

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
CLASS RANKING

EIC
(LOCAL)

**Grade Point Average
and Class Rank
Calculation**

A grade point average (GPA) shall be determined by dividing the total number of grade points earned by the total number of semester units attempted as described in EIC(REGULATION).

Rank in class shall be based on a cumulative semester GPA.

Rank in class for college applications shall be calculated based on the student's cumulative GPA at the end of the year prior to the student's final year in high school.

Rank in class to determine all graduation honors, including valedictorian and salutatorian, shall be calculated based on the student's cumulative GPA through and including the end of the fall semester of the student's final year in high school.

After graduation, the student's final class rank and cumulative GPA shall be determined and recorded on the academic achievement record.

**Inclusions in GPA—
Coursework During
Regular School Day**

All coursework completed during the regular school day schedule shall receive grade points per EIC(REGULATION) and shall be calculated in determining a student's GPA and class rank, unless specified as an exclusion per this policy. The District's online coursework completed during the regular school day schedule shall receive grade points and shall be used in determining a student's GPA and class rank.

Prior to the 2014–15 school year, coursework completed during the regular school day schedule with denial of credit per FEC(REGULATION) shall be calculated in the student's GPA with grade points earned.

Beginning in the 2014–15 school year, coursework completed during the regular school day schedule with denial of credit per FEC(REGULATION) shall be calculated in the student's GPA with zero grade points.

**Exclusions from
GPA—Coursework
During Regular
School Day**

All non-District dual credit and online credit recovery coursework completed during the regular school day schedule shall not receive grade points and shall not be used in determining a student's GPA or class rank, including students who may attend the College of the Mainland Collegiate High School.

**Exclusions from
GPA—Coursework
Outside Regular
School Day**

All coursework completed outside of the regular school day schedule shall be recorded on the academic achievement record but shall not receive grade points nor be used in determining GPA or class rank. Outside coursework shall include summer school, night school, credit recovery, correspondence courses, credit by examination, credit by acceleration, open entry/open exit, dual credit,

online courses, high school credit earned prior to grade 9, flex courses, and alternative physical education activities.

Early College High School Class Rank

Dual credit coursework shall only be included in GPA calculation for the District's early college high school students, while attending Clear Horizon's Early College High School.

Grade Point Average Class Rank Reporting

Beginning with students entering grade 9 in the 2019–20 school year, cumulative GPA and rank in class shall be calculated for and communicated to students at these specified times:

- End of grade 9: following the second semester grading period (June) of the academic year.
- End of grade 10: following the second semester grading period (June) of the academic year.
- Midyear and end of year grade 11: following the first semester grading period (January) and following the second semester grading period (June) of the academic year.
- Midyear and end of year grade 12: following the first semester grading period (January) and following the second semester grading period (June) of the academic year.

Early Graduates

A student's class rank shall be determined within the graduating class of the school year in which the student completes all requirements for a diploma, regardless of the number of years the student is enrolled in high school. For rank purposes, a school year begins on the first day of school and ends on the last day of summer school.

To be eligible to graduate early, a student shall complete all coursework and state testing required of the grade 9 class in which he or she begins high school.

Transfer Students from Accredited Schools

A student who transfers into the District from an accredited school [see FD(LOCAL)] shall receive the grades that were earned in courses at other schools. Level 1 GPA course credits earned shall receive grade points according to the list of Level 1 GPA courses offered in the District and the grade point scale used for credit earned in the District. Students shall not receive weighted grade points for courses not available in the District, with the exception of Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) courses. Letter grades shall be converted as outlined in EIC(REGULATION).

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**Transfer Students
Enrolling from
Foreign, Nonpublic,
or Nonaccredited
Schools Prior to the
2016–17 School Year**

Students entering the District from foreign, nonpublic, or nonaccredited schools shall have their transcripts translated at their own expense by a District-approved organization. All students shall be required to have the credits that were earned in a foreign, nonpublic, or nonaccredited school validated through credit by examination for verification or sequential coursework [see EI(REGULATION)]. All grades and credits earned through validation shall appear on the transcript and shall not be included in GPA calculations.

**Transfer Students
Enrolling from
Foreign, Nonpublic,
or Nonaccredited
Schools Beginning
with 2016–17 School
Year**

Students entering the District from foreign, nonpublic, or nonaccredited schools shall be required to have their credits validated through a District-approved examination or sequential coursework. [See EI(REGULATION)]

Credit(s) validated through examination(s) and grades earned on the examination(s) shall appear on the transcript but shall not be included in GPA calculations.

Credit(s) validated through sequential coursework shall appear on the transcript and shall be included in GPA calculations. The yearly average earned in the District sequential course shall be duplicated at the same GPA level and posted on the transcript for the foreign, nonpublic, or nonaccredited course.

Honor Graduates

District honor graduates shall include students with the following GPA, truncated at the thousandths place:

1. Summa cum laude: 6.00–5.00
2. Magna cum laude: 4.99–4.75
3. Cum laude: 4.74–4.50

**Highest-Ranking
Graduate**

After graduation, the student's final class rank and cumulative GPA shall be determined and recorded on the academic achievement record. Rank in class to determine the highest-ranking graduate shall be calculated based on the student's cumulative GPA through and including the end of the spring semester of the final year in high school. The highest-ranking graduate shall receive a certificate and a declaration document authorizing the president of any state-supported college or university to provide a waiver for tuition as specified in the law. [See Texas Education Code, 54.301]

**Distinguished
Graduates**

A student graduating under the state's Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Program or the foundation program with the distinguished level of achievement shall be considered a Distinguished Achievement Program Graduate. [See EIF]

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

**Valedictorian and
Salutatorian**

The District views the valedictorian and salutatorian to be positions of academic and character leadership in each graduating class. To be eligible for valedictorian or salutatorian honors, a student shall graduate in four years or less, be enrolled in the District for the entire last two years of high school, and be enrolled in the same high school his or her entire final school year, including fall and spring semesters. There shall be one valedictorian and one salutatorian for each graduating class. The valedictorian shall be the student with the highest GPA, and the salutatorian shall be the student with the second highest GPA, with the following exceptions:

1. A student who earns the designation of valedictorian or salutatorian shall not be eligible to deliver a speech during graduation ceremonies if he or she has been disciplined for academic dishonesty under the Secondary Honor Code or other serious violation of the Student Code of Conduct during the four semesters preceding graduation.
2. A student who attends the College of the Mainland Collegiate High School shall be ineligible for valedictorian or salutatorian honors. [See Educational Planning Guide]

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

**Valedictorian and
Salutatorian**

The District views the valedictorian and salutatorian to be positions of academic and character leadership in each graduating class. To be eligible for valedictorian or salutatorian honors, a student shall graduate from high school in no more than four years and in no less than three years, be enrolled in the District for the entire last three years of high school, and be enrolled in the same high school his or her entire final two school years. There shall be one valedictorian and one salutatorian for each graduating class. The valedictorian shall be the student with the highest GPA, and the salutatorian shall be the student with the second-highest GPA, with the following exceptions:

1. A student who earns the designation of valedictorian or salutatorian shall not be eligible to deliver a speech during graduation ceremonies if he or she has been disciplined for academic dishonesty under the Secondary Honor Code or other serious violation of the Student Code of Conduct during the four semesters preceding graduation.

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2. A student who attends the College of the Mainland Collegiate High School shall be ineligible for valedictorian or salutatorian honors. [See Educational Planning Guide]
3. If a student with the second-highest GPA who meets the eligibility requirements will be named valedictorian, the student with the next highest GPA who meets the eligibility requirements shall be the salutatorian.