NEW COURSE PROPOSALS

2027-2028 School Year

November 2026 Board of Trustees

Prepared for public review and Board consideration

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Executive Summary

Each year, AHISD reviews new and revised secondary course offerings to ensure students have access to rigorous pathways that meet graduation requirements, support college and career readiness, and respond to evolving state and national course standards. For 2027-2028, the recommendations include one redesigned AP English offering, a new state-required wellness elective, the final Dual Credit courses needed for the Early College High School Associate of Arts pathway, and one Rank in Class placement change. The document also addresses the Personal Financial Literacy (PFL) graduation requirement and proposed updates to Off-Campus Physical Education (OCPE) eligibility regulations.

What is different this year?
This proposal separates new course approvals from state-required updates and from a Rank in Class placement recommendation. PFL is also addressed as a graduation-requirement transition, but AHISD is not recommending a new PFL course for 2027-2028. OCPE is included as an administrative eligibility update for Board awareness.

Board Action Requests Overview

Recommendation	Credit / Hours	Weight	Board Action
AP Seminar: English /English II	1.0 HS	1.13	Approve new/revised course and multiplier
Nutrition and Wellness	0.5 HS	1.00	Approve state-required course offering
ECHS AA completion courses	3-6 college hrs each	1.10	Approve four Dual Credit offerings and multipliers
Rocketry Level IV	1.0 HS	1.13	Add to Rank in Class beginning with Class of 2031
Personal Financial Literacy (PFL)	0.5 HS requirement	N/A	Information only - delay AHISD course proposal to 2028-2029
OCPE Eligibility Regulations	Existing PE credit	N/A	Information only - administrative regulation update

State-Required Course Updates

REQUIRED OFFERING

Nutrition and Wellness

0.5 high school elective credit | Category I | 1.00 multiplier

What changes? Beginning in 2027-2028, every Texas school district that offers a high school program must offer a one-half-credit Nutrition and Wellness course. Student participation is optional; this is an offering requirement, not a new graduation requirement.

AHISD recommendation. Offer Nutrition and Wellness as a 0.5-credit high school elective in Category I with a 1.00 multiplier. Instruction will align with state requirements and may include applied topics such as culinary skills, horticulture, and consumer economics.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENT CHANGE

Personal Financial Literacy Graduation Requirement

What changes? The Class of 2030 is the first cohort subject to the new 0.5-credit Personal Financial Literacy (PFL) graduation requirement, replacing the prior 0.5-credit Economics requirement.

What stays the same? Students in the Classes of 2027, 2028, and 2029 will continue to meet graduation requirements through the existing Economics courses. There is no change to their graduation requirements.

AHISD implementation plan. AHISD originally planned an on-level PFL course and AP Business with Personal Finance for 2027-2028. Because SBOE has not yet approved the AP course for graduation credit, AHISD will delay both proposals until 2028-2029 rather than launch new graduation-requirement courses before state approval is complete.

AHHS Course Proposals

AP Seminar: English / English II

Full year | 1.0 high school English credit | Recommended Category III: 1.13 multiplier

Beginning in 2027-2028, College Board will offer a redesigned AP Seminar framework with a dedicated AP Seminar: English edition. At the same time, the English II STAAR assessment will no longer be administered, creating an opportunity for AHISD to be more innovative in the advanced English II experience while continuing to meet the English II graduation requirement. The redesigned course strengthens close reading, research, argumentation, authentic writing, speaking, and listening, with collaborative and individual research-based performance tasks and the AP Seminar end-of-course exam.

Rationale: AP Seminar: English would replace Advanced English II as the advanced pathway option for English II. Without the constraints of an English II STAAR exam, the course can place greater emphasis on the college-level critical reading, analytical writing, research, argumentation, and communication skills students will need as they move into AP and Dual Credit English III and IV. This creates a stronger bridge from advanced sophomore English into AHISD's upper-level college coursework while maintaining the expectations of the English II graduation requirement. It is recommended at the 1.13 multiplier used for other AP courses.

Nutrition and Wellness

Semester | 0.5 high school elective credit | Recommended Category I: 1.00 multiplier

This state-required offering will help students build knowledge and skills related to nutrition and lifelong wellness. Instruction will follow state requirements and may incorporate applied topics such as food preparation, consumer decision-making, and healthy lifestyle choices.

Rationale: The course is a general high school elective and is recommended at the standard 1.00 multiplier.

Early College High School: Final AA Pathway Courses

The following Dual Credit courses complete the planned college-course sequence needed to support the ECHS Associate of Arts pathway. These courses are open to eligible students who meet Alamo Colleges admission and course-prerequisite requirements. AHISD recommends a 1.10 multiplier for each course, consistent with the current Dual Credit placement of these offerings.

GOVT 2305 / GOVT 2306 - Federal Government and Texas Government

Two semesters | 6 college hours | 1.0 Social Studies credit | Recommended 1.10 multiplier

GOVT 2305 examines the U.S. Constitution, national institutions, federalism, elections, political participation, public policy, civil liberties, and civil rights. GOVT 2306 focuses on the Texas Constitution, state and local government, federal-state relations, political participation, elections, public policy, and Texas political culture.

Rationale: These are college-level Dual Credit courses that fulfill Government/Political Science core requirements and complete an important portion of the ECHS AA pathway.

BIOL 1406 / BIOL 1407 - Biology for Science Majors I and II

Two semesters | 8 college hours | 1.0 high school Science credit | Recommended 1.10 multiplier

The sequence studies the chemical and cellular foundations of life, genetics, evolution, diversity and classification, anatomy, physiology, ecology, and scientific reasoning. Laboratory activities reinforce lecture content through college-level investigation and data analysis.

Rationale: These are lab-based college science courses that satisfy Life and Physical Sciences core requirements and support completion of the ECHS AA pathway.

PSYC 2319 - Social Psychology

One semester | 3 college hours | 0.5 high school elective credit | Recommended 1.10 multiplier

This course examines individual behavior within the social environment, including attitudes, interpersonal relationships, group processes, social cognition, the self, and research methods. The course fulfills the Social and Behavioral Sciences component of the college core.

Rationale: This college-level elective supports completion of the ECHS AA pathway and is recommended at the standard Dual Credit 1.10 multiplier.

MATH 1350 / MATH 1351 - Mathematics for Teachers I and II

Two semesters | 6 college hours | 1.0 high school Math credit | Recommended 1.10 multiplier

This sequence develops and reinforces foundational mathematical concepts through problem solving and critical thinking. Topics include sets, functions, numeration systems, number theory, geometry, measurement, probability, and statistics. MATH 1350/1351 is a unique sequence required for students in the ECHS TEACH program to complete the Associate of Arts in Teaching degree. Students must complete the applicable college prerequisite before enrollment.

Rationale: These are college-level mathematics courses required for the ECHS TEACH pathway and are recommended at the standard Dual Credit 1.10 multiplier.

Note: Fewer than 10 students are anticipated to need the sequence each year, so AHISD is exploring online options that can be integrated more easily into the high school master schedule without requiring teachers to stack multiple courses within one class period.

Rank in Class Recommendation

Scientific Research and Design: Rocketry Level IV

Current Placement	**Category III | 1.13 multiplier | Not currently included in Rank in Class**
Recommended Change	**Add to Rank in Class GPA beginning with students entering Grade 9 in 2027-2028 (Class of 2031)**

Scientific Research and Design: Rocketry Level IV is an advanced CTE course currently assigned the 1.13 multiplier. The course may also be used to satisfy a student's fourth science graduation credit.

AHISD recommends adding Rocketry Level IV to the Rank in Class GPA calculation for the Class of 2031 and beyond. This creates greater consistency in the treatment of advanced courses that may fulfill the fourth science graduation requirement. Other fourth-science courses, including Food Science and Anatomy and Physiology, are already included in Rank in Class calculations.

Implementation

The multiplier would remain 1.13. The change affects only whether the course is included in the Rank in Class GPA calculation, and would apply prospectively beginning with the freshman class entering in 2027-2028.

Off-Campus Physical Education (OCPE) Eligibility Changes

Proposed Implementation: 2027-2028 School Year

AHISD recommends updating OCPE regulations to allow students to earn PE credit through outside athletic programs only when the activity is not offered at their campus. This change would affect swimming, diving, golf, tennis, water polo, cheerleading, and dance at Alamo Heights High School. Activities not offered at Alamo Heights Junior School would remain eligible.

Rationale: This change provides greater consistency in how students earn PE credit, reduces potential UIL eligibility concerns, and preserves opportunities for specialized activities not offered at school.

Implementation: The district will update its administrative regulations and communicate changes to families before course selection for 2027-2028. No Board policy revision is required.

AHISD Weighted Course List

Graduation Cohorts of 2028 and Beyond

	Category I 1.00 Multiplier	Category II 1.10 Multiplier	Category III 1.13 Multiplier
English	*English I, II, III, IV *Modified English I, II, III, IV *Alternate English I, II, III, IV All English Electives	*Adv. English I ~~*Adv. English II~~ (Removed for 2027+)	*AP English II: Seminar (NEW) *AP English III Language *AP English IV Literature *DC English III Freshman Comp I/II *DC English IV British Literature I/II
Math	*Algebra I, II, III *Algebraic Reasoning *Geometry *Statistics *Precalculus *Modified Algebra I, Alg. Reasoning, Geometry *Alternate Algebra, Geometry, Math Models	*Adv. Algebra I *Adv. Geometry *Adv. Algebra II *DC College Algebra: Algebra II *UT OnRamps Statistics	*AP Precalculus *AP Calculus AB *AP Calculus BC *AP Statistics
Social Studies	*World Geography *World History *US History *US Government (1 semester) *Economics (1 semester) Sociology (1 semester) All Other Social Science Electives	*DC US History I/II DC Psychology I/II *DC US Government (1 semester) (NEW) *TX Government (1 semester) (NEW) DC Social Psychology (1 semester) (NEW)	*AP Human Geography *AP World History *AP U.S. History *AP U.S. Government *AP Macroeconomics *AP European History AP Psychology (1 semester)
Science	*Biology I *Chemistry *Physics *Environmental Systems *Food Science *Forensic Science *Astronomy *Anatomy and Physiology *Alternate Biology All Science Electives	*Adv. Biology I Advanced *Adv. Chemistry Advanced *UT OnRamps Physics I/II *DC Chemistry Non-Science Majors I/II *DC Biology Science Majors I/II (NEW)	*AP Biology *AP Chemistry *AP Physics C: Electricity *AP Environmental Science
World Languages	Spanish I, II, III, IV, V, VI French I, II, III, IV Latin I, II, III, IV All World Languages Electives	Adv. Spanish I, II, III Adv. Latin I, II, III Advanced Adv. French I, II, III Advanced	AP Spanish Language and Culture AP Spanish Literature and Culture AP Latin IV AP French Language and Culture DC Spanish IV, V
Fine Arts	DC Fundamentals of Visual Arts All Fine Arts Electives		AP Music Theory AP 3-D Art and Design AP 2-D Art & Design AP Drawing AP Art History
Career and Technical Education	DC College Transition (1 semester) DC Prof..Communication (1 semester) Business Incubator All Career and Technical Electives	DC Instructional Practices and Special Populations Business Accelerator Engineering Design and Problem Solving: Rocketry Level III	AP Comp. Science Principles DC Practicum in Education *Scientific Research and Design: Rocketry Level IV (* NEW RIC for Class of 2031+)
Pending Courses (11/2027)	*Personal Financial Literacy		*AP Business with Personal Finance

* Denotes courses included in Rank in Class (RIC) GPA used to calculate top 10% of the graduation cohort and eligibility for automatic admission to Texas public universities.

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