

Summary of TAC Chapter 74, Subchapter B: Graduation Requirements

Foundation Program (22 Credits)

ELA (4 Credits) **English I, II, & III REQUIRED.** One additional credit from: English IV; Independent Study in English; Literary Genres; Creative Writing; Research & Technical Writing; Humanities; Public Speaking III; Communications Applications (combined with .5 of those that follow); Oral Interpretation III; Debate III; Independent Study in Speech; Independent Study in Journalism; Advanced Broadcast Journalism III; Advanced Journalism: Newspaper III; Advanced Journalism: Yearbook III; an Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) English language arts course in accordance with §74.11(h); locally developed ELA course or activity, including apprenticeship or training hours to obtain an industry-recognized credential/certificate pursuant to TEC §28.002; Business English; or college preparatory English language arts course developed pursuant to TEC §28.014.

Math (3 Credits) **Algebra I & Geometry REQUIRED.** One additional credit taken from: Math Models with Applications; Mathematical Applications in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources; Digital Electronics; Robotics Programming and Design. One additional credit from: Algebra II, Precalculus; Advanced Quantitative Reasoning; Independent Study in Mathematics; Discrete Mathematics for Problem Solving; Algebraic Reasoning; Statistics; an AP or IB mathematics course in accordance with §74.11(h); AP Computer Science; Engineering Mathematics; Statistics & Risk Management; Discrete Mathematics for Computer Science; (after Algebra II) a math course listed by TEA and endorsed by an IHE for credit or as a prerequisite for credit; or (After Algebra I & Geometry) a locally developed Math course or activity, including apprenticeship or training hours to obtain an industry-recognized credential/certificate pursuant to TEC §28.002.

Science (3 Credits)¹ **Biology, AP Biology, OR IB Biology REQUIRED.** One additional credit from: IPC; Chemistry; Physics; Principles of Technology; an AP or IB science course in accordance with §74.11(h). AND one additional credit from: Chemistry; Physics; Aquatic Science; Astronomy; Earth and Space Science; Environmental Systems; an AP or IB science course in accordance with §74.11(h); Advanced Animal Science; Advanced Plant and Soil Science; Anatomy and Physiology; Medical Microbiology; Pathophysiology; Food Science; Forensic Science; Advanced Biotechnology; Principles of Technology; Scientific Research and Design; Engineering Design and Problem Solving; Principles of Engineering; (after Physics) a science course listed by TEA and endorsed by an IHE for credit or as a prerequisite for credit; or locally developed Science course or activity, including apprenticeship or training hours to obtain an industry-recognized credential/certificate pursuant to TEC §28.002

Social Studies (3 Credits) **US History, Government, & Economics REQUIRED.** One additional credit from: World History; or World Geography.

LOTE (2 Credits)⁴ Any two languages in the same language (Spanish I & II); or two credits in computer programming²; or one foreign language credit and one credit Special Topics in Language and Culture, World History, World Geography, a second foreign language, computer programming³

P.E. (1 Credit) One credit of: Foundations of Personal Fitness; Adventure/Outdoor Education; Aerobic Activities; or Team or Individual Sports. Other substitutions are listed in Section 6, Subsections B-G

Fine Arts (1 Credit) One credit from: Levels I-IV of Art, Dance, Music, or Theatre; Principals and Elements of Floral Design; Digital Art and Animation; or 3-D Modeling and Animation

Electives (5 Credits) Five credits selected from §74.11(h) of this title

¹Combination of Physics and Principles of Technology is NOT allowable.

²Computer Programming is a CTE course and does not satisfy this requirement; the courses must be selected from the Technology Applications courses Computer Science I, II, and III. **The provision was to apply to credits earned before September 1, 2016. This language was removed, effective August 22, 2016. Credits earned on or after September 1, 2016 MAY be used.**

³If a student is unlikely to be successful in the second year of foreign language, a committee consisting of the principal, teacher, and parent may decide to substitute the second course. ARD and 504 committees may make the same determination. World Geography & World History substitutions only apply for a student who is not required to complete both by the local district.

⁴A student who is unable to complete two credits due to disability may substitute two credits in English, Math, Science, Social Studies or two credits in CTE or Tech Apps. This determination is made by either a 504 or ARD committee.

Endorsements (26 Credits)

A student shall specify in writing the endorsement he/she intends to earn upon entering 9th grade. The District shall permit a student to enroll in courses in more than one endorsement before his/her junior year. A student may choose, at any time, to earn an endorsement other than the one previously indicated. To earn an endorsement, students must complete the requirements of the 22 credit Foundation Program and:

One additional Math: To be chosen from those listed in §74.13(e)(2).

One additional Science: To be chosen from those listed in §74.13(e)(5).

The same course may count as part of the set of four courses for more than one endorsement.

STEM (Algebra II, Chemistry, and Physics/or Principles of Technology REQUIRED)

Foundation, one additional Math, one additional Science, and one of five options:

1. Coherent sequence of **four CTE credits** (two in the same cluster; at least one advanced). Final course in the sequence must be in the STEM cluster or Career Preparation I or II and Problems and Solutions.
2. Coherent sequence of **four Computer Science Tech Apps credits** from those listed in §74.13(f)(1)(B).
3. **Three Math credits** (Algebra II plus two additional courses for which Algebra II is a prerequisite).
4. **Four Science credits** (Chemistry, Physics plus two additional courses from those listed in §74.13(e)(5)).
5. **Combination credits** (Algebra II, Chemistry, Physics, plus three additional credits from no more than 2 disciplines in §74.13(f)(1)(A-D)).

Business & Industry

Foundation, one additional Math, one additional Science, and one of two options:

1. Coherent sequence of **four CTE credits** (two in the same cluster; at least one advanced). Final course in the sequence must be in one of the following CTE clusters:
 - Agriculture, Food, & Natural Resources; Architecture & Construction; Arts, Audio/Visual Technology, & Communications; Business Management & Administration; Finance; Hospitality & Tourism; Information Technology; Manufacturing; Marketing; Transportation, Distribution, & Logistics; or Career Preparation I or II and Problems and Solutions.
2. **Four English elective credits** to include three levels in one of the following areas:
 - Public Speaking; Debate; Advanced Broadcast Journalism; Newspaper; Yearbook; Literary Magazine.
3. **Four Technology Applications credits** from those listed in §74.13(f)(2)(C).
4. **Combination credits** (Four credits from those listed in §74.13(f)(2)(A-C)).

Public Services

Foundation, one additional Math, one additional Science, and:

1. Coherent Sequence of **four CTE credits** (two in the same cluster; at least one advanced). Final course in the sequence must be in one of the following CTE clusters:
 - Education & Training; Government & Public Administration; Health Science; Human Services; Law, Public Safety, Corrections, & Securities; or Career Preparation I or II and Problems and Solutions.
2. **Four courses in Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC).**

Arts & Humanities

Foundation, one additional Math, one additional Science⁵, and one of seven options:

1. **Five Social Studies credits;**
2. **Four levels of LOTE courses** in the same language;
3. **Two levels of LOTE credit in one language and two levels of LOTE credit in a second language;**
4. **Four levels of American Sign Language;**
5. Coherent sequence of **four courses from one or two categories or disciplines in the fine arts** (Art, Dance, Music, and/or Theatre); or
6. **Four English (elective credits)** from those listed in §74.13(f)(4)(F).

Multidisciplinary Studies

Foundation, one additional Math, one additional Science, and one of three options:

1. **Four advanced courses** within one endorsement area or among endorsement areas that are not in a coherent sequence;
2. **Four credits in each of the four Foundation subjects** with English IV and Chemistry and/or Physics; or
3. **Four AP, IB courses, or dual credit courses** to include one in each of the four Foundation subject areas.

⁵ Note: With written parent permission, a student pursuing the Arts & Humanities endorsement may substitute an ELA, Social Studies, LOTE, or Fine Arts course that is not being used to satisfy another specific graduation requirement to fulfill the additional Science credit requirement.