

The Foundation High School Program + Endorsement

The following requirements apply to students first entering 9th grade in the fall of 2014 and thereafter.

FOUNDATION HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM (FHSP) <i>The 22-Credit Foundation Is Required for All Endorsements</i>	
ENGLISH	4
Must consist of English I, II, III (ESOL I may be substituted for English I for students with limited English proficiency), and an additional/advanced English course	
MATHEMATICS	3
Must include Algebra I, Geometry, and an additional/advanced math course beyond Algebra I	
SCIENCE	3
Must include one Biology credit, one credit selected from IPC, or Chemistry, or Physics; and one additional/advanced, lab-based science course	
SOCIAL STUDIES	3
Must include U.S. History, one-half credit Government, one-half credit Economics, and World History <u>or</u> World Geography	
OTHER LANGUAGES	2
Must consist of 2 levels in the same language	
FINE ARTS	1
Choir, Band, Orchestra, Dance, Art, Theatre Arts, Art History, or Music Theory I and II; Floral Design or Digital Art & Animation may substitute	
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	1
May include Athletics or PE (up to 4 credits), Foundations of Personal Fitness (.5 credit); Dance, Dance Team I, fall semesters of Marching Band or the first year of Cheerleading may substitute.	
HEALTH	0.5
Katy ISD Board-adopted requirement	
ELECTIVES	4.5
Must include a communication skills component, earned through Professional Communications, Debate, Oral Interpretation, AP Seminar, Professional Standards in Agribusiness, AP Seminar, Teen Leadership, Theatre or Dual Credit Speech.	
TOTAL FHSP CREDITS	22
ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ENDORSEMENT	
MATHEMATICS	1
SCIENCE	1
ADDITIONAL ELECTIVES	2
Electives must be chosen from the five endorsement categories of STEM, Business & Industry, Arts & Humanities, Public Services, and/or Multidisciplinary Studies	
TOTAL CREDITS: FHSP + ENDORSEMENT	26
College Board Advanced Placement and Dual Credit courses may be substituted in appropriate areas for both Foundation and Endorsement credits.	
STATE ASSESSMENT PERFORMANCE	
In addition to the credit requirements as listed above, students must meet passing standards on the following End-of-Course Exams:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ English I ○ English II ○ Algebra I ○ Biology ○ United States History 	

ENDORSEMENTS
All students are required to declare an endorsement in writing. Students will be permitted to change their endorsement with written notification.
There are five endorsement options, which allow students flexibility based on individual interests and career goals. Each endorsement category is designed to prepare students to successfully enter postsecondary education or the workforce upon graduation from high school.
The endorsement and the career areas to which they correspond are as listed below:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ STEM – Science, including computer science; Technology; Engineering and Mathematics (Algebra II, Chemistry, and Physics are required for the STEM endorsement); ○ PUBLIC SERVICES – Education and Training; Government and Public Administration; Health Science, Human Services; and Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security; ○ BUSINESS & INDUSTRY – Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources; Architecture and Construction; Business Management and Administration; Finance; Hospitality and Tourism; Information Technology; Manufacturing; Marketing; Transportation; and Journalism, including broadcast journalism, newspaper, and public speaking; ○ ARTS & HUMANITIES –Social Studies; Languages other than English; Fine Arts; and English Language Arts; ○ MULTIDISCIPLINARY STUDIES – Allows students to take courses in several endorsement areas as listed above.
Specific requirements for each endorsement were adopted by the State Board of Education on January 31, 2014.

RECOGNITIONS
Students have the opportunity to earn additional recognitions in the following areas.
DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT
A student may earn a distinguished level of achievement by successfully completing all curriculum requirements for the Foundation High School Program, plus each of the following:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A fourth credit in mathematics, which must include Algebra II; ○ A fourth credit in science; ○ The requirements of at least one endorsement
A student must graduate with a Distinguished Level of Achievement to be considered for the Top 10% and eligible for automatic admission to a Texas public college or university.
PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
A student may earn a performance acknowledgement in one or more of the following categories:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ AP test score of 3 or above; ○ IB test score of 4 or above (<i>applies to transfer students only as the International Baccalaureate program is not offered in Katy ISD</i>) ○ Outstanding performance on the PSAT, the SAT or the ACT; ○ Completion of at least 12 hours college coursework with final grades of A or B (3.0 GPA or above); ○ Bilingualism and biliteracy; and ○ Earning a state, nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certification or license

