|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| E – Academic Achievement | EI |
| Page 1 of 2 |  |
| Graduation - 2023 | |

EIF – Academic Achievement: Graduation

**Course Requirements**

To graduate, a student must complete the courses required by the District in addition to those mandated by the state.

**Certificate of Coursework Completion**

The District shall not issue a certificate of coursework completion to a student who fails to meet all state and local requirements for graduation. [See EIF, FMH]

**Partial Credit**

When a student earns a passing grade in only half of a course and the combined grade for both halves is lower than 70, the District shall award the student credit for the half with the passing grade.

**Foundation Program**

The courses that satisfy District requirements under the foundation program, including courses for the distinguished level of achievement and courses for endorsements offered by the District, shall be listed in appropriate District publications.

**Without an Endorsement**

Graduation under the foundation program without an endorsement shall be permitted only as authorized under state law and rules.

**With an Endorsement**

The District requires no additional credits beyond the number mandated by the state to graduate under the foundation program with an endorsement.

**Distinguished Level of Achievement**

The District requires no additional credits beyond the number mandated by the state to graduate under the foundation program with the distinguished level of achievement.

**No Fine Arts Substitution**

The District shall not award state graduation credit in fine arts for participation in a community-based fine arts program.

**Physical Education Substitutions / Activities and Courses / No Private or Commercial Programs**

To the extent permitted by state rules, the District shall award state graduation credit in physical education for participation in approved activities and elective courses.

The District shall not award state graduation credit in physical education for private or commercially sponsored physical activity programs conducted either on or off campus. [See also EHAC]  
As confirmation of a student's completion and submission of a free application for federal student aid (FAFSA) or a Texas application for state financial aid (TASFA), the District shall accept the following:

1. A screenshot that includes the processed date field in ApplyTexas Counselor Suite FAFSA data;
2. Notification, such as a copy of an email, from the United States Department of Education verifying completion of the FAFSA;
3. A copy or screenshot of the FAFSA acknowledgment page;
4. A screenshot of the TASFA submission acknowledgment page (from those institutions that offer an electronic form);
5. An acknowledgment receipt from an institution of higher education (IHE); or
6. A copy of a financial aid award letter from an IHE.

[For students who choose not to complete and submit a FAFSA or a TASFA, see EIF(LEGAL).]

The District shall maintain individual student documentation of the financial aid application requirement as an education record. [See FL]