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## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

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Students entering grade 9 in the 2005-2006 school year and thereafter must pass all portions of the TAKS Exit Level assessment to fulfill graduation requirements of all three graduation programs and fulfill state graduation credits to be eligible to participate in the high school graduation ceremony. Students entering grade 9 in the 2011-12 school year and thereafter must pass STAAR/End of Course (EOC) assessments and fulfill state graduation credits to be eligible to participate in the high school graduation ceremony.

Students have three graduation options listed below.

- The **Minimum** High School Program requires successful completion of 22 state-approved credits. Students requesting the Minimum High School Program should contact the counseling office at their campus for information. Access to this program requires parent permission and is an option only after completion of the student's tenth grade year.
- The **Recommended** High School Program requires successful completion of 26 state-approved credits. This diploma program is an admission requirement for four year Texas public colleges and universities.
- The **Distinguished Achievement** Program includes the completion of the Recommended High School Program and four (4) advanced measures.

### *Grade Classification*

Grade classification is tied to units of credit earned. The requirements for each classification beyond freshman (ninth grade) are listed below.

<i>Units of Credit</i>	<i>Grade Placement</i>
5	10 (Sophomore)
10	11 (Junior)
16	12 (Senior)

### **State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) Program**

#### **Recommended and Distinguished Graduation Plans**

High School Students will be required to successfully complete twelve End of Course (EOC) assessments for the Recommended High School Graduation Plan. Students must earn a satisfactory cumulative score on all twelve exams in order to earn a Texas high school diploma. The tests are administered three times a year with opportunities for retakes if the student does not earn a minimum passing score. The student's score on each of the twelve assessments will count 15% of the student's final grade for the course. The tests are administered for the following courses:

Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II\*

English I, English II, English III\*

Biology, Chemistry, Physics

World Geography, World History, US History

\*Students must earn a Level II (Satisfactory Score) on the Algebra II and English III exam to qualify for the Recommended High School Diploma.

\*Students must earn a Level III (Advance Score) on the Algebra II and English III exam to qualify for the Distinguished High school Diploma.

#### **Minimum High School Graduation Plan**

Students must earn a satisfactory cumulative score for all courses that have a related STAAR/EOC assessment. Each student's plan will reflect different coursework and will require that he/she earn a satisfactory on each of the courses taken.

## Minimum High School Graduation Plan

Discipline	Recommended High School Graduation Plan (RHSP)
<b>English 4 Credits</b>	English I, II, III, IV
<b>Mathematics 3 Credits</b>	Algebra I Geometry Math Models
<b>Science 3 Credits</b> There are two (2) options Available to satisfy this requirement.	<b>Option I:</b> <b>Biology</b> <b>IPC</b> *A student may substitute chemistry or physics for IPC, but by doing so, the student must take the other course. For example, if a student takes chemistry, he/she must also take physics to satisfy the three credits. If a student takes physics, he/she must also take chemistry. If a student takes IPC to satisfy one of the three credit requirements, he/she may select from any of the following courses to satisfy the three credit requirement: Aquatic Science Astronomy Earth and Space Science Environmental Systems Anatomy and Physiology Chemistry Physics <b>Option II:</b> <b>Biology</b> <b>IPC</b> <b>Approved CTE Coherent Sequence II Course</b>
<b>Social Studies 2.5 Credits</b>	World Geography <u>or</u> World History U. S. History U. S. Government (one-half credit)
<b>Economics .5 Credits</b>	Economics
<b>Languages Other Than English</b>	None Required
<b>Physical Education 1 Credit</b>	See Course Descriptions for Selection Credit may not be earned for any TEKS-based course more than once. No more than four substitution credits may be earned
<b>Health .5 Credit</b>	Health
<b>Speech .5 Credit</b>	<b>One-half credit:</b> Communications Applications or Professional Communications (CTE)
<b>Technology Applications 1 Credit</b>	See Course Descriptions for Selection
<b>Fine Arts 1 Credit</b>	<b>Select from:</b> <b>Art, Dance, Music, Theatre, or</b> <b>Principles &amp; Elements of Floral Design (CTE)</b>
<b>Elective Courses 5 Credits</b>	See Course Descriptions for Options
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>22 Credits</b>
<b>End Of Course Exams</b>	The student must meet the <u>State Cumulative Score Requirement</u> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• on a minimum of eight (8) End of Course Exams—English I, II, III, Biology, U.S. History, W. Geography <u>or</u> W. History, Algebra I, Geometry</li> </ul> <b>or</b> on the corresponding End of Course exam(s) for courses the student earns credit toward graduation

## Distinguished Achievement High School Graduation Plan

Discipline	Recommended High School Graduation Plan (RHSP)
English 4 Credits	<b>English I, II, III, IV</b> <b>Other options:</b> PreAdvanced Placement English I, II The third credit may be substituted with AP English Language. The fourth credit may be selected from the following; AP English Literature, SJCC Dual Credit English
Mathematics 4 Credits	<b>Algebra I</b> <b>Geometry</b> <b>Algebra II</b> The fourth credit may be selected from the following <u>after</u> completion of Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II: Advanced Quantitative Reasoning PreCalculus Independent Study in Mathematics or SJCC Dual Credit Approved Advanced Placement Courses Engineering Mathematics (CTE) Statistics and Risk Management (CTE)
Science 4 Credits	<b>Biology</b> <b>Chemistry</b> <b>Physics</b> The fourth credit may be selected from the following: Aquatic Science Astronomy Earth and Space Science Environmental Systems Approved Advanced Placement Courses Approve CTE courses Approved Dual Credit Courses
Social Studies 3.5 Credits	<b>World Geography</b> <b>World History</b> <b>U. S. History</b> <b>U. S. Government</b> (one-half credit)
Economics .5 Credits	<b>Economics</b>
Languages Other Than English (LOTE) 3.0 Credits	Any three levels in the same language
Physical Education 1 Credit	See Course Descriptions for Selection Credit may not be earned for any TEKS-based course more than once. No more than four substitution credits may be earned
Health .5 Credit	<b>Health</b>
Speech .5 Credit	<b>One-half credit:</b> Communications Applications or Professional Communications (CTE)
Technology Applications 1 Credit	See Course Descriptions for Selection
Fine Arts 1 Credit	<b>Select from:</b> <b>Art, Dance, Music, Theatre, or</b> <b>Principles &amp; Elements of Floral Design (CTE)</b>
Elective Courses 3 Credits	See Course Descriptions for Selection
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>26 Credits</b>
<b>Complete Four (4) Advanced Measures <u>AND</u></b> <b>Meet the State Cumulative Score on 12 End of Course Exams with Advanced Performance on English III and Algebra II</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Original Research Project</li> <li>• Score of 3 or better on the College Board Advanced Placement Exam</li> <li>• Score of 4 or better on the International Baccalaureate Exam</li> <li>• A score on the PSAT that qualifies as a: Commended Scholar, National Merit Scholar, National Hispanic Scholar, National Achievement Scholar</li> <li>• Meet the State Cumulative Score Requirement on twelve (12) End of Course Exams</li> <li>• Advanced Academic Performance on End of Course English III and Algebra II</li> </ul>

## Recommended High School Graduation Plan

Discipline	Recommended High School Graduation Plan (RHSP)
<b>English 4 Credits</b>	<b>English I, II, III, IV</b> <b>Other options:</b> PreAdvanced Placement English I, II The third credit may be substituted with AP English Language The fourth credit may be selected from the following; AP English Literature, SJCC Dual Credit English
<b>Mathematics 4 Credits</b>	<b>Algebra I</b> <b>Geometry</b> <b>Algebra II</b> The fourth credit may be selected from the following and must be completed <b>prior</b> to Algebra II: Mathematical Models with Application Mathematical Applications in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources. The fourth credit may be selected from the following <b>after</b> completion of Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II Advanced Quantitative Reasoning PreCalculus Independent Study in Mathematics or SJCC Dual Credit Approved Advanced Placement Courses Engineering Mathematics (CTE) Statistics and Risk Management (CTE)
<b>Science 4 Credits</b>	<b>Biology</b> <b>Chemistry</b> <b>Physics</b> The additional credit may be IPC but must be successfully completed <b>prior</b> to chemistry and physics, The fourth credit may be selected from the following: Aquatic Science Astronomy Earth and Space Science Environmental Systems Approved Advanced Placement Courses Approve CTE courses Approved SJCC Dual Credit Courses
<b>Social Studies 3.5 Credits</b>	<b>World Geography</b> <b>World History</b> <b>U. S. History</b> <b>U. S. Government</b> (one-half credit)
<b>Economics .5 Credits</b>	<b>Economics</b>
<b>Languages Other Than English (LOTE) 2.0 Credits</b>	Any two levels in the same language
<b>Physical Education 1 Credit</b>	See Course Descriptions for Selection Credit may not be earned for any TEKS-based course more than once. No more than four substitution credits may be earned
<b>Health .5 Credit</b>	<b>Health</b>
<b>Speech .5 Credit</b>	<b>One-half credit:</b> Communications Applications or Professional Communications (CTE)
<b>Technology Applications 1 Credit</b>	See Course Descriptions for Selection
<b>Fine Arts 1 Credit</b>	<b>Select from:</b> <b>Art, Dance, Music, Theatre, or</b> <b>Principles &amp; Elements of Floral Design (CTE)</b>
<b>Elective Courses 4 Credits</b>	See Course Descriptions for Options
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>26 Credits</b>
<b>End Of Course Exams</b>	Must Meet the State Cumulative Score Requirement on twelve (12) End of Course Exams with a Satisfactory or better Score on English III <u>and</u> Algebra II