

**Consistent
Application for
Graduating Class**

The District shall apply the same class rank calculation method and rules for local graduation honors for all students in a graduating class, regardless of the school year in which a student first earned high school credit.

A student who completes the graduation requirements in less than four years shall be ranked in the class with which he or she graduates.

Calculation

The District shall include in the calculation of class rank semester grades earned in high school credit courses, unless excluded below.

The District shall report to the members of a class, at the end of the first semester of the sophomore year and every semester thereafter, their weighted grade point average (GPA) and rank in class.

**Determination of
Grade Point
Averages**

To determine GPAs, numerical semester course grades shall be converted via the established weighting system. Actual grades earned shall be recorded on report cards and official transcripts.

The GPA shall be calculated by totaling the weighted semester course points and dividing by the number of courses.

When multiple period courses are included in computing the GPA, the semester course points for that class shall be entered the same number of times as the number of periods per day that the student is enrolled in the course. The number of periods shall also be reflected in the divisor.

Students may take a course beyond those needed for graduation on a pass/fail basis. This shall apply to students who have completed or are enrolled in courses in excess of those needed for graduation and have previously satisfied content-specific graduation requirements (i.e., fifth year of mathematics or science and the like). Students shall be required to declare this option in writing within the first three weeks of school.

Note: The following provisions shall apply to students in the graduating classes of 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022.

The calculation of class rank shall include grades earned in TEKS-based and TEKS-modified courses; Advanced Placement (AP)/Pre-AP courses; articulated courses; summer school courses for acceleration taken within the District; high school courses taken in middle school for state credit; high school courses that are deliv-

ered in one semester in high school and delivered in two semesters in middle school; and athletics and equivalents up to 1 credit (two semesters).

The calculation of class rank shall exclude grades earned in summer school courses taken outside the District; off-campus physical education courses; traditional correspondence courses; a dual credit course; a dual enrollment course; a credit recovery course; any local credit course; any course for which a pass/fail grade is assigned; or through credit by examination, with or without prior instruction.

Weighted Grade System

Categories

Tier 1

The District shall categorize and weight eligible courses as Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3, in accordance with provisions of this policy and as designated in appropriate District publications.

Eligible AP and other courses locally designated as Tier 1 courses shall be categorized and weighted as Tier 1 courses.

Tier 2

Eligible Pre-AP courses and other courses locally designated as Tier 2 courses shall be categorized and weighted as Tier 2 courses.

Tier 3

All other eligible courses shall be categorized and weighted as Tier 3 courses.

Weighted Grade Point Average

The District shall convert semester grades earned in eligible courses to grade points in accordance with the following table and shall calculate a weighted GPA:

Semester Numerical Grade	Tier 1: AP and Approved Advanced Courses	Tier 2: Pre-AP Courses and Approved Articulated Courses	Tier 3: TEKS-Based Courses or Other High School Courses
100	6.0	5.0	4.0
99	5.9	4.9	3.9
98	5.8	4.8	3.8
97	5.7	4.7	3.7
96	5.6	4.6	3.6
95	5.5	4.5	3.5
94	5.4	4.4	3.4

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
CLASS RANKING

EIC
(LOCAL)

Semester Numerical Grade	Tier 1: AP and Approved Advanced Courses	Tier 2: Pre-AP Courses and Approved Articulated Courses	Tier 3: TEKS-Based Courses or Other High School Courses
93	5.3	4.3	3.3
92	5.2	4.2	3.2
91	5.1	4.1	3.1
90	5.0	4.0	3.0
89	4.9	3.9	2.9
88	4.8	3.8	2.8
87	4.7	3.7	2.7
86	4.6	3.6	2.6
85	4.5	3.5	2.5
84	4.4	3.4	2.4
83	4.3	3.3	2.3
82	4.2	3.2	2.2
81	4.1	3.1	2.1
80	4.0	3.0	2.0
79	3.9	2.9	1.9
78	3.8	2.8	1.8
77	3.7	2.7	1.7
76	3.6	2.6	1.6
75	3.5	2.5	1.5
74	3.4	2.4	1.4
73	3.3	2.3	1.3
72	3.2	2.2	1.2
71	3.1	2.1	1.1
70	3.0	2.0	1.0

Semester Numerical Grade	Tier 1: AP and Approved Advanced Courses	Tier 2: Pre-AP Courses and Approved Articulated Courses	Tier 3: TEKS-Based Courses or Other High School Courses
Below 70	0.0	0.0	0.0

Note: The following provisions shall apply to students beginning with the graduating class of 2023.

Exclusions

The calculation of class rank shall exclude grades earned in summer school courses taken outside the District; any distance learning course, unless the course is either assigned to the student by the District or offered as a course option along with traditional District courses; an audited course; a credit recovery course; any local credit course; any course for which a pass/fail grade is assigned; a course taken via home school programs; any grade earned at a nonaccredited school or in a home school program; or through credit by examination, with or without prior instruction.

Weighted Grade System

Categories

The District shall categorize and weight eligible courses as Tier 1, Tier 2, Tier 3, and Tier 4, in accordance with provisions of this policy and as designated in appropriate District publications.

Tier 1

Eligible AP, International Baccalaureate (IB), and courses locally designated as Tier 1 shall be categorized and weighted as Tier 1 courses.

Tier 2

Eligible Pre-AP, dual credit, dual enrollment, and courses locally designated as Tier 2 shall be categorized and weighted as Tier 2 courses.

Tier 3

All other eligible courses not categorized as Tier 1, Tier 2, or Tier 4 shall be categorized and weighted as Tier 3 courses.

Tier 4

Beginning with the graduating class of 2020, any course that has been modified as to the required content of the Texas essential knowledge and skills (TEKS) shall be categorized and weighted as Tier 4 courses.

Weighted Grade Point Average

The District shall convert semester grades earned in eligible courses to grade points in accordance with the following table and shall calculate a weighted GPA:

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
CLASS RANKING

EIC
(LOCAL)

Grade	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4
100	6.0	5.0	4.0	3.0
99	5.9	4.9	3.9	2.9
98	5.8	4.8	3.8	2.8
97	5.7	4.7	3.7	2.7
96	5.6	4.6	3.6	2.6
95	5.5	4.5	3.5	2.5
94	5.4	4.4	3.4	2.4
93	5.3	4.3	3.3	2.3
92	5.2	4.2	3.2	2.2
91	5.1	4.1	3.1	2.1
90	5.0	4.0	3.0	2.0
89	4.9	3.9	2.9	1.9
88	4.8	3.8	2.8	1.8
87	4.7	3.7	2.7	1.7
86	4.6	3.6	2.6	1.6
85	4.5	3.5	2.5	1.5
84	4.4	3.4	2.4	1.4
83	4.3	3.3	2.3	1.3
82	4.2	3.2	2.2	1.2
81	4.1	3.1	2.1	1.1
80	4.0	3.0	2.0	1.0
79	3.9	2.9	1.9	0.9
78	3.8	2.8	1.8	0.8
77	3.7	2.7	1.7	0.7
76	3.6	2.6	1.6	0.6
75	3.5	2.5	1.5	0.5
74	3.4	2.4	1.4	0.4
73	3.3	2.3	1.3	0.3
72	3.2	2.2	1.2	0.2
71	3.1	2.1	1.1	0.1
70	3.0	2.0	1.0	0.1
Below 70	0	0	0	0

Note: The following provisions shall apply to all students, regardless of their graduating class.

Transferred Grades When a student transfers semester grades for courses that would be eligible under the Tier 3 category and the District has accepted the credit, the District shall include the grades in the calculation of class rank.

When a student transfers semester grades for courses that would be eligible to receive additional weight under the District's weighted grade system, the District shall assign additional weight to the grades based on the categories and grade weight system used by the District only if a similar course is offered to the same class of students in the District.

The transfer of IB courses shall receive weight under the Tier 1 category.

Local Graduation Honors

For the purpose of determining honors to be conferred during graduation activities, the District shall calculate class rank in accordance with this policy and administrative regulations by using grades available at the time of calculation at the end of the spring semester of the senior year.

The final, official class rank shall be determined at the end of the senior year after all grades have been calculated.

Grades received in May for dual credit courses shall also be included in the calculation.

For the purpose of applications to institutions of higher education, the District shall also calculate class rank as required by state law. The District's eligibility criteria for local graduation honors shall apply only for local recognitions and shall not restrict class rank for the purpose of automatic admission under state law. [See EIC(LEGAL)]

Valedictorian and Salutatorian

The valedictorian and salutatorian shall be the eligible students with the highest and second-highest rank, respectively. To be eligible for this local graduation honor, a student must:

1. Have been continuously enrolled in the same District high school for the four semesters immediately preceding graduation, unless rezoned by the District;
2. Be graduating after exactly eight semesters of enrollment in high school; and

3. Beginning with the graduating class of 2020, have completed the foundation program with the distinguished level of achievement

No Ties

In order to recognize only one student as valedictorian and one student as salutatorian, the District shall calculate weighted GPAs to a sufficient number of decimal places so that no ties exist among eligible students.

Top Ten Percent

All students whose GPAs make up the top ten percent of the graduating class shall be recognized. The GPA shall be reported on the student's transcript and made available in accordance with the application deadline for the college or university when requested by the student. [See EIC(LEGAL)]

Honor Graduates

Distinguished/
Performance
Acknowledgment
Graduates

Students who complete all credit requirements for the foundation with endorsements distinguished level of achievement program and who earn a performance acknowledgment shall be designated as "Distinguished/Performance Acknowledgment Graduates" in the commencement program.

Students who complete all credit requirements for the foundation with endorsements distinguished level of achievement program and who are awaiting test score reports to earn a performance acknowledgment shall be designated as "Distinguished/Performance Acknowledgment Candidates" in the commencement program.

**Early Graduates,
Midterm or Between-
term Graduates**

To be eligible to graduate early, a student shall complete all coursework and state testing required of other students in his or her entering freshman class cohort.

Early graduates may participate in a graduation ceremony immediately following completion of the graduation requirements. Early graduates must meet registration deadlines to participate in end-of-year graduation ceremonies. Participation in end-of-year senior class, school-sponsored activities shall not be affected by midterm or between-term graduation.

**Highest-Ranking
Graduate**

The student meeting the local eligibility criteria for recognition as the valedictorian shall also be considered the highest-ranking graduate for purposes of receiving the honor graduate certificate from the state of Texas.