

### **Course Requirements**

To graduate, a student must complete the courses required by the District in addition to those mandated by the state.

### **Foundation Program**

The courses that satisfy District requirements under the foundation program, including courses for the distinguished level of achievement and courses for endorsements offered by the District, shall be listed in appropriate District publications.

#### Without an Endorsement

The District requires no additional credits beyond the number mandated by the state to graduate under the foundation program without an endorsement. Graduation under the foundation program without an endorsement shall be permitted only as authorized under state law and rules.

#### With an Endorsement

The District requires no additional credits beyond the number mandated by the state to graduate under the foundation program with an endorsement.

#### Distinguished Level of Achievement

The District requires no additional credits beyond the number mandated by the state to graduate under the foundation program with the distinguished level of achievement.

### **Fine Arts Substitutions**

To the extent permitted by state rules, the District shall award state graduation credit in fine arts for participation in an approved community-based fine arts program.

### **Physical Education Substitutions**

#### Activities and Courses

To the extent permitted by state rules, the District shall award state graduation credit in physical education for participation in approved activities and elective courses.

#### Private or Commercial Programs

The District shall award state graduation credit in physical education for appropriate private or commercially sponsored physical activity programs conducted either on or off campus, upon approval by the commissioner of education. [See also EHAC]

### **Financial Aid Application Confirmation**

As confirmation of a student's completion and submission of a free application for federal student aid (FAFSA) or a Texas application for state financial aid (TASFA), the District shall accept the following:

1. A screenshot that includes the processed date field in ApplyTexas Counselor Suite FAFSA data;
2. Notification, such as a copy of an email, from the United States Department of Education verifying completion of the FAFSA;
3. A copy or screenshot of the FAFSA acknowledgment page;
4. A screenshot of the TASFA submission acknowledgment page (from those institutions that offer an electronic form);
5. An acknowledgment receipt from an institution of higher education (IHE); or
6. A copy of a financial aid award letter from an IHE.

[For students who choose not to complete and submit a FAFSA or a TASFA, see EIF(LEGAL).]

The District shall maintain individual student documentation of the financial aid application requirement as an education record. [See FL]

### **Additional Postsecondary Preparation Requirements**

Effective for all ninth-grade students entering high school during the 2026-27 school year and thereafter, the following requirement shall apply to each student for graduation:

1. Each student must complete a measure of college, career, or military readiness as established by administrative regulation.

The superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations that specify acceptable measures of college, career, and military readiness. The regulation shall take into consideration the college, career, and military measures used by the Texas Education Agency for accountability. Additionally, the regulation shall establish a procedure that allows a student under extenuating circumstances as determined by a high school graduation committee to be exempt from the requirement to complete a measure of college, career, or military readiness for graduation.