

# Transition From Middle School To High School

## The New Foundation High School Program

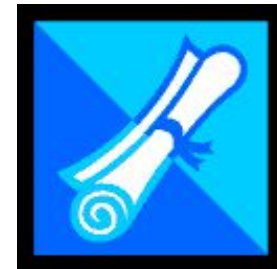


# Foundation High School Program

In 2013 the Texas Legislature introduced

## **The Foundation High School Program**

This new graduation program will allow students to pursue their interests, while preparing for college, or go straight into the workforce.



# Key Components of the Foundation High School Program FHSP

- A 22-credit foundation program which is the core of the new Texas high school diploma
- Five endorsement options that allows students to focus on an area of study such as:
  - Arts and Humanities
  - Business and Industry
  - Public Service
  - STEM
  - Multidisciplinary
- A higher performance graduation plan called Distinguished Level of Achievement (26 credits)
- Performance Acknowledgements that note outstanding achievement

# The Foundation High School Distinguished Level of Achievement Program Requirements

**26 credits  
required for  
graduation**

## English Language Arts Four credits

- English I
- English II
- English III
- Advanced English Course

## Mathematics Four credits

- Algebra I
- Geometry
- Algebra 2
- Advanced Math

## Science Four credits

- Biology
- IPC or Advanced Science Course (Chemistry)
- Advanced Science Course (Physics)
- Advanced Science Course

## Social Studies Three credits

- U.S. History
- U.S. Government (½ credit)
- Economics (½ credit)

# The Foundation High School Program Requirements

**Physical Education**

**One Credit**

**Languages Other Than English**

**Two credits in the same language**

**Fine Arts**

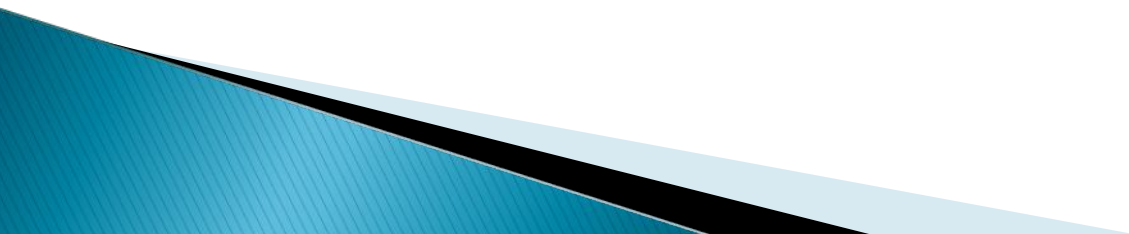
**One credit**

**Endorsement**

**Four credits (2 must be upper level)**

**Electives**

**Three credits**



# Enhancements

Additionally, a student may earn the **Distinguished Level of Achievement** and/or a **Performance Acknowledgement for outstanding performance**. The Distinguished Level of Achievement must be earned to be admitted to a Texas public university under the Top 10 percent automatic admission law.

## Distinguished Level of Achievement

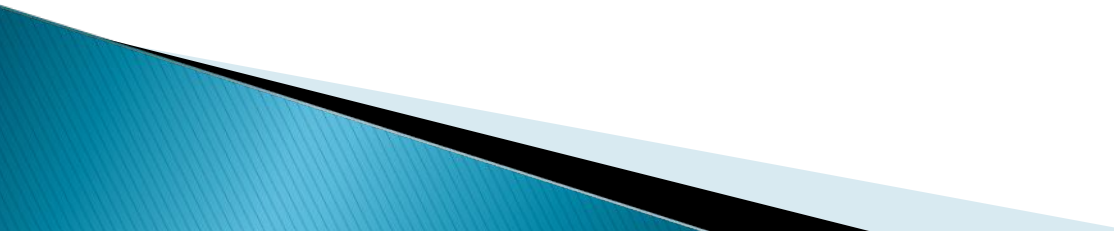
- Foundation Program Requirements
- 4 credits in math including Algebra II
- 4 credits in science
- At least one endorsement

# Sample Schedule for High School (Endorsement and Alg 2 –Distinguished)

9th	10th	11th	12th
1 Eng	Eng	Eng	Eng
2 Math	Math	Math –Alg 2	Math
3 Science	Science	Science	Science
4 AVID/ Money Matters	Social Stud	Social Stud	Social Stud
5 Foreign La	Foreign La	Elective	Elective
6 PE	Elective	Elective	Endorsement / Elective
7 Fine Arts	Endorsement / Elective	Endorsement / Elective	Endorsement / Elective
<b>8 Endorsement</b>	<b>Endorsement</b>	<b>Endorsement</b>	<b>Endorsement</b>

# Enhancements

## Performance Acknowledgements

- Dual credit course
  - Bilingualism and biliteracy
  - PSAT, ACT's PLAN, SAT, ACT
  - Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate Exam
  - Earning a nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certification or license
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# **Distinguished Level of Achievement**

## ***The Benefits***

### **Why it matters**

The Distinguished Level of Achievement opens a world of educational and employment opportunities for you beyond high school. The Distinguished Level of Achievement will:

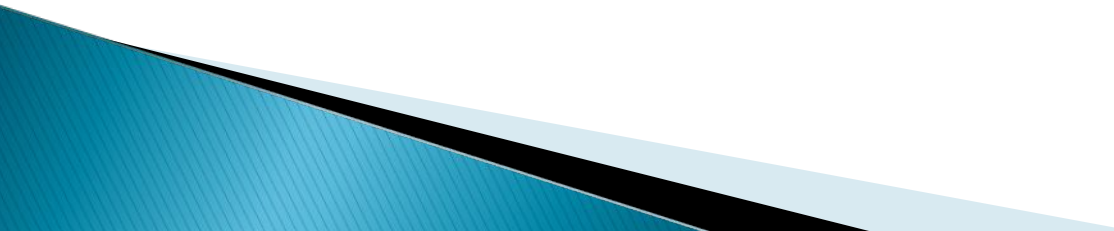
- Allow you to compete for Top 10% automatic admissions eligibility at any Texas public university (UT Austin-6%)

# Distinguished Level of Achievement

## *The Benefits*

### What it means

The Distinguished Level of Achievement requires more math and more science than the Foundation High School Program. The Distinguished Level of Achievement requires:

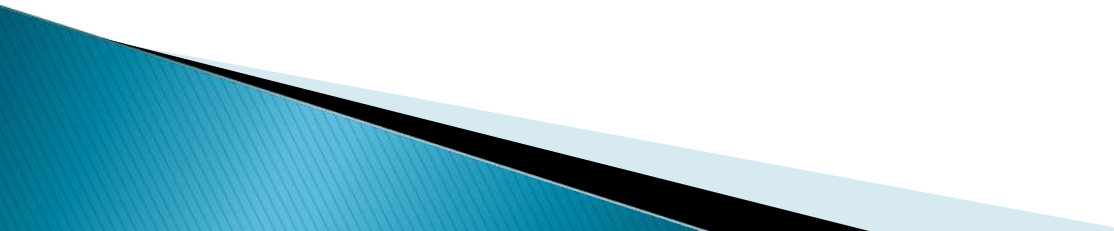
- A total of four credits in math, including Algebra II;
  - A total of four credits in science; and
  - Successful completion of an endorsement in your area of interest.
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# Distinguished Level of Achievement

## *The Benefits*

### Advantages

The Distinguished Level of Achievement offers the following advantages:

- Opportunity to earn an endorsement in an area of interest
  - More college and university options
  - More financial aid options
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# What is an Endorsement?

An **Endorsement** is a focused area of study that defines a high school student's career interest. ALL entering ninth-grade students for the 2019-2020 academic year will declare (in writing) an endorsement in one of five areas:

**STEM**  
(Science,  
Technology,  
Engineering, and  
Math)

**Business  
and  
Industry**

**Public  
Services**

**Arts and  
Humanities**

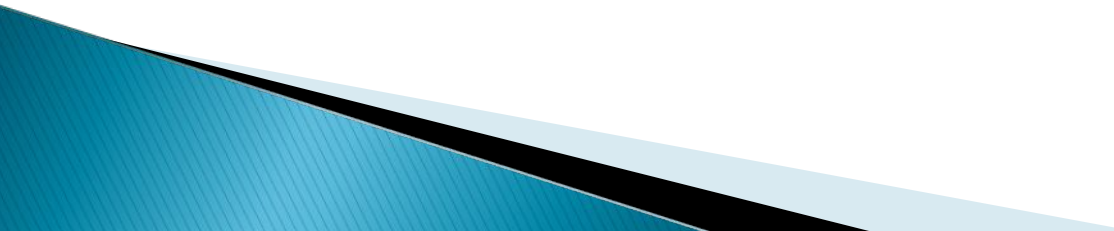
**Multidisciplinary  
Studies**

# Endorsements

Students entering ninth grade must select a pathway of their interest. This pathway determines their Endorsement. Students earn an endorsement by completing the curriculum requirements for the endorsement, including a 4<sup>th</sup> credit of math and science and 2 additional electives.

# Students Can Choose From 5 Endorsement Areas

## **(1) Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)**

- Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses related to STEM
  - Computer Science
  - Mathematics
  - Science
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# Students Can Choose From 5 Endorsement Areas

## (2) Business and Industry

(one of the following or a combination of areas)

- Agriculture
- Arts
- Audio/Video
- Information Technology
- Technology Applications
- Technology and Communications
- Business Management & Administration
- English electives in public speaking, debate, advanced broadcast journalism, advanced journalism including newspaper and yearbook
- Finance
- Marketing
- Manufacturing
- Transportation or Distribution
- Food and Natural Resources
- Hospitality and Tourism
- Architecture and Construction

# Students Can Choose From 5 Endorsement Areas

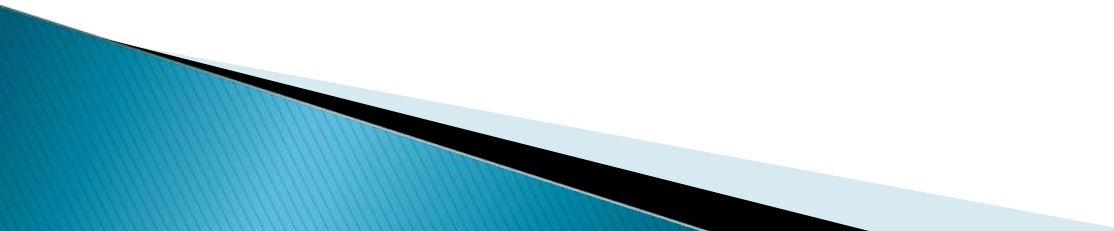
## **(3) Public Service (one of the following)**

- Human Services
- Health Services
- Public Safety
- Education and Training
- Government and Public Administration
- Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC)
- Law
- Corrections and Security



# Students Can Choose From 5 Endorsement Areas

## **(4) Arts and Humanities (one of the following)**

- 2 levels each in two languages other than English (LOTE)
  - 4 levels in the same LOTE
  - Courses from music, theater, art, and dance
  - English electives not included in Business and Industry
  - Social Studies
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# Students Can Choose From 5 Endorsement Areas

## **(5) Multidisciplinary Studies (one of the following)**


- 4 advanced courses from other endorsement areas
- 4 credits in each foundation subject area, including English IV  
and chemistry and/or physics
- 4 credits in Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate,  
or dual credit selected from English, mathematics, science, social studies, economics, LOTE or fine arts

# Choosing an Endorsement

While in middle school, students will;

- Learn about the five endorsements,
- Take interest inventories to discover their areas of interests,
- Explore different careers,
- Learn about the different pathways at the high schools and

with the help of your counselors, students will select a pathway they want to learn about in high school.



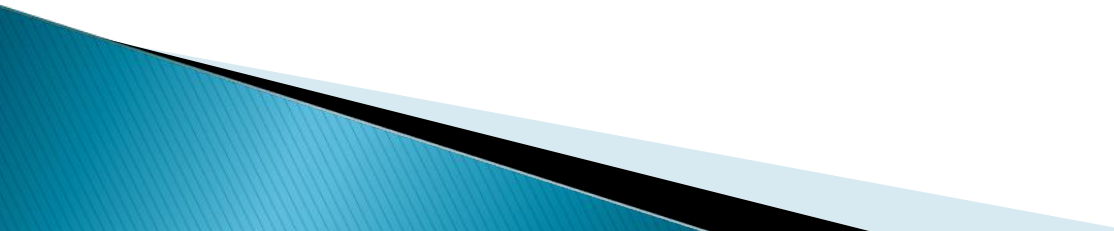


# Jefferson HS Endorsement Pathways

## CTE Pathways

- ▶ Animation
- ▶ Architecture Design
- ▶ Audio & Video Production
- ▶ Business Information Management
- ▶ Criminal Justice
- ▶ Energy and Natural Resources
- ▶ Health Science
- ▶ Horticulture Science

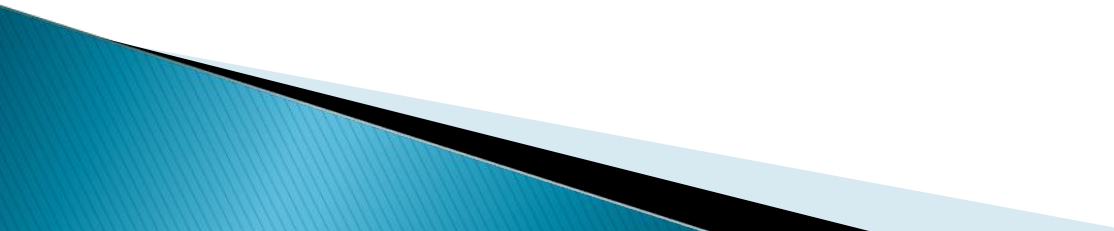
# Personal Graduation Plans (PGP)

- Personal Graduation Plans (PGP) will be developed for each student entering high school next year.
  - Advisement Conferences will be scheduled in January to review PGPs with the counselor at the student's school.
  - Parents will receive a schedule of date and time of when to attend the Advisement Conference.
  - At the Advisement Conference the counselor will review the PGP, the endorsement selected, and complete next year's course slip with each 8<sup>th</sup> grade student and their parent.
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# **Distinguished Level of Achievement**

The San Antonio Independent School District Board of Trustees approved the Distinguished Level of Achievement graduation plan for all new 9<sup>th</sup> graders entering high school.

All SAISD students entering the ninth grade in 2019-2020 will be enrolled in the Distinguished Level of Achievement graduation plan, which includes Algebra II as one of the graduation requirements.



# Earning Credits and Graduating from High School

In high school students must earn credits to be promoted to the next grade level. Currently students must earn the following credits for promotion:

0 - 5.5 credits 9<sup>th</sup> grade

6 - 11.5 credits 10<sup>th</sup> grade

12 - 17.5 credits 11<sup>th</sup> grade

18 + credits 12<sup>th</sup> grade

To graduate from high school students must su

-complete (pass) all required graduation course

-pass all required STAAR EOC Exams

-maintain good attendance



# SAISD Students

The new Foundation High School Program is here to help you learn about the different careers that are available and what you need to do to achieve your goals. There are many exciting opportunities for you. So, go out there and be the best you can be!

