

Stamford High School



2018

2019

**College and Career
Planning Guide**



Life is like Google, you just need to know what you are searching for.
-Unknown

INTRODUCTION

House Bill 5 (HB5), passed by the Texas Legislature this spring, made substantial changes to the state's graduation requirements, moving from the current "4x4" graduation plans to a 22-credit Foundation High School Program (FHSP) that allows students to earn endorsements in specific areas of study by completing four additional credits and performance acknowledgements. Students entering high school in the fall of 2014-15 and thereafter must meet the requirements of the Foundation High School Program to receive a high school diploma. Students are allowed, with parent consent, to change to a different plan after the completion of their sophomore year.

A student may elect to graduate without an endorsement under the high school foundation plan after the student's sophomore year if the student and the student's parent or guardian are advised by the school counselor of the benefits of graduating with one or more endorsement; the student's parent or guardian must file written permission with the high school allowing the student to graduate without an endorsement.

The purpose of this guide is to help parents and students have a greater understanding of the Foundation High School Program (FHSP) graduation plan. This guide contains an overview of graduation requirements for the FHSP, endorsement options in both Non-Career and Technology Education (Non-CTE) and Career and Technical (CTE) pathways.

It is important to note that additional updates and changes may be released by the State Board of Education and the Texas Education Agency. That information will be incorporated into this guide when available. This guide will be made available on the Stamford ISD website.

GRADUATION PLAN OPTIONS

FOUNDATION HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

This 22 credit option is a basic graduation plan. However, it is not available until after the completion of the sophomore year. Changing to this plan will require parent and administrative approval in writing.

FOUNDATION WITH ENDORSEMENT

This graduation plan replaces the previous recommended High School Program. Endorsements are described in detail in this guide including: core course requirements by endorsement, and possible career fields.

A student may earn an Endorsement by successfully completing

- the curriculum requirements for Foundation High School Program
- the curriculum requirements for one or more endorsement(s)
- additional coursework to include
 - four credits in mathematics
 - four credits in approved science courses
 - two additional elective credits

FOUNDATION DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT

The Distinguished Level of Achievement replaces the current Distinguished Achievement Plan as the highest graduation plan in the state of Texas for students entering high school in 2014-2015 and thereafter.

In order to be considered for Top Ten Percent Automatic Admission in Texas Public Universities, graduates MUST earn a Distinguished Level of Achievement diploma.

A student may earn a Distinguished Level of Achievement by successfully completing

- the curriculum requirements for Foundation High School Program
- the curriculum requirements for one or more endorsements
- additional coursework to include
 - four credits in mathematics (including Algebra 2)
 - four credits in approved science courses
 - two additional elective credits

PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Students may earn a performance acknowledgement on their diploma and transcript by outstanding performance in any of the following areas:

- Dual credit course - At least 12 dual credit hours with a grade of 3.0 or higher on 4.0 scale.
- PSAT, ACT-Plan, SAT, or ACT
 - PSAT Commended Scholar, National Hispanic Scholar, National Achievement Scholar; OR
 - ACT PLAN college readiness in 2 of 4 subject tests; OR
 - SAT combined Critical Reading and Math of at least 1250; OR
 - ACT composite of 28 (excludes writing subscore)

Earning a nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certification or license with

- Examination performance to obtain national or international business or industry certification; OR
 - Examination performance to obtain a government-required credential to practice a profession
- AP Test
 - a score of 3 or above on a College Board advanced placement examination

ENDORSEMENT OVERVIEW

Students may earn an endorsement in the following areas: Arts & Humanities; Business & Industry; Multidisciplinary; Public Service; and Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM). SISD offers courses to meet endorsements in all areas. There are specific course requirements in the foundation curriculum based on the endorsement selected. Most endorsements offer both a Career and Technical Education (CTE) Pathway and a Non-CTE Pathway.

A student may earn an endorsement by successfully completing

- curriculum requirements for the endorsement
- four credits in mathematics
- four credits in science
- two additional elective credits

Students should select courses for an endorsement based on areas of interest, student strengths, or possible career paths.

BENEFITS OF GRADUATING WITH AN ENDORSEMENT

The Texas Education Agency, in consultation with the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), must prepare and make available to each school district information that explains the advantages of the distinguished level of achievement and each endorsement.

The information must contain an explanation

- concerning the benefits of choosing a personal high school graduation plan that includes the distinguished level of achievement under the foundation high school program and includes one or more endorsements to enable the student to achieve a class rank in the top 10 percent for students at the campus; AND
- that encourages parents, to the greatest extent practicable, to have the student choose a personal high school graduation plan.

BUILDING A FOUR YEAR PLAN

SELECTING COURSES

Course selection is highly dependent upon the endorsement students plan to pursue. Some endorsement options have different core course requirements. It is important that students and parents pay attention to the Core Course Comparison Chart in this guide when creating their four year plan. Students should select the most challenging core courses to allow them the most flexibility should they decide to change their endorsement or pursue multiple endorsements.

When selecting courses and an endorsement, students should consider the following questions

- Which subjects do I enjoy and/or am I interested in?
 - Am I challenging myself academically?
 - What is my goal for post-high school?
 - Are my study habits good or do I need to improve?
 - What do my teachers recommend?
 - Which combination of courses will give me a strong foundation and keep as many doors open as possible?
 - What are the course requirements for post-high school educational institutions I am interested in?
 - What career center options are there for me to explore a potential career?

Students are allowed to change their graduation plan at the end of their sophomore year.

Stamford ISD Graduation Plans

Foundation Only– 24 Credits*

- 4 credits English – ELA I, II, III, one credit in any authorized advanced English course
- 3 credits Mathematics – Algebra I, Geometry, one credit in any authorized advanced math course
- 3 credits Science – Biology, one credit in any advanced science course, one credit in IPC or in any additional authorized advanced science course
- 3 credits Social Studies –US History, Government, Economics, World Geography or World History
- 2 credits World Language or substitute
- 1 credit Physical Education
- 1 credit Fine Arts
- 5.0 credits in electives
- 2 additional electives: local or state (may include CTE or certification courses)

* Students may opt to Foundation-only after completing sophomore year.

Foundation + Endorsements– 28 Credits

- 4 credits English – ELA I, II, III , one credit in any authorized advanced English course
 - 4 credits Mathematics – Algebra I, Geometry, two credits in any authorized advanced math course
 - 4 credits Science – Biology, two credits in any advanced science course, one credit in IPC or in any additional authorized advanced science course
 - 3 credits Social Studies –US History, Government, Economics, World Geography or World History
 - 2 credits World Language or substitute
 - 1 credit Physical Education
 - 1 credit Fine Arts
 - 7.0 credits in electives (may include CTE or certification courses)
 - 2 additional electives: local or state
- Credit requirements specific to at least one endorsement

Distinguished Level of Achievement – 28 Credits

- 4 credits English – ELA I, II, III , one credit in any authorized advanced English course
 - 4 credits Mathematics – Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, one credit in any authorized advanced math course
 - 4 credits Science – Biology, two credits in any advanced science course, one credit in IPC or in any additional authorized advanced science course
 - 3 credits Social Studies –US History, Government, Economics, World Geography or World History
 - 2 credits World Language or substitute
 - 1 credit Physical Education
 - 1 credit Fine Arts
 - 7.0 credits in electives (may include CTE or certification courses)
 - 2 additional electives: local or state
- Credit requirements specific to a least one endorsement

Endorsements

STEM	Business/Industry	Public Services	Arts & Humanities	Multidisciplinary Studies
Advanced Math	Arts, A/V Technology and Communications (Graphic Design); Manufacturing (Welding); Agricultural, Food & Natural Resources (Ag Lead);	Education & Training; Human Services	History Band/Music Art	Select courses from the curriculum of each of the other endorsement areas; Credits in a variety of advanced courses from multiple content areas sufficient to complete the distinguished level of achievement under the foundation program

State Assessments Required for Graduation

English I English II Algebra I	US History Biology
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Performance Acknowledgements

- **Outstanding performance:** Dual credit coursework; college AP Exam; PSAT, Plan, SAT or ACT
- **Certification:** nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certificate or license

During the 83rd Texas Legislature, House Bill 5 was signed into law, which changes high school graduation requirements for students who will be freshmen during the 2014- 15 school year and beyond. The bill provides more flexibility for high school students to pursue whether it's higher education or a career pathway. It establishes one graduation plan - Foundation High School Program (FHSP) - with opportunities to earn endorsements and performance acknowledgements.

Arts & Humanities Endorsement

Possible Careers

- Artist, Animator, Art Director, Fashion Designer, Graphic Designer, Landscape Architect, Film Director, Interior Designer, Photographer, Floral Design, Web Design
- Band Director, Music Teacher/Professor, Music Librarian, Minister of Music, Concert Hall Manager, Stage Manager, Sound Engineer or Audio Technician, Instrument Repair, Piano Tuner-Technician, Music Store Manager, Music or Voice Therapist, Music Producer, Singer/Songwriter, Publicist, Music Journalist, Radio or TV Disc Jockey, Music or Program Director, Record Producer, Recording Engineer, Professional Musician, Booking Agent, Concert Promoter, Tour Coordinator/Manager
- History Teacher, Historian, Museum Curator, Travel Agent/Guide, College Professor, Archivist, Anthropologist, Archaeologist, Sociologist, Editor/Journalist, Lawyer, Political Analyst, Government Lobbyist, Foreign Service Officer

Career Pathway Sequences

History

9th	10th	11th	12th
World Geography	World History	U.S. History	Government/Economics
			<i>And</i>
			Advanced Studies in S.S.
			<i>Or</i>
			College History 1301/1302
			<i>Or</i>
			Psychology/Sociology

Music

9th	10th	11th	12th
Band 1	Band 2	Band 3	Band 4
Additional Electives: Music Appreciation, Music and Media Communications, Music Theory, and Music History			

Art

9th	10th	11th	12th
Art 1	Art 2	Art 3	Art 4
Additional Electives: Animation, Digital and Interactive Media			

Business & Industry Endorsement

Possible Careers

- **Multimedia Artist and Animator, Graphic Designer, Desktop Publisher, Audio and Video Equipment Technician, Public Relations Specialist, Photographer, Fashion Designer, Print Journalist**
- **Welder, Commercial and Industrial Designer, Electrical Engineering Technician, Avionics Technician, Manufactured Building Installer, Electronic Home Entertainment Equipment Installer**
- **Zoologist/Wildlife Biologist, Cooperative Extension Agent, Environmental Engineer or Technician, Farm/Ranch Manager, Conservation Scientist, Environmental Engineer/Technician, Agriculture Inspector, Pest Control Worker, Game Manager, Golf Course Turf Manager, Water Quality Manager, Veterinary Technician, Agricultural Financial Manager**

Career Pathway Sequences

Arts, AV Technology and Communication (Graphic Design)

9th	10th	11th	12th
Principles of Info. Technology	Graphic Design 1	Graphic Design 2	Animation
	OR	OR	OR
	Robotics 1	Robotics 2	Animation
Additional Electives: Digital & Interactive Media, UIL Computer, Art 1, 2, 3, or 4			

Manufacturing (Welding)

9th	10th	11th	12th
Principles of Agriculture	Intro to Welding	Welding 1	Welding 2
Additional Electives: Building Maintenance, Wildlife/Food Technology			

Agricultural, Food & Natural Resources

9th	10th	11th	12th
Principles of Agriculture	Livestock Production	Adv. Animal Science	Agricultural Business Management & Mkt
Additional Electives: Wildlife/Food Technology			

Multi-Disciplinary Endorsement

Possible Careers

- Any career that requires an Associate's or Bachelor's college degree.

Career Pathway Sequences

Multidisciplinary

9th	10th	11th	12th
Algebra 1	Geometry	Algebra 2	Pre-Calculus
IPC OR Biology	Biology OR Chemistry	Chemistry OR Physics	Physics OR Anatomy & Physiology

- This endorsement is for students seeking any Associate's or Bachelor's degree. It is similar to the previous Recommended and Distinguished 4X4 Graduation Plans.

Public Services Endorsement

Possible Careers

- **Teacher, Preschool Teacher, Education Administrator for Child Care Center, Mental Health Worker, Medical and Public Health Social Worker, Social Worker, Counselor, Marriage and Family Therapist, Rehabilitation Counselor, Probation Officer, Child-Care Worker, Dietitian or Dietetic Technician, Residential Advisor, Personal and Home Care Aide, Cosmetologist, Manicurist or Nail Technician, Meeting and Convention Planner, Food Service Manager, Chef and Head Cook, Hotel Desk Clerk, Food Preparation Worker, Massage Therapist, Nursing Assistant, Speech Therapist, Lawyer, Law Clerk, Paralegal, Security Guard, Fire Inspector**

Career Pathway Sequences

Human Services

9th	10th	11th	12th
Principles of Human Services	Child Development	Lifetime Nutrition/ Interpersonal Studies	Counseling in Mental Health

Health Science (CNA)

9th	10th	11th	12th
Principles of Human Services	Principles of Health Science/Medical Terminology	Health Science Theory/ Health Science Clinical Lab (application process)	Practicum

Additional Electives: PALS, Psychology/Sociology, FCCLA electives

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)

Possible Careers

- **Financial Market Analyst, Actuary, Math Teacher, Stockbroker, Foreign Exchange Trader, Budget Analyst, Statistician, Cryptanalyst, Biomathematics Scientist, Microbiologist, Geologist, Environmental Scientist, Architect, Civil Engineer, Petroleum Engineer, Chemical Engineer, Nuclear Engineer, Electrical Engineer, Meteorologist, Climatologist, Physicist, Physician (any Medical Dr.), Biomedical Engineer, Chemist, Pharmacist, Dentist, Forensic Analyst**

Career Pathway Sequences

STEM (Math)

9th	10th	11th	12th
<i>If Algebra 1 taken as an 8th grade:</i>			
Geometry	Algebra 2	Pre-Calculus or College Dual Credit	Calculus or College/Dual Credit
Algebra 1	Geometry and Algebra 2	Pre-Calculus or College Dual Credit	Calculus or College/Dual Credit
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Anatomy & Physiology

Additional Electives: Any academic electives

- **This endorsement is for advanced Math students pursuing a degree with emphasis on Math and Science**

