CLASS RANK CALCULATION

BEGINNING WITH STUDENTS WHO ENTERED GRADE 9 IN THE 2007–08 SCHOOL YEAR

Preliminary unofficial class standing reports shall be issued to students following the second and fourth semesters of high school. Official class standing shall be issued to students following the sixth and seventh semesters of high school. Class rank shall be determined using a weighted system that supports academic achievement and rigor. All courses taken in grades 9–12 at the time of the calculation of class rank and that are required in order to graduate under the Recommended High School Program shall be included in the calculation. Class rank shall be based upon a weighted grade average (WGA).

This rank-in-class report designates students within a range of their high school class, as follows:

- Top five percent;
- Top ten percent;
- Top 15 percent;
- Top 20 percent;
- First quarter;
- Second quarter;
- Third quarter; and
- Fourth quarter.

These reports also designate the position of each student relative to other students in the graduating class. The position or rank is reported as "Student __ is ranked number (__) out of (__) students in the graduating class." Example: "Student A is ranked number 5 out of 545 students in the graduating class."

BEGINNING WITH STUDENTS WHO ENTERED GRADE 9 IN THE 2007–08 SCHOOL YEAR THROUGH THE 2009–10 SCHOOL YEAR

Following semesters two, four, six, and seven, students shall be ranked within the class based on their WGA. All courses taken in grades 9–12 at the time of rank calculation and required in order to graduate under the Recommended High School Program shall be included in the class ranking. Elective courses that produce the highest weighted grade shall be included in the calculation of class rank. [See EIF]

Rank points shall be determined by multiplying each semester grade of a ranked course by a rank factor, which recognizes differences in levels of difficulty between Advanced Placement (AP), Pre-AP, Regular, and Content Modified coursework.

Course Level	Rank Factor
AP and dual credit AP	1.29
Pre-AP, Honors, GT non-AP, and dual credit non-AP	1.15
Regular	1.00
Content Modified	0.90

Example:

Course: English 1 Pre-AP

Semester 1 – Grade 95 | Semester 2 – Grade 98

95 x 1.15 = 109.25 rank points | 98 x 1.15 = 112.7 rank points

WGA: 109.25 + 112.7 = 221.95/2 (semesters) = 110.975

The WGA determines the rank in class. The student earning the highest WGA shall be ranked number one, and all other students, shall take the following positions in increasing numeric order. A tie in class rank shall be broken using the most courses taken that are given a weight of 1.15 and/or 1.29.

All courses required to graduate under the Recommended High School Program shall be included except the following:

1. Courses taken in the second semester of the final year, and
2. Any courses taken outside the school day, including but not limited to:
    a. Courses taken during evening/night school,
    b. Courses taken more than once in high school,
    c. Courses in which credit is not available,
    d. Pass/fail courses,
    e. Courses taken for high school credit in middle school,
    f. Correspondence courses,
    g. Credit by examination,
    h. Summer foreign study programs, or
    i. Courses with grades exempted by an ARD committee.

BEGINNING WITH STUDENTS WHO ENTERED GRADE 9 IN THE 2010–11 SCHOOL YEAR

All courses required to graduate under the Recommended High School Program shall be included in the calculation of class rank. Correspondence courses taken in accordance with policy EHDE, even if taken outside of the normal school day, shall also be included in the calculation. The following courses shall not be included in the calculation of class rank:

1. Courses taken during the second semester of the final year, and
2. Courses taken outside of the normal school day, including, but not limited to:
   a. Courses taken during evening/night school,
   b. Courses taken more than once in high school,
   c. Courses in which credit is not available,
   d. Pass/fail courses,
   e. Courses taken for high school credit earned in middle school,
   f. Credit by examination,
   g. Summer foreign study programs, or
   h. Courses with grades exempted by an ARD committee.

High school courses required to graduate under the Recommended High School Program taken in the summer after grade 8 shall be included in the calculation of class rank.

HONOR GRADUATES

Students achieving high standards of academic excellence shall be recognized at the graduation ceremony as honor graduates based on the following criteria:

1. Completion of the Recommended High School Program or the Distinguished Achievement Program.
2. Accumulation of a minimum of 52 semester classes of coursework by the time of graduation.
3. Overall WGA for all courses taken in high school greater than or equal to 90 at the end of the seventh semester.

Honor graduates meeting the criteria specified above shall be designated as follows:

Honor Graduate Designations	Cumulative Grade Average
Summa Cum Laude	100+
Magna Cum Laude	95–99
Cum Laude	90–94

TOP TEN PERCENT

Students who rank within the top ten percent at the end of the sixth or seventh semester may be eligible for automatic admission to a Texas public college or university. The Texas Administrative Code allows the University of Texas at Austin to adjust the percentage of students eligible for automatic admission to that institution. The District shall adhere to the rules set by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for reporting the exact numerical standing of the top ten percent.

EARLY GRADUATES

A student who completes high school requirements in fewer than four years shall be ranked in the class with which he or she entered grade 9 and shall be eligible for honor graduate status. Three-year graduates shall not be eligible for the top-ranking graduate scholarship.

TRANSFER GRADES

In the case of a transfer student, grades accepted shall be based on the intent of the sending school. If the transfer grade from an accredited school has been designated as an honors course on the transcript, the grade shall be awarded honors rank points as long as the same course is offered at an honors level within the District. Numerical grades earned from an accredited school shall be accepted. Letter grades shall be recorded as follows:

CONVERSION SCALE	
A	95
B	85
C	77
D	72