

## Foundation High School Program + Endorsement

### General Information

- This graduation plan provides choice, flexibility, and options!
- **Endorsements** help create a personalized learning plan in line with a student's career interests and goals. There are **5 Endorsement Areas** (see chart on p. 9-10 *Cypress-Fairbanks ISD – The Endorsements*):  
**1-STEM    2-Business & Industry    3-Public Services    4-Arts & Humanities    5- Multidisciplinary Studies**
- The Texas Education Agency (TEA) has designed **Programs of Study** for the Career & Technical Education (CTE) course areas in the STEM, Business & Industry, and Public Services endorsements.
  - These are course sequences that prepare students with the knowledge and skills necessary for success in their chosen career and lead to postsecondary education and training opportunities.
  - These sequences embed relevant, real world experiences and culminate in a postsecondary credential.
  - Programs of Study support the completion of an endorsement.
- Students and parents are required to select (*in writing*) an Endorsement area and create a 4-Year Plan.
- Opportunities to review and/or modify your plan will be available each year.
  - **Parent permission & counselor conference required for Endorsement changes.**
  - Schedule changes for the next school year must be made before the end of the current school year; schedules will **not** be adjusted during the school year.
- Students may earn more than one endorsement.
- **Students must graduate with the Distinguished Level of Achievement in order to be eligible for top 10% automatic admission at any Texas public university and also to be considered for the TEXAS Grant.**
- Completing a free application for federal student aid (FAFSA) is a graduation requirement. FAFSA and/or TAFSA must be completed before a student can receive a high school diploma. A parent or legal guardian may provide written notice to opt out their child.

### When considering which endorsement(s) is best for you/your student, ask:

- What are my/your personal interests and talents? Career aspirations/Post-secondary goals?
- What are the admission requirements for the College/University I/you wish to attend?
- **Remember...the Endorsement you choose will determine many of your high school elective choices!**

### Students may earn a Performance Acknowledgement for outstanding performance in the areas of:

- Dual Credit (at least 12 hours of college credit with a grade of A or B)
- Bilingual/Bi-literacy (complete 3 credits in the same or any foreign language with a grade of 80+)
- College Board Advanced Placement (AP) exams (earn a score of 3 or above on an AP exam)
- PSAT, ACT-Aspire 10, SAT, or ACT Performance
- Nationally or Internationally Recognized Business or Industry Certification or License

### General Information – High School course levels

- **On-level** (the course title without a letter after it; *Example: Algebra I*) - Choose this level if you are currently in an on-level class. If you have an 85 or above average in that class, you will receive a letter in late spring and will have the opportunity to modify your plan and choose K-level **at that time**
- **K (Accelerated level)**: Choose this level only if you are currently in a K-level class of that content area **and** you have a 75 or above average in the class
- **H (Horizons)**: Choose "H" only if you are currently in Horizons classes
- **AP (Advanced Placement)**: earn possible college credit by taking AP exam in the spring
- **DC (Dual Credit)**: earn both high school credit and college credit for specific high school courses; specific entry requirements must be met before enrolling in a dual credit course

# Graduation Requirements for the Classes of 2018 and Beyond

Students who enter the ninth grade in the **fall of 2014 and thereafter** must enroll in courses necessary to complete the Foundation High School Program with an endorsement. Students may also earn Distinguished Level of Achievement by including and successfully completing Algebra II in their selected coursework. Students should study the table below which outlines requirements for 22 credits for the Foundation High School Program plus the 4 additional credits required for an endorsement. Counselors at each high school will furnish details associated with endorsements and other information necessary for student to complete registration.

Course	Foundation	+Endorsement	Notes
English	4		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>English I, II and III are required with options for the 4th credit.</li> </ul>
PACE (Personal, Academic, & Career Exploration) or PACE Plus	1/2  or  1		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One-half credit is required in grade 9.</li> <li>One credit is required for 9th-grade students who did not pass all 8th grade core academic classes (language arts, reading, math, science, and social studies) and who have not met the state standards on any 8th grade STAAR assessment.</li> <li><i>The state required speech TEKS are embedded in PACE and PACE Plus.</i></li> </ul>
Mathematics	3 Algebra I, Geometry, <u>and</u> an additional math course	+ 1 additional advanced math course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Algebra II must be taken to earn the Distinguished Level of Achievement.</li> <li>Note: State graduation requirements do not mandate that a student complete Algebra II to graduate under the Foundation High School Program. If a student does not complete an Algebra II course, the student will not be eligible for automatic college admission or certain financial aid including the TEXAS Grant Program and the Texas Educational Opportunity Grant Program.</li> </ul>
Science	3 Biology and IPC, Chemistry, <u>or</u> Physics, <u>and</u> an additional science course	+1 additional advanced science course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biology is required for all students.</li> </ul>
Social Studies	3 World Geography <u>or</u> World History, U.S. History, Government (1/2) & Economic (1/2)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students may substitute AP Human Geography for World Geography, but may not earn credit for both courses.</li> </ul>
Languages other than English (Foreign Language)	2		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students take and earn two credits in the same language.</li> </ul>
Health	1/2		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health may be taken in any grade or through correspondence, summer school, or credit-by-exam.</li> <li>Principles of Health Science satisfies the health requirement.</li> </ul>
Physical Education	1		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students may earn a maximum of four (4) credits in PE toward graduation-including athletics.</li> <li>Students may meet the PE requirement through after school participation in the fall semester of marching band and cheerleading, and both semesters of drill team and AFJROTC. Students may also meet the PE requirement if they participate in a district-approved Olympic caliber, off-campus training program.</li> <li>PE credit may be earned through approved correspondence courses.</li> </ul>
Fine Arts	1		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approved fine arts courses include art, music, dance, theatre courses and floral design.</li> <li>Students must take 2 sequential semesters of the same course to meet the Fine Arts credit requirement.</li> </ul>
Electives	4	+ 2 additional electives	
<b>Total Credits Required</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>26</b>	