of four credits.)</p>	<p><i>One and one-half credit</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foundations of Personal Fitness • Adventure/Outdoor Education • Aerobic Activities • Team or Individual Sports <p>Credit for courses listed above may be earned through participation in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Athletics • JROTC • Appropriate private or commercially-sponsored physical activity programs conducted on or off campus <p>Credit for one of the courses listed above may be earned through participation in any of the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drill Team • Marching Band • Cheerleading <p>All allowed activities must include at least 100 minutes per five-day school week of moderate to vigorous physical activity.</p> <p>(Limit of four credits.)</p>
<i>Health Education</i>	<p><i>One-half credit</i> or Health Science Technology (one credit)</p>	<p><i>One-half credit</i> or Health Science Technology (one credit)</p>	<p><i>One-half credit</i> or Health Science Technology (one credit)</p>

* College Board advanced placement and International Baccalaureate courses may be substituted for requirements in appropriate areas.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
FOR STUDENTS BEGINNING 9TH-GRADE in 2010-2011

DISCIPLINE	CORE PROGRAM (Minimum High School Program) (24 Credits)	RECOMMENDED PROGRAM (26 Credits)	DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM (26 Credits)
<i>Technology Applications</i> * Proficiency	<i>One credit</i> which may be satisfied by: Computer Science I, Computer Science II, Desktop Publishing, Digital Graphics and Animation, Multimedia, Video Technology, Web Mastering, Business Information Management I, Business Information Management II, Computer Programming, Advanced Computer Programming, Telecommunications and Networking, Digital & Interactive Media, Principles of Information Technology, Audio Video Production, Technology Applications Independent Study (with Curriculum Department approval)	<i>One credit</i> which may be satisfied by: Computer Science I, Computer Science II, Desktop Publishing, Digital Graphics and Animation, Multimedia, Video Technology, Web Mastering, Business Information Management I, Business Information Management II, Computer Programming, Advanced Computer Programming, Telecommunications and Networking, Digital & Interactive Media, Principles of Information Technology, Audio Video Production, Technology Applications Independent Study (with Curriculum Department approval) ** Additional options <u>described on VII-29.</u>	<i>One credit</i> which may be satisfied by: Computer Science I, Computer Science II, Desktop Publishing, Digital Graphics and Animation, Multimedia, Video Technology, Web Mastering, Business Information Management I, Business Information Management II, Computer Programming, Advanced Computer Programming, Telecommunications and Networking, Digital & Interactive Media, Principles of Information Technology, Audio Video Production, Technology Applications Independent Study (with Curriculum Department approval) ** Additional options <u>described on VII-29.</u>

* College Board advanced placement and International Baccalaureate courses may be substituted for requirements in appropriate areas.

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
 FOR STUDENTS BEGINNING 9TH-GRADE in 2010-2011**

DISCIPLINE	CORE PROGRAM (Minimum High School Program) (24 Credits)	RECOMMENDED PROGRAM (26 Credits)	DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM (26 Credits)
<i>Fine Arts</i>	<p>One credit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Principals and Elements of Floral Design (CTE);</i> • <i>Art, Level I, II, III, or IV;</i> • <i>Dance, Level I, II, III, or IV;</i> • <i>Music, Level I, II, III, or IV;</i> • <i>Theatre, Level I, II, III, or IV</i> <p>(Speech and Debate may not substitute.)</p> <p>AP, IB, or dual credit college fine arts courses may substitute.</p>	<p>One credit</p> <p>which may be satisfied by any course found in 19 TAC Chapter 117 or <i>Principals and Elements of Floral Design (CTE)</i></p> <p>(Speech and Debate may not substitute.)</p> <p>AP, IB, or dual credit college fine arts courses may substitute.</p>	<p>One credit</p> <p>which may be satisfied by any course found in 19 TAC Chapter 117 or <i>Principals and Elements of Floral Design (CTE)</i></p> <p>(Speech and Debate may not substitute.)</p> <p>AP, IB, or dual credit college fine arts courses may substitute.</p>
<i>Electives</i>	<p>Six credits</p> <p>These are elective credits to be selected from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the list of courses approved by the SBOE for Grades 9-12 as specified in TAC §74.1; • state-approved innovative courses, • Junior Reserve Office Training Corps (JROTC) (one to four credits); or • Driver Education (one-half credit) – transferred from another school district. <p>(Two credits can be earned through “local credit” courses.)</p>	<p>Five credits</p> <p>These are elective credits to be selected from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the list of courses approved by the SBOE for Grades 9-12 as specified in TAC §74.1; • state-approved innovative courses, • Junior Reserve Office Training Corps (JROTC) (one to four credits); or • Driver Education (one-half credit) – transferred from another school district. 	<p>Four credits</p> <p>These are elective credits to be selected from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the list of courses approved by the SBOE for Grades 9-12 as specified in TAC §74.1; • state-approved innovative courses, • Junior Reserve Office Training Corps (JROTC) (one to four credits); or • Driver Education (one-half credit) – transferred from another school district.

* College Board advanced placement and International Baccalaureate courses may be substituted for requirements in appropriate areas.

Technology Applications Course Sequence Option

Students may also satisfy their technology applications proficiency through the completion of three credits (for students participating in a coherent sequence of career and technology courses or who are enrolled in a Tech Prep High School plan of study) consisting of two or more state-approved Career and Technical Education courses in TAC Chapters 119-125 and 127. Districts shall ensure that Career and Technical Education courses, including innovative courses, in a coherent sequence used to meet the technology applications credit are appropriate to collectively teach the knowledge and skills found in any of the approved technology applications courses. Students pursuing the technology applications option described in this subparagraph must demonstrate proficiency in the technology applications prior to the beginning of Grade 11.

TECH PREP/ “2+2 OR 4+2” PROGRAMS

Tech Prep education program is a combined secondary and post-secondary program which may begin with grade 9 of high school and continue through two years of post-secondary education which: Tech Prep Programs are developed, implemented, and maintained in partnership among the CTE department, secondary schools, post-secondary institutions, business and industry and approved by Texas Education Agency and Texas Higher Coordinating Board which leads to post-secondary education and/or employment in an occupational field.

The Tech Prep Program is also compatible with the Recommended High School Program. Students completing a TEA-approved Tech Prep Program would meet the criteria for the Recommended High School Program as long as the program meets the English, mathematics, science, social studies, foreign language, health, fine arts, and computing proficiencies, and provides the equivalent of a 24-credit program (or 26-credit program for 9th graders entering in 2007-2008). It could also satisfy the requirements of the Distinguished Achievement Program if applicable advanced measures are completed.

DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

<p>Purpose of the Distinguished Achievement Program</p>	<p>The Distinguished Achievement Program recognizes students who demonstrate levels of performance equivalent to college students or work done by professionals in the arts, sciences, business, industry, or community service.</p>
<p>Standards for Approval of Requirements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Advanced measures focus on demonstrated student performance at the college or professional level. ◆ Student performance is assessed through an external review process.
<p>Requirements of the Distinguished Achievement Program</p>	<p>Students <i>must</i> complete the requirements found in §74.1 and receive any combination of four of the following advanced measures (examples: two AP examinations, one college course, one research project OR four AP examinations). Original research/projects may not be used for more than two of the four advanced measures. The measures must focus on demonstrated student performance at the college or professional level. Advanced measures include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Original research/project that is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ judged by a panel of professionals in the field that is the focus of the project; or ▶ conducted under the direction of mentor(s) and reported to an appropriate audience; ◆ Test data where a student receives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ a score of three or above on the College Board Advanced Placement examination; ▶ a score of four or above on an International Baccalaureate examination; or ▶ a score on the PSAT that qualifies a student for recognition as a Commended Scholar or higher by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation; as part of the National Hispanic Scholar Program of the College Board; or as part of the National Achievement Scholarship Program for Outstanding Negro Students of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. The PSAT score may count as only one advanced measure regardless of the number of honors received by the student; or <p>College academic courses, advanced technical credit courses, and dual credit courses, including local articulation, with a grade of 3.0 or higher. Each college course taken for dual credit counts as one advanced measure for DAP purposes.</p>

GRADUATION PROVISIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The following are requirements for graduation for students with disabilities:

- ◆ Minimum credit requirements documented on the Academic Achievement Record (transcript)
- ◆ Graduation Plan
- ◆ ARD/IEP Supplement: Graduation Options
- ◆ ARD/IEP Supplement: Transition Statement of Needed Services

The ARD/IEP Committee develops the Graduation Plan and identifies the student's graduation options on the ARD/IEP Supplement: Graduation Plan.

A student receiving special education services may earn a high school diploma in one of four ways:

- (a) the student has satisfactorily completed the state's or district's (whichever is greater) minimum curriculum and credit requirements for graduation under the Recommended or DAP high school programs applicable to students in general education, including satisfactory performance on the exit-level assessment instrument.
- (b) the student has satisfactorily completed the state's or district's (whichever is greater) minimum curriculum and credit requirements for graduation under the Minimum high school program applicable to students in general education and participated in the required state assessments. The ARD/IEP committee shall determine whether satisfactory performance on a required state assessment shall also be required for graduation. TAC §89.1070(b)(2).
- (c) A student receiving special education services may also graduate and receive a high school diploma when the student's ARD/IEP committee has determined the student has successfully completed:
 - (1) the state's or district's (whichever is greater) minimum credit requirements for students in general education, or
 - (2) the state's or district's minimum curriculum requirements to the extent possible with modifications/substitutions as determined by the ARD/IEP committee for the student to receive an appropriate education
 - (3) participating in required assessments as determined appropriate by the ARD/IEP committee, and
 - (4) fulfilling other requirements outlined in the IEP including one of the following:
 - (A) full-time employment, based on the student's abilities and local employment opportunities, in addition to sufficient self-help skills to enable the student to maintain employment without direct and ongoing educational support from HISD personnel.
 - (B) demonstrated mastery of specific employability skills and self-help skills that do not require direct ongoing educational support from HISD personnel.
 - (C) access to services which are not within the legal responsibility of public education, or employment or educational options for which the student has been prepared by the academic program.

Secondary School Guidelines, 2010-2011
Graduation Requirements

- (d) A student receiving special education services may also graduate and receive a regular high school upon the ARD/IEP committee determining that the student no longer meets age eligibility requirements and has completed the requirements specified in the IEP.
- (e) When considering a student's graduation under subsection (C) of this section, the student shall be evaluated prior to graduation, as required by 34 CFR §30.0534(c), and the ARD/IEP committee shall consider the evaluation, the views of the parent and/or student, and, when appropriate, seek in writing and consider, written recommendations from adult service agencies.
- (f) Students who participate in graduation ceremonies but who are not graduating under subsection (c) of this section and who will remain in school to complete their education do not have to be evaluated in accordance with subsection (c) of this section.
- (g) Employability and self-help skills referenced under subsection (c) of this section are those skills directly related to the preparation of students for employment, including general skills necessary to obtain or retain employment.
- (h) For students who receive a diploma according to subsection (c) of this section, the ARD/IEP committee shall determine needed educational services upon the request of the student or parent to resume services, as long as the student meets the age eligibility requirements.

Note: A student identified as eligible for special education services during the twelfth grade year must have a Graduation Plan developed which will require completion of at least one academic year of school before becoming eligible for graduation. Identification and eligibility for special education services at this time does not exempt a student from the state assessment requirements.

All students not graduating under the Recommended Program are required by HISD Board policy to have an exit conference and to sign an 'Exit From the Recommended Program' form. Thus for students who will graduate under subsections (c) or (d) the exit conference may take place at the same ARD/IEP meeting in which subsection (c) or (d) is agreed upon, and the required exit form can be completed at the time of that ARD/IEP meeting.

Senate Bill (SB) 673 of 2007, permits a student with disabilities to participate in a graduation ceremony after completing four years of high school, even if the student has not yet completed graduation requirements contained in the student's IEP. SB673 permits students with disabilities to receive a certificate of attendance at the graduation ceremony and return to school to complete the graduation requirements in the IEP. The student can participate in only one graduation ceremony. Therefore, the student may choose to complete graduation requirements in the IEP before participating in a graduation ceremony.

TEXAS SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The Texas Scholars program was adopted in 1992 by the Texas Business and Education Coalition (TBEC) and was endorsed that same year by the State Board of Education (SBOE). The program advances a course of study that prepares students to enter a technical school, a community college, a university, or the work force. The Texas Scholars - High School and Beyond Program, a joint effort of school districts and the business community, is endorsed by colleges and universities, the Texas Education Agency, the Texas Business and Education Coalition, and the Houston Independent School District.

The Texas Scholars – High School and Beyond Program aims to motivate students to be more focused and purposeful during their high school years and to develop knowledge and skills that are relevant to the job market as well as meet college admissions requirements and to qualify for certain kinds of financial aid.

High school students that entered the 9th grade prior to 2007-08 will follow the Texas Scholars criteria that was in effect when they entered the 9th grade which were:

- Graduate from high school having completed the Recommended High School Program,
- Achieve a *Texas Ready* standard on at least one standardized test, and
- Develop and carry out an individual plan for their high school years and transition to college, the workplace, the military, or some other endeavor of their choosing.

Beginning with the 9th grade class of 2007-08, to be recognized as a Texas Scholar, students will be required to:

- Graduate from high school having completed the Recommended High School Program, and
- Complete at least two courses while in high school that are eligible for college credit. (These two courses could be AP, IB, Tech Prep/Articulated, or dual credit.)

The Texas Scholars program consists of three major elements, each of which is essential to the program's success.

- ◆ Presenting 8th grade students with information that shows them the value of taking a full academic load. This presentation, entitled "**Great Expectations, Great Rewards**" and discussion is conducted by a local businessperson or community volunteer.
- ◆ Presenting 10th grade students with information: to reinforce the importance of taking challenging courses, to encourage their preparation for the PSAT, to provide information in relation to career options and how these options may be researched. A local businessperson or community volunteer facilitates the presentation and discussion which is entitled, "**Passport to Success**".
- ◆ Honoring as a Texas Scholar each individual high school senior that has completed the required curriculum at an annual ceremony or reception and acknowledging them during their graduation ceremony.

Exit from the Texas Scholars Program

By HISD Board of Education policy all students entering high school as freshmen beginning in the 2001-2002 school year and thereafter will automatically be enrolled in the Texas Scholars Program. This program will ensure that students receive a sound academic education that will provide opportunities in the workforce as well as prepare them for additional training/education beyond high school.

In the event that a student requests to be removed from the Texas Scholars Program, the counselor/dean or administrator will schedule a meeting with the student. At this meeting, the counselor/dean or administrator will review relevant information such as grades, credit check sheet, attendance, teacher anecdotal information, etc. The student will be asked what led to the decision and whether there is anything, the counselor/administrator can do to help the student think through this decision. The student will be advised that, by remaining on the Texas Scholars Program, he/she may be eligible for a TEXAS Grant. This grant may pay tuition and fees at a public college/university, community college, or a technical school in Texas. If the student decides to stay in the Texas Scholars Program, the counselor/dean or administrator will determine a time and process to continue to monitor academic progress. If the student definitely wants to exit the program, the counselor/dean or administrator will set up a meeting with the parent(s).

The counselor/dean or administrator will advise the student that a conference is needed with the parents to discuss exit from the Texas Scholars Program. At that conference, the school representative will explain the benefits of the program and the TEXAS Grant. If the parent(s) agree with the student's decision to exit the program, both students and parent(s) will sign an Exit Form. The counselor/dean or administrator will give the parent(s) a copy of the form, place one in the student's folder, and give the third copy to the registrar who will ensure that the student's electronic file will no longer indicate enrollment in the Texas Scholars Program.

SCHOLARSHIP/GRANT/EXEMPTION PROGRAMS FOR TEXAS RESIDENTS

Following is information about various scholarships available to students of Texas. Detailed information about these and other scholarships can be found at the following websites:

<http://www.theccb.state.tx.us/reports/pdf/0539.pdf>

<http://www.collegefortexans.com/formsapps/>

<http://theccb.state.tx.us>

Texas Grant

The purpose of the program is to provide a grant of money to enable well-prepared eligible students to attend public and private nonprofit institutions of higher education in Texas. The priority in making awards is to provide continued funding to recipients already enrolled in the program who are in college and are making progress towards their degrees. You apply for the TEXAS Grant when you complete and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or other application as required by your college's financial aid office. Funding is limited, so you need to submit your application as soon as possible after January 1 of your senior year. The financial aid office at each college and university will determine if TEXAS Grant is part of the aid package that is offered to you. <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>

Scholarship Program for Early High School Graduates

The Early High School Graduation Scholarship Program is a financial assistance program for students who graduate from high school in fewer than four years.

To qualify, a student must:

- ◆ have graduated from public high school in Texas
 - in not more than 41 consecutive months and successfully completed the Recommended or Advanced Program
 - in not more than 45 consecutive months, with at least 30 hours of college credit, and successfully completed the Recommended or Advanced Program
- ◆ have attended high school exclusively in one or more Texas public high schools;
- ◆ be a Texas resident as defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board;
- ◆ enroll in an institution of higher education in Texas. If the institution is a private nonprofit institution, the school must agree to match the funds provided by the state.

The amount of credit a student is eligible to receive varies depending on the number of months the student takes to graduate and the number of college credit hours the student has earned while in high school. A student who is eligible under this program is entitled to a state credit to apply toward tuition or tuition and mandatory fees in the following amounts:

(1) \$2,000 to apply toward tuition and mandatory fees if:

- the person successfully completed the recommended or advanced high school program; and
- graduated from high school in 36 consecutive months or less

an additional \$1,000 to apply toward tuition and mandatory fees if:

- the person graduated with at least 15 hours of college credit;

(2) \$500 to apply toward tuition and mandatory fees if:

- the person successfully completed the recommended or advanced high school program; and
- graduated from high school in more than 36 consecutive months but not more than 41 consecutive months

an additional \$1,000 to apply toward tuition and mandatory fees if:

- the person graduated with at least 30 hours of college credit;

(3) \$1,000 to apply toward tuition and mandatory fees if:

- the person successfully completed the recommended or advanced high school program; and
- graduated from high school in more than 41 consecutive months but not more than 45 consecutive months with at least 30 hours of college credit.

How to Receive the Early High School Graduation Scholarship

To qualify a student for the scholarship program, the counselor will need to submit to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board the Application for the Early High School Graduation Scholarship, attesting to the fact that the student completed grades 9-12 in less than four years and, that the student has attended high school only in Texas.

The application form is available on line at <http://www.theccb.state.tx.us/reports/PDF/0666.PDF>
For a TEA brochure go to <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/curriculum/EHSGSP.pdf>

Texas B-On-Time Loan Program

The purpose of this award is to provide no-interest loans to eligible students to enable those students to attend all public and private or independent institutions of higher education in Texas. To be eligible students

- 1) must be a graduate of a public or accredited private high school in Texas who graduated not earlier than the 2002–2003 school year under the recommended or advanced high school program or must have received an associate degree from an eligible institution not earlier than May 1, 2005;
- 2) be enrolled for a full course load for an undergraduate student, in an undergraduate degree or certificate program at an eligible institution; and
- 3) be eligible for federal financial aid.
- 4) be a Texas resident or be entitled to pay resident tuition rates as a dependent child of a member of the U. S. armed forces
TEC, §56.455

Loan Forgiveness. A student who receives a Texas B-On-time loan shall be forgiven the amount of the student's loan if the student is awarded an undergraduate certificate or degree at an eligible institution with a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 on a four-point scale or the equivalent:

- 1) within:
 - a) 4 calendar years after the date the student initially enrolled in an eligible institution,
 - b) 5 calendar years after the date the student initially enrolled in an eligible institution, if the degree is in engineering, architecture, or any other program determined by the coordinating board to require more than four years to complete; or
 - c) 2 calendar years after the date the student initially enrolled in an eligible institution if the institution is a public junior college or public technical institute; or
- 2) with a total number of semester credit hours, including transfer credit hours and hours earned exclusively by examination, that is not more than six hours more than the minimum number of semester credit hours required to complete the certificate or degree. TEC §56.462.

Highest Ranking High School Graduate Program

The governing board of each institution of higher education may issue scholarships each year to the highest-ranking graduate of each accredited high school of this state, exempting the graduates from the payment of tuition during both semesters of the first regular session immediately following their graduation. TEC §54.201.

Certain TANF (Temporary Aid for Needy Families) Students

A student is exempt from payment of tuition and fees for the first academic year in which the student enrolls at an institution of higher education if the student during the student's last year of public high school was a dependent child receiving financial assistance under Chapter 31, Human Resources Code, for not less than six months. TEC §54.212.

Texas Educational Opportunity Grant Program (formerly TEXAS Grant II) (TEOG)
To provide grant aid to financially needy students enrolled in Texas public two-year colleges.
TEC §56.402.

Tuition Equalization Grant Program (TEG)

To provide grant aid to financially needy students to enable them to attend private, non-profit colleges or universities in Texas.

Education and Training Vouchers for Youths Aging Out of Foster Care (ETV)

This program provides financial assistance to help youth ages 16-23 to begin, continue or complete postsecondary education and training programs. <http://www.dfps.state.tx.us>

Teach for Texas Loan Repayment Assistance Program

The purpose is to attract to the teaching profession persons who have expressed interest in teaching and to support the employment of those persons as classroom teachers by providing student loan repayment assistance for service as a classroom teacher in the public schools of this state in a teaching field identified as experiencing a critical shortage of teachers. For details see TEC §56.351.

Children of Prisoners of War or Persons Missing in Action

The dependent child of any person who is a Texas resident on active duty as a member of the armed forces of the United States, and who at the time of the registration is classified by the Department of Defense as a prisoner of war or as missing in action shall be exempt from the payment of tuition and fees. For details see TEC §54.209.

TEC §33.007 (c) requires that at the beginning of grades 10 and 11, a school counselor certified under the rules of the State Board for Educator Certification shall explain the requirements of automatic admission to a general academic teaching institution under Section 51.803 to each student enrolled in a high school or at the high school level in an open-enrollment charter school who has a **grade point average in the top 25 percent** of the student's high school class.

General Educational Developmental Test / High School Equivalency Program (HSEP)

TEC §29.087 severely limits the students eligible to participate in a High School Equivalency Program (HSEP). HISD currently does not operate in-school GED programs.

Further information on GED and the High School Equivalency Program is available at:

<http://www.tea.state.tx.us/hsep>

Evaluating Transcripts for Former Students

- ◆ The following chart lists graduation requirements from past years. Former students whose records are digitized and are on file at CISR and who return to a local high school to have a transcript evaluated or a diploma replaced should be referred to the HISD Center for Inactive Student Records (CISR).

YEAR STUDENT ENTERED 9TH GRADE	ACADEMIC CREDITS	PE CREDITS	TOTAL
1971-72 (or prior)	17	2	19
1972-73	17	2.5	19.5
1973-74	17	3	20
1974-75	17*	4*	21
1979-80	18.0	2.5 +.5 Health	21
1983-84	19.0	1.5 +.5 Health	21
1995-96	22.0	1.5 +.5 Health	24
1997-98	22.0	1.5 +.5 Health	24
1998-00	22.0	1.5 +.5 Health	24

- * 3 credits are required in PE. The fourth credit may be taken in PE, Driver Training (if student entered the 10th grade in September 1975 or later), or any academic subject.

TEC §7.006 requires that the commissioner of education and the commissioner of higher education ensure that records of TEA and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board are coordinated and maintained in standardized compatible formats to permit exchange of information between agencies so that a student's academic performance may be assessed throughout the student's educational career.