

Graduation Plans

Students should plan to graduate on the Distinguished Level of Achievement on the Foundation High School Programs with at least one Endorsement. Students should take rigorous coursework in order to be prepared for their next endeavor.

Foundation High School Program Distinguished Level of Achievement	Foundation High School Program with Endorsements	Foundation High School Program – No Endorsement
<p>Hays CISD requires students on the Distinguished Level of Achievement Program to fulfill state graduation requirements as well as Hays CISD local requirements of .5 credit of Professional Communications and .5 credit of health for a total of 26 credits.</p> <p>Students must graduate with at least one endorsement.</p> <p>Students must successfully complete Algebra II.</p> <p>Students will not be eligible for the Automatic Admission Rule for college admissions unless they graduate under the Distinguished Level of Achievement, even if they are in the top 10% of the graduating class, including Algebra II.</p>	<p>Hays CISD requires students on the Foundation High School Program with Endorsements to fulfill state graduation requirements as well as Hays CISD local requirements of .5 credit of Professional Communications and .5 credit of health for a total of 26 credits.</p> <p>Students must graduate with at least one endorsement.</p>	<p>Hays CISD requires students on the Foundation High School Program to fulfill state graduation requirements as well as Hays CISD local requirements of .5 credit of Professional Communications and .5 credit of health for a total of 22 credits.</p> <p>*Students must obtain permission from the counselor, parent and campus administrator to graduate on the FHSP/with no endorsement.</p>

*All students shall enroll in the courses necessary to complete the curriculum requirements for the Foundation High School Program with an endorsement and the Distinguished Level of Achievement. A student, the student’s parent or other persons standing in parental relation to the student, school counselor, and school administrator can agree that the students should be permitted to graduate on the Foundation High School Program without an endorsement. In order to graduate under the Foundation High School Program without an endorsement, the student must receive a copy of *The Benefits of the*

Foundation High School Program with an Endorsement and sign a *Foundation High Endorsement Opt-Out Agreement* with the school administrator and a parent/guardian. A copy is kept in the student’s permanent record folder upon graduation.

****Qualification for Automatic Admission to Texas public colleges and universities requires a student to complete the Distinguished Level of Achievement of the Foundation High School Program. Students will not be eligible for Automatic Admission if they are in the top 10% of their class and are not on the Distinguished Level of Achievement**

Benefits of Graduating under the Foundation High School Program with an Endorsement

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>College readiness</i> - Many colleges and universities minimally require the FHSP with an endorsement for admission. In addition, students ranked in the top 10 percent of their graduating classes from an accredited Texas public high school are eligible for automatic admission to most Texas public universities if they have completed the Distinguished Level of Achievement. The University of Texas at Austin is an exception to the top 10% rule as it will automatically admit all eligible 2019 summer/fall freshman applicants who rank in the top 6% of their high school graduating class, with the remaining spots to be filled through holistic review. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Recognition</i> - The Foundation High School Program seal will be affixed to the Academic Achievement Record (AAR), or transcript, of students graduating under the FHSP. The Endorsement will be affixed to the transcript upon graduation.• <i>Test results</i> - Research suggests that students who take additional English, math, social studies, and science courses make higher scores on the SAT® or ACT® college entrance exams. The Distinguished Level of Achievement requires four credits in each of these core subject areas. |
|--|---|

State & Local Limits Apply: Students must be aware of graduation requirements

There are several special restrictions of which students should be aware. Some of these are state requirements, and some are local policy. The state requires only one credit of PE to graduate. Students can count up to no more than 4 credits of PE or athletics toward graduation. Therefore, a student who participates in athletics all 4 years can count all 4 credits toward the state graduation requirement.

Local credit courses-do not count toward graduation requirements.

It is the student's responsibility to know what credits are needed for graduation and requirements for college admissions. They are encouraged to seek assistance from their high school counselor if they have any questions about any of the graduation plans.

State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) End-of-Course Exams Required for Graduation

Students must successfully pass the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) in order to graduate. STAAR requires students to successfully complete 5 End-of-Course (EOC) assessments.

There are some substitute exams for EOC for graduation. Please see your counselor for more details.

The STAAR EOC assessments are required for the following subjects:

- Algebra I
- English I
- English II
- Biology
- U.S. History

Graduation Requirements

Foundation High School Program with Endorsements and Distinguished Level of Achievement

Students must sign an agreement to graduate under the Foundation High School Program without an Endorsement

Course	Distinguished Level of Achievement	Foundation High School Program with Endorsement
English	<p>Four Credits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English I, II, III, IV* • English I and II for speakers of Other Languages may be substituted for English I and II only for students with limited English proficiency who are at the beginning or intermediate levels of English language proficiency <p>* English 1301, 1302 and Brit. Literature classes can count for English IV.</p>	<p>Four Credits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English I, II, III, IV* • English I and II for speakers of Other Languages may be substituted for English I and II only for students with limited English proficiency who are at the beginning or intermediate levels of English language proficiency. <p>*English 1301, 1302 and Brit. Literature classes can count for English IV.</p>
Mathematics	<p>Four Credits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Algebra I • Algebra Pre -AP • Geometry • Geometry Pre-AP • Algebra II • The fourth credit may be selected from any of the following after successful completion of Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Precalculus ▪ Precalculus Pre-AP ▪ Advanced Quantitative Reasoning ▪ Algebraic Reasoning ▪ Calculus: Ind. Study in Math ▪ Statistics ▪ AP Calculus AB ▪ AP Calculus BC ▪ AP Computer Science ▪ AP Statistics 	<p>Four Credits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Algebra I • Algebra I Pre-AP • Geometry • Geometry Pre-AP • The third and fourth credit may be selected from any of the following after successful completion of Algebra I and Geometry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Algebra II ▪ Precalculus ▪ Precalculus Pre-AP ▪ Advanced Quantitative Reasoning ▪ Algebraic Reasoning ▪ Accounting II ▪ Calculus: Ind. Study in Math ▪ Digital Electronics (can only count as 3rd math) ▪ Mathematical Models with Applications (can only count as 3rd math) ▪ Statistics ▪ AP Calculus AB ▪ AP Calculus BC ▪ AP Computer Science ▪ AP Statistics
Social Studies	<p>Three Credits (Preferably Four Credits):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U.S. History Studies Since 1877 (1 credit) • U.S. Government (.5 credit) • Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits (.5 credit) • World Geography Studies or World History Studies or AP Human Geog. (1 credit) <p>*Hays CISD strongly recommends students take four credits of social studies to include World Geography & World History. Most universities require 4 years for admission</p>	<p>Three Credits (Preferably Four Credits):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U.S. History Studies Since 1877 (1 credit) • U.S. Government (.5 credit) • Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits (.5 credit) • World Geography Studies or World History Studies or AP Human Geog. (1 credit) <p>*Hays CISD strongly recommends students take four credits of social studies to include World Geography & World History. Most universities require 4 years for admission.</p>

Graduation Requirements

Course	Distinguished Level of Achievement	Foundation High School Program with Endorsement
Languages Other Than English (LOTE)	<p>Two Credits*: Any two credits of the same language or Computer Science I, II, III and (AP Computer Science and AP Computer Science Principles counts for 1 credit)</p> <p>*Students must take at least two years of the <i>same</i> foreign language for admission to many colleges and universities. There are substitutes for LOTE for 504 and Sp. Education</p>	<p>Two Credits*: Any two credits of the same language or Computer Science I, II, III (AP Computer Science and AP Computer Science Principles counts for 1 credit)</p> <p>*Students must take at least two years of the <i>same</i> foreign language for admission to many colleges and universities. There are substitutes for LOTE for 504 and Sp. Education.</p>
Science	<p>Four credits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One credit of Biology • Second Science Credit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ IPC*(Refer to Science Section) ▪ Chemistry ▪ Chemistry Pre-AP ▪ AP Chemistry ▪ Physics ▪ AP Physics I: Algebra-Based • The third and fourth credit may be selected from any of the following courses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Aquatic Science ▪ Astronomy ▪ Chemistry ▪ Chemistry Pre-AP ▪ Physics ▪ Aquatic Science ▪ Environmental Systems ▪ Advanced Animal Science ▪ Advanced Plant and Soil Science ▪ Anatomy & Physiology ▪ Food Science ▪ Forensic Science ▪ AP Biology ▪ AP Chemistry ▪ AP Physics 1: Algebra-Based ▪ AP Physics 2: Algebra-Based ▪ AP Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism ▪ AP Physics C: Mechanics ▪ AP Environmental Science ▪ Refer to Dual Credit Crosswalk 	<p>Four credits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One credit of Biology • Second Science Credit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ IPC* (Refer to Science section) ▪ Chemistry ▪ Chemistry Pre-AP ▪ AP Chemistry ▪ Physics ▪ AP Physics I: Algebra-Based • The third and fourth credit may be selected from any of the following courses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Aquatic Science ▪ Astronomy ▪ Chemistry ▪ Chemistry Pre-AP ▪ Physics ▪ Aquatic Science ▪ Environmental Systems ▪ Advanced Animal Science ▪ Advanced Plant and Soil Science ▪ Anatomy & Physiology ▪ Food Science ▪ Forensic Science ▪ AP Biology ▪ AP Chemistry ▪ AP Physics 1: Algebra-Based ▪ AP Physics 2: Algebra-Based ▪ AP Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism ▪ AP Physics C: Mechanics ▪ AP Environmental Science ▪ Refer to Dual Credit Crosswalk
Health Education	<p>One-half Credit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Education (.5 credit) 	<p>One-half Credit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Education (.5 credit)

Graduation Requirements

Course	Distinguished Level of Achievement	Foundation High School Program with Endorsement
Speech	One-half Credit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional Communications (CTE) • SPCH 1311 Dual Credit 	One-half Credit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional Communications (CTE) • SPCH 1311 Dual Credit
Fine Arts	One Credit from any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art, Level I, II, III, or IV • Dance, Level I, II, III, or IV • Music, Level I, II, III, or IV • Music Studies • Musical Theatre, Level I, II, III, or IV • Theatre, Level I, II, III, or IV • Technical Theatre I, II, III, or IV • Principles and Elements of Floral Design(CTE) 	One Credit from any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art, Level I, II, III, or IV • Dance, Level I, II, III, or IV • Music, Level I, II, III, or IV • Music Studies • Musical Theatre, Level I, II, III, or IV • Theatre, Level I, II, III, or IV • Technical Theatre I, II, III, or IV • Principles and Elements of Floral Design(CTE)
Physical Education	One Credit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The required credit may be any combination of the following one-half credit courses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Foundations of Personal Fitness ▪ Aerobic Activities ▪ Team Sports .5 ▪ Individual Sports .5 ▪ Dance (as long as it is not also counted as a Fine Arts) • One substitution credit may be earned through participation in the following activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Athletics ▪ JROTC ▪ Appropriate private sponsored physical activity programs conducted on or off campus (principal approval) • One substitution credit may be earned through participation in any of the following activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Drill Team ▪ Marching Band ▪ Cheerleading • All allowed substitution activities must include at least 100 minutes per five-day school week of moderate to vigorous physical activity. • Credit may not be earned for any TEKS-based course more than once. No more than four substitution credits may be earned through any combination of substitutions. • A student who is unable to participate in physical activity due to a disability or illness may substitute an academic elective credit (English language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies) with principal approval. 	One Credit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The required credit may be any combination of the following one-half credit courses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Foundations of Personal Fitness ▪ Aerobic Activities ▪ Team Sports .5 ▪ Individual Sports .5 ▪ Dance (as long as it is not also counted as a Fine Arts) • In accordance with local district policy, credit for any of the courses listed above may be earned through participation in the following activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Athletics ▪ JROTC ▪ Appropriate private sponsored physical activity programs conducted on or off campus (principal approval) • In accordance with local district policy, up to one credit for any of the courses listed above may be earned through participation in any of the following activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Drill Team ▪ Marching Band ▪ Cheerleading • All allowed substitution activities must include at least 100 minutes per five-day school week of moderate to vigorous physical activity. • Credit may not be earned for any TEKS-based course more than once. No more than four substitution credits may be earned through any combination of substitutions. • A student who is unable to participate in physical activity due to a disability or illness may substitute an academic elective credit (English language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies) with principal approval.

Graduation Requirements

Course	Distinguished Level of Achievement	Foundation High School Program with Endorsement
Electives	<p>Six Credits from any of the following: (Five if students take 4 years of Social Studies)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The list of courses approved by the SBOE for grades 9-12 (relating to Essential Knowledge and Skills) • State-approved innovative courses • JROTC (one to four credits) <p>A student may not combine a half credit of a course for which there is an end-of-course assessment with another elective credit course to satisfy an elective credit requirement.</p>	<p>Six Credits from any of the following: (Five if students take 4 years of Social Studies)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The list of courses approved by the SBOE for grades 9-12 (relating to Essential Knowledge and Skills) • State-approved innovative courses • JROTC (one to four credits) <p>A student may not combine a half credit of a course for which there is an end-of-course assessment with another elective credit course to satisfy an elective credit requirement.</p>
Endorsement	<p>Completion of credit requirements for at least one endorsement.</p>	<p>Completion of credit requirements for at least one endorsement.</p>
State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness (STAAR) Mastery	<p>End-of-Course Exams</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English I Reading & Writing • English II Reading & Writing • Algebra 1 • Biology • US History Since 1877 	<p>End-of-Course Exams</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English I Reading & Writing • English II Reading & Writing • Algebra 1 • Biology • US History Since 1877
Additional – Performance Acknowledgements	<p>Students can earn Performance Acknowledgements for outstanding performance in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dual credit courses • Bilingualism and Biliteracy • PSAT, SAT or ACT • Advanced Placement scores/courses • Earning a nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certification or license <p>Discuss the options with your counselor</p>	<p>Students can earn Performance Acknowledgements for outstanding performance in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dual credit courses • Bilingualism and Biliteracy • PSAT, SAT or ACT • Advanced Placement scores/courses <p>Earning a nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certification or license</p> <p>Discuss the options with your counselor</p>
Additional – Distinguished Level of Achievement	<p>Distinguished Level of Achievement Program includes additional requirements. See your counselor.</p>	

Notes:

1. College Board Advanced Placement and Pre-AP courses may be substituted for requirements in appropriate areas. Please refer to each course section as some AP classes are core electives.
2. Students are expected to graduate under the Foundation High School Program with at least one endorsement.
3. **A student cannot repeat a completed course for credit. If a student completes a course for which she/he has already gained credit, the repeat course will not count towards graduation.**
4. Students who cannot physically participate in PE for credit due to a disability or other documented reason can substitute 1.0 academic elective, with permission from the campus or district committee or the high school academic dean. Documentation must be kept and placed in the student's permanent records folder upon graduation. There must be a medical waiver signed by a physician. There are other PE online courses a student can take.
5. A student cannot combine a half credit of a course for which there is an EOC assessment with another elective credit to satisfy an elective credit requirement.
6. All students shall enroll in the courses necessary to complete the curriculum requirements for the Foundation High School Program with an Endorsement. If the student, the student's parent or other persons standing in parental relation to the student, and school counselor or school administrator agree that the student should be allowed to graduate without an endorsement, parents and students receive a copy of the *Benefits of the Foundation High School Program with Endorsement* and a signed copy of the *Foundation High School Program Endorsement Opt-Out Agreement*. Foundation High School Program Endorsement Opt-Out Agreement will be filed in the student's permanent record folder. Graduation requirements cannot be waived under any conditions. Courses can be individualized and modified for students based on ARD committee decisions. Students graduating under the Foundation Graduation Program without an Endorsement should have 22 state credits.
7. State HB 5 requires students maintain a Personal Graduation Plan (4 year plan) throughout high school. 8th grade students should declare their Endorsement and complete their PGP before they enter 10th grade in high school. Parents and students must be given the opportunity for an individual conference. When a student takes a course that is not a part of their graduation program or endorsement plan, the parents must be notified.