

Foundation High School Program + Endorsement

General Information

- This graduation plan provides choice, flexibility, and options!
- **Endorsements** help create a personalized learning plan in line with a student's career interests and goals. There are **5 Endorsement Areas** (see chart on p. 12-13 – *Cypress-Fairbanks ISD – The Endorsements*):
1-STEM 2-Business & Industry 3-Public Services 4-Arts & Humanities 5- Multidisciplinary Studies
- The Texas Education Agency (TEA) has designed **Programs of Study** for the Career & Technical Education (CTE) course areas in the STEM, Business & Industry, and Public Services endorsements.
 - These are course sequences that prepare students with the knowledge and skills necessary for success in their chosen career and lead to postsecondary education and training opportunities.
 - These sequences embed relevant, real world experiences and culminate in a postsecondary credential.
 - Programs of Study support the completion of an endorsement.
- Students and parents are required to select (*in writing*) an Endorsement area and create a 4-Year Plan.
- Opportunities to review and/or modify your plan will be available each year.
 - **Parent permission & counselor conference required for Endorsement changes.**
 - Schedule changes for the next school year must be made before the end of the current school year; schedules will **not** be adjusted during the school year. (See p. 3 – “Course Selection & Request for Changes”)
- Students may earn more than one endorsement.
- **Students must graduate with the Distinguished Level of Achievement in order to be eligible for top 10% automatic admission at any Texas public university and also to be considered for the TEXAS Grant.**
- **Completing a free application for federal student aid (FAFSA) is a graduation requirement.** FAFSA and/or TAFSA must be completed before a student can receive a high school diploma. A parent or legal guardian may provide written notice to opt out their child.

When considering which endorsement(s) is best for you/your student, ask:

- What are my/your personal interests and talents? Career aspirations/Post-secondary goals?
- What are the admission requirements for the College/University I/you wish to attend?
- **Remember...the Endorsement you choose will determine many of your high school elective choices!**

Students may earn a Performance Acknowledgement for outstanding performance in the areas of:

- Dual Credit (at least 12 hours of college credit with a grade of A or B or earn an Associate Degree)
- Bilingual/Bi-literacy (complete 3 credits in the same or any foreign language with a grade of 80+)
- College Board Advanced Placement (AP) exams (earn a score of 3 or above on an AP exam)
- PSAT, SAT, or ACT Performance
- Nationally or Internationally Recognized Business or Industry Certification or License

General Information – High School course levels

- **On-level** (the course title without a letter after it; *Example: Algebra I*) - Choose this level if you are currently in an on-level class. If you have an 85 or above average in that class, you will receive a letter in late spring and will have the opportunity to modify your plan and choose K-level **at that time**
- **K (Accelerated level)**: Choose this level only if you are currently in a K-level class of that content area **and** you have a 75 or above average in the class
- **H (Horizons)**: Choose “H” only if you are currently in Horizons classes
- **AP (Advanced Placement)**: earn possible college credit by taking AP exam in the spring
- **DC (Dual Credit)**: earn both high school credit and college credit for specific high school courses; specific entry requirements must be met before enrolling in a dual credit course