

Course Requirements	A student entering grade 9 shall enroll in the courses specified by the District, including certain electives, in order to satisfy course requirements for his or her intended graduation programs. The list of courses for each of the programs may be found in the Secondary School Information Guide.
Distinguished Level of Achievement	<p>A student entering grade 9 in the 2014–15 school year and thereafter shall enroll in the courses specified by the District in order to complete the distinguished level of achievement under the foundation high school program.</p> <p>A student may graduate with an endorsement under the foundation high school program without earning the distinguished level of achievement if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The student and the student’s parent or person standing in parental relation to the student are advised by the school counselor of the specific benefits of graduating from high school under the distinguished level of achievement; and2. The student’s parent or person standing in parental relation to the student files with a school counselor written permission on a form provided by the District, allowing the student to graduate with an endorsement without earning the distinguished level of achievement.
Prior Graduation Programs	<p>A student who entered grade 9 prior to the 2014–15 school year may, at any time prior to graduation and upon request, choose to complete the curriculum requirements required for high school graduation under a different program than that originally selected by the student.</p> <p>This provision expires September 1, 2018.</p>
Foundation High School Program	<p>The District requires no additional credits beyond the number mandated by the state to graduation under the foundation high school program.</p> <p>The list of courses for graduation may be found in the District’s Secondary School Information Guide¹ on the District’s website homepage under <i>Quicklinks</i>.</p>
Combining Credit	In accordance with District and state rules, the District shall permit students who successfully complete one semester of a two-semester course to combine this credit with another semester credit to satisfy graduation requirements. [See EIF(EXHIBIT)]
Physical Education Substitutions	The District shall allow students to substitute certain physical activities for the required credits of physical education. Such substitutions shall be based on the physical activity involved in the courses listed for this purpose in state rules. [See EIF(LEGAL)]

With the approval from a students' admission, review, and dismissal (ARD) committee, the District shall allow a student who is unable to participate in physical activity due to a disability or illness as determined under EHAA(LEGAL) to satisfy the physical education credit requirement with the appropriate general or adaptive physical education course.

**Other Physical
Activity Programs**

The District shall award state graduation credit for physical education for appropriate private or commercially sponsored physical activity programs conducted either on or off campus, upon approval by the commissioner of education. [See also EHAC]

¹ <https://sites.google.com/a/austinisd.org/ssig/home>