

Houston County Board of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in December	Descriptor Term: Grading System	Descriptor Code: 4.600	Issued Date: 07/13/26
		Rescinds:	Issued: 07/18/24; 01/09/06; 11/13/17; 06/13/22

The Director of Schools/designee shall develop an administrative procedure to establish a system of grading and assessment for evaluating and recording student progress and to measure student performance in conjunction with board-adopted content standards for grades K-8. The grading/assessment system shall follow all applicable statutes and rules and regulations of the State Board of Education. The grading/assessment system shall be uniform, district-wide, at comparable grade levels, except that the Director of Schools/designee shall have the authority to establish and operate ungraded and/or unstructured classes in grades K-3 according to state rules and regulations.¹

The Director of Schools/designee shall submit a copy of the grading and assessment systems to the Board before the system is implemented. These guidelines shall be communicated annually to students and parent(s)/guardian(s).

Conduct grades are based on behavior and shall not be reflected in scholastic grades.

GRADING SYSTEM²

Schools teaching grades nine (9) through twelve (12) shall use the uniform grading system established by the State Board of Education. This shall also apply to students enrolled in eighth grade for the grades achieved on high school courses. Using the uniform grading system, students' grades shall be reported for the purposes of application for post-secondary financial assistance administered by the Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation.

Subject-area grades shall be expressed by the following letters with their corresponding percentage range:

- A (90-100)
- B (80-89)
- C (70-79)
- D (60-69)
- F (0-59)

Grading floors with a minimum above zero are not permitted.³ This grading system shall be uniform throughout the school district for each grade.

Advanced coursework grades shall be weighted with additional percentage points to calculate the semester average. Depending on the course taken, the following percentage points shall be assigned:

- Honors Courses – three (3) percentage points;
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- Local and Statewide Dual Credit, Capstone Industry Certification Aligned- four (4) percentage points; and
- Advanced Placement, Cambridge International, College Level Exam Program (CLEP), and International Baccalaureate Courses– five (5) percentage points.

LOTTERY SCHOLARSHIPS⁴

Each school counselor shall provide incoming freshmen with information on college core courses required for lottery scholarships as well as necessary criteria (grade point average, ACT and SAT score, etc.) that must be met in order to receive a scholarship.

Seniors may apply for the Tennessee HOPE Scholarship by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA is available at the guidance office or online. Students shall be made aware of all applicable FAFSA deadlines and encouraged to submit applications in a timely manner.

Elementary school counselors shall explain the HOPE Scholarship and its requirements to their students and impress upon them the benefits of making good grades.

LOTTERY SCHOLARSHIP DAY

Each school year, prior to scheduling courses for the following school year, schools teaching students in grades 8-11 shall conduct a lottery scholarship day for students and their parent.⁵

Legal References

1. [TCA 49-2-203\(b\)\(16\); TCA 49-2-301\(b\)\(1\)\(H\); Public Acts of 2026, Chapter No. 901](#)
2. [TRR/MS 0520-01-03-.02; State Board of Education Policy 3.301; TCA 49-6-407](#)
3. [TCA 49-6-407\(c\)\(2\)](#)
4. [TCA 49-4-904, 905, 907](#)
5. [TCA 49-4-932\(f\)](#)

Cross References

Alternative Credit Options 4.209
Credit Recovery 4.210
Reporting Student Progress 4.601
Honor Roll, Awards, & Class Ranking 4.602
Promotion and Retention 4.603
Transcript Alterations 4.608