



Credit By Exam 2026-2027

Credit by Exam (CBE) opportunities are available for students in grades 1-8 who wish to accelerate to the next grade level without having received prior instruction in the grade level or course. CBE testing is conducted for students in Grades 9 - 12 who wish to earn original credit in a course they have not previously taken or for credit recovery to recover credit for a course that they have taken and failed.

REGISTRATION ELIGIBILITY

- The student is enrolled in a Magnolia ISD school.
- Elementary students must meet the state law requirement - five years old by September 1st for kindergarten, or six years old by September 1st for First Grade.
- Registration form is completed indicating grade level/course for testing and returned to the school counselor at the student's home campus by the registration deadline.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

As per testing guidelines, three hours are allowed for each exam. The examinations are purchased from Texas Tech University and thoroughly test the essential knowledge and skills for each primary school grade level and secondary academic subject area.

Study guides can be downloaded at: <https://www.depts.ttu.edu/k12/cbe/review/>

Score reports are generally available 3-6 weeks after testing and are mailed directly to the school counselors. The counselors will release the scores to the students. All CBEs are considered secure and will not be released to the students and/or parents after the test administration.

A student may not take a CBE for a grade level in which that student is currently enrolled. Placement in a new grade level will only occur at the start of a school year regardless of when an exam for acceleration is taken.

There is no fee for CBE testing. Please carefully consider availability during the testing window before completing the registration form. ***CBE request forms must be submitted by the campus counselor by the end of the school day on the date the registration window closes. Late registrations will not be accepted.***

Testing will occur as per the following schedule:

SESSION	REGISTRATION DEADLINE	TESTING DATES
1	May 21, 2026	July 21-23, 2026
2	October 2, 2026	November 4-6, 2026
3	January 8, 2027	February 17-19, 2027
4	April 2, 2027	May 5-7, 2027

Kindergarten

Students residing within Magnolia Independent School District will be provided an opportunity for acceleration from Kindergarten to First Grade when the following conditions have been met:

- The student is five years of age on September 1.
- The student successfully completes 90% or more of the items on a kindergarten screening instrument, which may include CBEs in the four content areas.
- The student's physical development and social maturity are consistent with an advanced mental ability.
- The student has been recommended by the kindergarten or preschool that the student has previously attended.
- Parent/guardian gives written approval for the acceleration.

Parents must contact the school counselor by June 1 to register for the test. Tests will then be ordered and administered during the end of July.

Placement in a new grade level will only occur at the start of a school year regardless of when an exam for acceleration is taken.

Grades 1-8 - Without Prior Instruction

Exams for grade acceleration will be administered at the student's home campus. Students may advance one grade level if the following conditions have been met:

- **Grades 1-5**
 - The student takes four exams: Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies.
 - The student receives a score of 80% on each exam.
- **Grades 6-8**
 - The student takes two tests per course, one for Semester A and one for Semester B: Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies.
 - The student receives a score of 80% on each exam.

In addition to meeting the above requirements, the parent or guardian must give written approval for the acceleration and a district representative must recommend the student be accelerated.

Placement in a new grade level will only occur at the start of a school year regardless of when an exam for acceleration is taken.

High School Grade Levels (Grades 9-12) - Without Prior Instruction

Credit by Examination - Without Prior Instruction provides course credit for students who are enrolled in Magnolia Independent School District and have no prior formal instruction in the course. A student may take a specific examination only once during each window. A student may not attempt to earn credit by examination for a specific high school course more than two times.

Students scoring 80% or above on the CBE for original credit will receive credit for the applicable course and the examination score will be indicated on the student's transcript. CBE is not calculated in the official Grade Point Average (GPA) used for class ranking purposes; however, it is calculated in the 4.0 GPA used for college admission, NCAA eligibility, and scholarship applications.

High School Grade Levels (Grades 9-12) - With Prior Instruction

Students who test for subjects which they have previously failed and who are seeking credit recovery must score at least 70% on the test in order to obtain credit.