

**Graduation Requirements
for Students Who Entered Grade 9 from 2014–15 and Thereafter
as Adopted by the Austin ISD Board of Trustees**

Students will graduate under the Foundation High School Program (FHSP) with the option to complete one or more endorsements or the Distinguished Level of Achievement. AISD students are expected to complete courses necessary for the Distinguished Level of Achievement.

Discipline	Foundation High School Program (FHSP)	FHSP Plus Endorsement	FHSP Plus Endorsement Plus Distinguished Level of Achievement
English Language Arts	4 credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English I • English II • English III • Advanced English 	4 credits Same as FHSP	4 credits Same as FHSP
Mathematics	3 credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Algebra I • Geometry • Additional math credit from Group A and B 	4 credits Same as FHSP, plus 1 Advanced Math credit from Group B	4 credits Same as FHSP, plus endorsement to include Algebra II
Science	3 credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biology • Advanced Science from Group A • Advanced Science from Group B 	4 credits Same as FHSP, plus 1 Advanced Science credit from Group B	4 credits Same as FHSP, plus endorsement
Social Studies	3 credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Geography or World History • U.S. History • Government • Economics 	Same as FHSP	Same as FHSP

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
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(EXHIBIT)

Discipline	Foundation High School Program (FHSP)	FHSP Plus Endorsement	FHSP Plus Endorsement Plus Distinguished Level of Achievement
Languages Other Than English (LOTE)	2 credits No substitutions other than those specified in rule	2 credits Same as FHSP No substitutions other than those specified in rule	2 credits Same as FHSP No substitutions other than those specified in rule
Physical Education	1 credit	1 credit	1 credit
Health (AISD requirement)	0.5 credit	0.5 credit	0.5 credit
Fine Arts	1 credit	1 credit	1 credit
Electives	4.5 credits	6.5 credits	6.5 credits
Total Credits Required	22 Credits	26 Credits	26 Credits

For additional information, please see the current school year Secondary School Information Guide. found at: <https://sites.google.com/a/austinisd.org/ssig/home>¹.

**Graduation Requirements
for Students Entering Grade 9 in 2010–11 and 2011–12 as Adopted
by the Austin ISD Board of Trustees on January 25, 2010**

Discipline	Minimum High School Program	Recommended Program	Advanced / Distinguished Achievement Program
English Language Arts	4 credits	4 credits	4 credits
Mathematics	3 credits	4 credits	4 credits
Science	2 credits	4 credits	4 credits
Social Studies	2.5 credits in a prescribed sequence	3.5 credits in a prescribed sequence	3.5 credits in a prescribed sequence
Economics	0.5 credit	0.5 credit	0.5 credit
Languages Other Than English (LOTE)	N/A	2 credits in the same language	3 credits in the same language
Physical Education	1 credit	1 credit	1 credit
Health Education	0.5 credit	0.5 credit	0.5 credit
Speech	0.5 credit	0.5 credit	0.5 credit
Fine Arts	1 credit in the same course	1 credit in the same course	1 credit in the same course
Electives	7 credits to include at least one academic elective	5 credits	4 credits
			4 advanced measures
Total Credits Required	22 Credits	26 Credits	26 Credits

For additional information, please see the current school year Secondary School Information Guide, found at: <https://sites.google.com/a/austinisd.org/ssig/home>.

Effective for the 2010–11 school year and thereafter, the ²following applies to all students.

General Physical Education

Physical education (PE) credits will be counted toward high school graduation. A Foundations of Personal Fitness (0.5) credit is a prerequisite for all other general PE courses. The remaining 1.0 PE credit may be earned from the following courses listed below in any order or combination:

- Aerobic and Conditioning (up to 1.0 credit)
- Adventure/Outdoor Education (0.5)
- Team Sports (up to 1.0 credit)
- Individual Sports (up to 1.0 credit)

Credit may not be earned for any general PE course more than once. Students may earn no more than 4 credits of PE toward state graduation requirements in PE. Students transferring into the District from other Texas public school districts and/or charter schools who have completed up to 1.0 credit in Foundations of Personal Fitness will be allowed to count their credit toward District PE requirements.

Aerobic Dance (up to 1.0 credit) may be counted as a PE credit or a Fine Arts credit but may not be counted as both.

Foundations Dance (0.5 credit – spring semester only) may be counted as a PE credit. This course satisfies the Foundations of Personal Fitness requirement. Students must complete Dance I (1.0 credit) prior to enrollment in Foundations Dance.

PE Substitutions

Students may substitute certain physical activities for required credits of PE, including the 0.5 credit for Foundations of Personal Fitness. PE substitutions are activity-based courses. In order for a student to earn credit for one of these activities, the activity must include at least 100 minutes per five-day school week of moderate to vigorous physical activity. Upon completion of one semester's participation in one of these activities, the student will be awarded a PE equivalency credit. No more than 4 credits of PE substitutions may be earned through any combination of allowable substitutions.

- Drill team (up to 1.0 state credit and 0.5 additional credit for District requirement)
- Cheerleading (up to 1.0 state credit and 0.5 additional credit for District requirement)
- Marching Band fall semester only (up to 1.0 state credit and 0.5 additional credit for District requirement)
- Athletics (up to 4.0 credits)
- JROTC (up to 1.0 credit and 0.5 credit Military Science/ROTC course)

- Off-campus PE (up to 4 credits for Category 1 and up to 1.5 credits for Category 2). Off-campus PE is a private/commercially sponsored activity. Eligibility to participate requires pre-approval by the campus principal or designee and the District PE Coordinator.
- Career and technical education (CTE) work-based training course successfully completed prior to the 2011–12 school year (2–3 credit courses).

A student taking Cheerleading, Marching Band, or Drill Team may earn only 1 state PE credit. In order to fulfill the remaining 0.5 District PE credit requirement, a student may take one of these courses again for a local 0.5 credit (local credit does not count toward state graduation requirement). Students opting to fulfill the 0.5 additional District PE credit through local course participation must still meet minimum state elective graduation credit requirements. A student may also take Foundations of Personal Fitness or any other approved PE substitution for 0.5 state elective credit, which will count toward graduation requirements. A student who remains in Dance classes must take Foundations of Personal Fitness or an approved PE substitution to fulfill the PE credit requirement.

Note: Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Program

A student also must achieve any combination of four of the following advanced measures. 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. Student performance on advanced measures must be assessed through an external review process. The student may choose from the following options:

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1. An original research/project that is:
 - a. Judged by a panel of professionals in the field that is the focus of the project; or
 - b. Conducted under the direction of mentor(s) and reported to an appropriate audience; and
 - c. Related to the required curriculum set forth in Administrative Code 74.1 (relating to Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills);
 - d. Considered test data in which a student receives:
 - (1) A score of 3 or above on the College Board Advanced Placement examination;
 - (2) A score of 4 or above on an International Baccalaureate (IB) examination; or
 - (3) A score on the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) that qualifies the student for recognition as a commended scholar or higher by the College Board and National Merit Scholarship Corporation, as part of the National Hispanic Recognition Program (NHRP) of the College Board, or as part of the National Achievement Scholarship Program of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. The PSAT/NMSQT score will

count as only one advanced measure regardless of the number of honors received by the student; or

2. College academic courses, including those taken for dual credit, and advanced technical credit courses, including locally articulated courses, with a grade of 3.0 or higher.

¹ Secondary School Information Guide: <https://sites.google.com/a/austinisd.org/ssig/home>