Graduation Requirements

A student must earn passing scores on five STAAR End-of-Course (EOC) exams, in addition to earning all required course credits for their graduation plan, to earn a diploma. Students are required to retest on any STAAR EOC in which satisfactory achievement is not met. Students must meet all graduation course credit requirements and EOC requirements to be eligible for participation in the graduation ceremony.



STAAR End of Course Exams

Students who first entered 9th grade in the fall of 2011 and thereafter

English Language Arts	Math	Science	Social Studies
English I English II	Algebra I	Biology	US History

Class Standing

The Distinguished Achievement Program, and Foundation High School Program+Endorsement each require 26 credits. Grade level classification is the same for all students, regardless of graduation plan.

Students are classified based on the number of academic credits they have earned at the beginning of the school year. All students who have completed 8th grade enter high school as freshmen regardless of the number of high school credits they may have already earned through middle school, summer school, credit by exam and/or online learning.



Grade Level Classification				
Grade	Classification	Credits		
9th	Freshman	O - 5.5		
10th	Sophomore	6.0 - 11.5		
11th	Junior	12.0 - 17.5		
12th	Senior	18+		

Graduation Requirements (Click here to play video)

The Foundation High School Program + Endorsement

FOUNDATION HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM (FHSP) The 22-Credit Foundation Is Required for All Endorsements	ENDORSEMENTS
ENGLISH. 4 Must consist of English I, II, III (ESOL I and ESOL II may be substituted for English I or English II for Emergent Bilingual (EB) students at lower levels of English proficiency), and additional/advanced English course 3 Must include Algebra I, Geometry, and an additional/advanced math course beyond Algebra I SCIENCE 3 Must include one Biology credit, one credit selected from IPC, or Chemistry, or Physics; and one additional/advanced, lab-based science course 3 SOCIAL STUDIES. 3 Must include U.S. History, one-half credit Government, one-half credit Economics, and World Geography 3 OTHER LANGUAGES 2 Must consist of 2 levels in the same language 1 FINE ARTS 1 Choir, Band, Orchestra, Dance, Art, Theater Arts, Art History, or Music Theory I and II; Principles & Elements of Floral Design or Digital Art & Animation may substitute 1 PHYSICAL EDUCATION 1 Must include a communication skills component, earned through Professional Communications, Debate, Oral Interpretation, Professional Standards in Agribusiness, Teen Leadership, Theater, or Dual Credit Speech. 2 COTHER LANGUAGES 5 THE ARTS 1 Motional Advection of Digital Art & Animation may substitute 1 PHYS	 All students are required to declare an endorsement in writing. Students will be permitted to change their endorsement with written notification until the 10th Grade. There are five endorsement options, which allow students flexibility based on individual interests and career goals. Each endorsement category is designed to prepare students to successfully enter postsecondary education, the workforce, or the military upon graduation from high school. The endorsement and the career areas to which they correspond are as listed below: STEM – Science, including computer science; Technology; Engineering and Mathematics (Algebra II, Chemistry, and Physics are required for the STEM endorsement); PUBLIC SERVICES – Education and Training; Government and Public Administration; Health Science; Human Services; and Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security; BUSINESS & INDUSTRY – Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources; Architecture and Construction; Business Management and Administration; Finance; Hospitality and Tourism; information Technology; Manufacturing; Marketing; Transportation; and Journalism, including broadcast journalism, newspaper, and public speaking; ARTS & HUMANITIES –Social Studies; Languages other than English; Fine Arts; and English Language Arts; MULTIDISCIPLINARY STUDIES – Four credits in each of the four foundation subject areas to include chemistry and/or physics and English IV or a comparable AP English Lourse; or four credits in Advanced Placement, or dual credit selected from English, mathematics, science, social studies, economics, languages other than English, or fine arts.
ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ENDORSEMENT	RECOGNITIONS
MATHEMATICS 1 SCIENCE 1 ADDITIONAL 2 A coherent sequence of courses must be chosen from the five endorsement categories of STEM, Business & Industry, Arts & Humanities, Public Services, and/or Multidisciplinary Studies TOTAL CREDITS FHSPE: FHSP + ENDORSEMENT 26 College Board Advanced Placement and Dual Credit courses may be substituted in appropriate areas for both Foundation and Endorsement credits. 26 STATE ASSESSMENT PERFORMANCE 1 In addition to the credit requirements as listed above, students must meet passing standards on the following 1 End-of-Course Exams: • English I • English I • • Algebra I • • Biology • • United States History	 Students have the opportunity to earn additional recognition in the following areas. DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT A student may earn a distinguished level of achievement by successfully completing all curriculum requirements for the Foundation High School Program, plus each of the following: A fourth credit in mathematics, which must include Algebra II; A fourth credit in science; The requirements of at least one endorsement A student must graduate with a Distinguished Level of Achievement to be considered for the Top 10% and eligible for automatic admission to a Texas public college or university. PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS A student may earn a performance acknowledgement in one or more of the following categories: AP test score of 3 or above; IB test score of 4 or above (applies to transfer students only as the International Baccalaureate program is not offered in Beaumont ISD) Outstanding performance on the PSAT, the SAT or the ACT; Completion of at least 12 hours of college coursework with final grades of A or B (3.0 GPA or above); Bilingualism and biliteracy; and Earning a state, nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certification or license

Additional Requirements

In addition to the credit requirements as listed above students must also satisfy the following requirements:

- **Speech Requirement:** Students must satisfy the speech requirement by demonstrating proficiency in communication skills identified by the State Board of Education in the graduation requirements.
- Instruction on Proper Interaction with Peace Officers: Students must receive instruction in proper interaction with police officers at least once before graduation from high school.
- Instruction in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR): Students must receive instruction in CPR at least once in grades 7-12 before graduation.
 - FAFSA/TASFA Application: Students must complete and submit a free application for federal student aid (FAFSA) or TASFA or Opt form prior to graduation.

Texas First Early High School Completion Program

Qualifying students now have the opportunity to participate in The <u>Texas First Early High School Completion Program</u> which allows public high school students who demonstrate early readiness for college to graduate early from high school.