

Students who entered grade 9 in the 2010–11 school year and thereafter must complete one of the following programs for graduation:

- [Exhibit A](#): Overview of Graduation Requirements for Students Entering Grade 9 in 2014– 15 through 2027-28 (Classes of 2018-2031)
- [Exhibit B](#): Graduation Requirements for students entering Grade 9 in 2028-29 and Beyond (Beginning with the class of 2032 and Beyond)
- [Exhibit C](#): Endorsement Options and Performance Acknowledgments

EXHIBIT A

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS ENTERING
GRADE 9 IN 2014-2015 THROUGH 2027-2028 (Classes of 2018-2031)**

*Distinguished Level of Achievement		Foundation with Endorsement(s)		Foundation	
English	4 Credits	English	4 Credits	English	4 Credits
- English I - English II - English III - English IV or one advanced English Course		- English I - English II - English III - English IV or one advanced English Course		- English I - English II - English III - English IV or one advanced English Course	
Math	4 Credits	Math	4 Credits	Math	3 Credits
- Algebra 1 - Geometry - Two advanced math courses (including Algebra 2)		- Algebra 1 - Geometry - Two advanced math courses		- Algebra 1 - Geometry - One advanced math course	
Science	4 Credits	Science	4 Credits	Science	3 Credits
- Biology - IPC, Chemistry or Physics - Two advanced science courses		- Biology - IPC, Chemistry or Physics - Two advanced science courses		- Biology - IPC, Chemistry or Physics - One advanced science course	
Social Studies	4 Credits	Social Studies	4 Credits	Social Studies	4 Credits
- World Geography^ - World History^ - US History - Government (.5) - Personal Financial Literacy (.5)		- World Geography^ - World History^ - US History - Government (.5) - Personal Financial Literacy (.5)		- World Geography^ - World History^ - US History - Government (.5) - Personal Financial Literacy (.5)	
LOTE	2 Credits	LOTE	2 Credits	LOTE	2 Credits
2 Credits in the same language or two credits from computer programming languages		2 Credits in the same language or two credits from computer programming languages		2 Credits in the same language or two credits from computer programming languages	
PE	1 Credit	PE	1 Credit	PE	1 Credit
Health^	.5 Credit	Health^	.5 Credit	Health^	.5 Credit
Speech^	.5 Credit	Speech^	.5 Credit	Speech^	.5 Credit
Fine Arts	1 Credit	Fine Arts	1 Credit	Fine Arts	1 Credit
Electives (including those required for an endorsement)	5 Credits	Electives (including those required for an endorsement)	5 Credits	Electives	3 Credits
Total Credits: 26 Credits		Total Credits: 26 Credits		Total Credits: 22 Credits	

Additional Requirements and End of Course (EOC) Exams

Complete a Financial Aid Requirement Demonstrate Speech Proficiency Receive Instruction in CPR Receive Instruction on the Proper Interaction with Peace Officers	English 1 EOC English 2 EOC (through the class of 2027) Algebra 1 EOC Biology EOC US History EOC
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**A student must earn the distinguished level of achievement to be admitted to a Texas public university under the top 10% automatic admission law.*

***Upon entering 9th grade, all students will pursue an Endorsement pathway.*

^For students entering 9th grade through 2027-2028, Plano ISD requires that students complete two additional credits in addition to the State of Texas required credits. Those two additional credits are Professional Communications (.5 credit), Personal Health (.5 credit), and 4th History (1 credit).

EXHIBIT B

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS ENTERING GRADE 9 IN 2028-29 AND BEYOND
(Beginning with the class of 2032 and Beyond)

*Distinguished Level of Achievement		Foundation with Endorsement(s)		Foundation	
English - English I - English II - English III - English IV or one advanced English Course	4 Credits	English - English I - English II - English III - English IV or one advanced English Course	4 Credits	English - English I - English II - English III - English IV or one advanced English Course	4 Credits
Math - Algebra 1 - Geometry - Two advanced math courses (including Algebra 2)	4 Credits	Math - Algebra 1 - Geometry - Two advanced math courses	4 Credits	Math - Algebra 1 - Geometry - One advanced math course	3 Credits
Science - Biology - IPC, Chemistry or Physics - Two advanced science courses	4 Credits	Science - Biology - IPC, Chemistry or Physics - Two advanced science courses	4 Credits	Science - Biology - IPC, Chemistry or Physics - One advanced science course	3 Credits
Social Studies - World Geography or World History - US History - Government (.5) - Personal Financial Literacy (.5)	3 Credits	Social Studies - World Geography or World History - US History - Government (.5) - Personal Financial Literacy (.5)	3 Credits	Social Studies - World Geography or World History - US History - Government (.5) - Personal Financial Literacy (.5)	3 Credits
LOTE 2 Credits in the same language or two credits from computer programing languages	2 Credits	LOTE 2 Credits in the same language or two credits from computer programing languages	2 Credits	LOTE 2 Credits in the same language or two credits from computer programing languages	2 Credits
PE	1 Credit	PE	1 Credit	PE	1 Credit
Fine Arts	1 Credit	Fine Arts	1 Credit	Fine Arts	1 Credit
Electives (including those required for an endorsement)	7 Credits	Electives (including those required for an endorsement)	7 Credits	Electives	5 Credits
Total Credits: 26 Credits		Total Credits: 26 Credits		Total Credits: 22 Credits	
Additional Requirements and End of Course (EOC) Exams					
Complete a Financial Aid Requirement Demonstrate Speech Proficiency Receive Instruction in CPR Receive Instruction on the Proper Interaction with Peace Officers			English 1 EOC Algebra 1 EOC Biology EOC US History EOC		
*A student must earn the distinguished level of achievement to be admitted to a Texas public university under the top 10% automatic admission law. **Upon entering 9th grade, all students will pursue an Endorsement pathway.					

EXHIBIT C

Endorsement Options

Students earn an endorsement by:

- Completing four credits in Math
- Completing four credits in Science
- Completing the specific course requirements for the endorsement options listed below

Endorsement	Requirements
<u>STEM</u> Students may earn a STEM endorsement by completing Algebra II, chemistry, and physics or Physics for Engineering and one or more of the following:	• courses required to be designated a CTE completer in a TEA-approved program of study related to STEM ○ biomedical sciences ○ civil engineering ○ Cybersecurity ○ electrical engineering ○ engineering foundations ○ geospatial engineering and land surveying ○ mechanical and aerospace engineering ○ networking systems ○ nursing science ○ programming and software development ○ renewable energy ○ robotics and automation technology ○ web development • three credits in mathematics by successfully completing Algebra II and two additional mathematics courses for which Algebra II is a prerequisite • four credits in science by successfully completing chemistry, physics, and two additional science courses • in addition to chemistry, physics, and Algebra II, one additional mathematics course for which Algebra II is a prerequisite and one additional science course
<u>Business and Industry</u> Students may earn a business and industry endorsement by completing one or more of the following:	• courses required to be designated a CTE completer in a TEA-approved program of study related to Business and Industry ○ accounting and financial services ○ agriculture business, leadership, and communications ○ agricultural technology and mechanical systems ○ animal science ○ architectural drafting and design ○ automotive and collision repair ○ aviation maintenance ○ aviation pilots ○ business management ○ carpentry

	○ construction management and inspection ○ cosmetology ○ culinary arts ○ diesel and heavy equipment maintenance and commercial drivers ○ digital communications ○ distribution, logistics, and warehousing ○ drone (unmanned vehicle) ○ electrical ○ entrepreneurship ○ environmental and natural resources ○ food science and technology ○ graphic design and interactive media ○ HVAC and sheet metal ○ industrial maintenance ○ information technology support and services ○ lodging and resort management ○ manufacturing technology ○ maritime ○ marketing and sales ○ masonry ○ oil and gas exploration and production ○ plant science ○ plumbing and pipefitting ○ printing and imaging ○ real estate ○ refining and chemical processes ○ retail management ○ travel, tourism, and attractions ○ welding ● courses required to be designated a CTE completer in a TEA-approved program of study related to business and industry, if the mathematics and science requirements for the STEM endorsement are not met ○ civil engineering ○ cybersecurity ○ electrical engineering ○ engineering foundations ○ geospatial engineering and land surveying ○ mechanical and aerospace engineering ○ networking systems ○ programming and software development ○ renewable energy ○ robotics and automation technology ○ web development ● four English credits to include three levels in one of the following areas:
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	○ public speaking ○ debate ○ advanced broadcast journalism ○ advanced journalism newspaper ○ advanced journalism yearbook ○ advanced journalism: literary magazine
<u>Public Services</u> Students may earn a public services endorsement by completing one or more of the following:	● courses required to be designated a CTE completer in a TEA-approved program of study related to Public Service ○ biomedical science, if the mathematics and science requirements for the STEM are not met ○ diagnostic and therapeutic services ○ early learning ○ exercise science, wellness, and restoration ○ family and community services ○ fire science ○ government and public administration ○ health and wellness ○ health informatics ○ law enforcement ○ legal studies ○ nursing science, if the mathematics and science requirements for the STEM are not met ○ teaching and training
<u>Multidisciplinary Studies</u> A student may earn a multidisciplinary studies endorsement by completing one or more of the following:	● four advanced courses that prepare a student to enter the workforce successfully or postsecondary education without remediation from within one endorsement area or among endorsement areas that are not in a coherent sequence ● four credits in each of the four foundation subject areas to include chemistry and/or physics and English IV or a comparable AP or IB English course ● four credits in Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, or dual credit selected from English, mathematics, science, social studies, economics, languages other than English, or fine arts
<u>Arts and Humanities</u> A student may earn an arts and humanities endorsement by completing one or more of the following:	● five social studies credits ● four levels of the same language in a language other than English ● two levels of the same language in a language other than English and two levels of a different language in a language other than English ● a coherent sequence of four credits by selecting courses from one or two categories in fine arts ● four English credits by selecting from the following: ○ English IV ○ Independent Study in English ○ Literary Genres

	○ Creative Writing ○ Research and Technical Writing ○ Humanities ○ Communication Applications ○ AP English Literature and Composition ○ AP English Language and Composition ○ IB Language Studies A: Language and Literature Standard Level ○ IB Language Studies A: Language and Literature Higher Level ○ IB Language Studies A: Literature Standard Level ○ IB Language Studies A: Literature Higher Level ○ IB Literature and Performance Standard Level
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Performance Acknowledgments

Performance acknowledgments recognize outstanding achievement in specific areas. These distinctions will appear on the high school transcript and enhance a student’s chances of entering college and/or the workforce successfully. Students can earn more than one performance acknowledgment.

Performance Acknowledgment		Description
Dual Credit	(a) A student may earn a performance acknowledgment on the student's transcript for <u>outstanding performance in a dual credit</u> course by successfully completing:	(1) at least 12 hours of college academic courses, including those taken for dual credit as part of the Texas core curriculum, and advanced technical credit courses, including locally articulated courses, with a grade of the equivalent of 3.0 or higher on a scale of 4.0; or (2) an associate degree while in high school.
Bilingualism/Biliteracy	(b) A student may earn a performance acknowledgment on the student's transcript for <u>outstanding performance in bilingualism and biliteracy</u> as follows.	(1) A student may earn a performance acknowledgment by demonstrating proficiency in accordance with local school district grading policy in two or more languages by: (A) completing all English language arts requirements and maintaining a minimum grade point average (GPA) of the equivalent of 80 on a scale of 100; and (B) satisfying one of the following: completion of a minimum of three credits in the same language in a language other than English with a minimum GPA of the equivalent of 80 on a scale of 100; or (ii) demonstrated proficiency in the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Level IV or higher in a language other than English with a minimum GPA of the equivalent of 80 on a scale of 100; or (iii) completion of at least three credits in foundation subject area courses in a language other than English with a minimum GPA of 80 on a scale of 100; or

		(iv) demonstrated proficiency in one or more languages other than English through one of the following methods: (I) a score of 3 or higher on a College Board Advanced Placement examination for a language other than English; or (II) a score of 4 or higher on an International Baccalaureate examination for a higher-level languages other than English course; or (III) performance on a national assessment of language proficiency in a language other than English of at least Intermediate High or its equivalent. (2) In addition to meeting the requirements of paragraph (1) of this subsection, to earn a performance acknowledgment in bilingualism and biliteracy, an English language learner must also have: (A) participated in and met the exit criteria for a bilingual or English as a second language (ESL) program; and (B) scored at the Advanced High level on the Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS).
AP/IB Exams	(c) A student may earn a performance acknowledgment on the student's transcript for <u>outstanding performance on a College Board Advanced Placement test or International Baccalaureate examination</u> by earning:	(1) a score of 3 or above on a College Board Advanced Placement examination; or (2) a score of 4 or above on an International Baccalaureate examination.
College Readiness Assessment	(d) A student may earn a performance acknowledgment on the student's transcript for <u>outstanding performance on an established, valid, reliable, and nationally norm-referenced preliminary college preparation assessment instrument</u> used to measure a student's progress toward readiness for college and the workplace or on an established valid, reliable, and nationally norm-referenced assessment instrument used by colleges and universities as part of their undergraduate admissions process by:	(1) earning a score on the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®) that qualifies the student for recognition as a commended scholar or higher by the College Board and National Merit Scholarship Corporation, as part of the National Hispanic Recognition Program (NHRP) of the College Board or as part of the National Achievement Scholarship Program of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation; (2) achieving the college readiness benchmark score on at least two of the four subject tests on the ACT Aspire™ examination; (3) earning scores of at least 410 on the evidence-based reading section and 520 on the mathematics section of the SAT®; or (4) earning a composite score on the ACT® examination of 28 (excluding the writing subscore).

Certifications/Licensures	(e) A student may earn a performance acknowledgment on the student's transcript for <u>earning a state recognized or nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certification or license</u> as follows.	(1) A student may earn a performance acknowledgment with: (A) performance on an examination or series of examinations sufficient to obtain a nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certification; or (B) performance on an examination sufficient to obtain a government-required credential to practice a profession. (2) Nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certification shall be defined as an industry-validated credential that complies with knowledge and skills standards promulgated by a nationally or internationally recognized business, industry, professional, or government entity representing a particular profession or occupation that is issued by or endorsed by: (A) a national or international business, industry, or professional organization; (B) a state agency or other government entity; or (C) a state-based industry association. (3) Certifications or licensures for performance acknowledgements shall: (A) be age appropriate for high school students; (B) represent a student's substantial course of study and/or end-of-program knowledge and skills; (C) include an industry-recognized examination or series of examinations, an industry validated skill test, or demonstrated proficiency through documented, supervised field experience; and (D) represent substantial knowledge and multiple skills needed for successful entry into a high-skill occupation.
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