

High School Curriculum Certification

Admission to a Texas Public University

EFFECTIVE 11-26-09

Certification of Completion of Courses
Equivalent to the Recommended High School Program
for students who entered Grade 9 BEFORE the 2007-2008 School Year

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Texas Legislature established new requirements for student eligibility for admission to any Texas public university under the Uniform Admissions Policy (Texas Education Code §§51.803-51.809). House Bill 3826 (80th Legislature) requires that all students complete at least the Recommended High School Program (RHSP) in order to be eligible for consideration for admission to a public university. However, a student may qualify for admission to a Texas public university having completed a portion of the RHSP or Distinguished Achievement Program (also known as the Advanced High School Program) equivalent in content or rigor or by meeting other qualifications. These changes became effective on September 1, 2009.

In 2009, the Texas Legislature made additional curriculum changes to the RHSP which impact eligibility requirements for students entering the ninth grade in the 2007-2008 school year or later. As a result, two different forms are available for use in certifying a student's eligibility. This particular form, TPHSC Form-1, should be used ONLY FOR STUDENTS WHO ENTERED GRADE 9 BEFORE THE 2007-2008 SCHOOL YEAR TPHSC FORM-2 SHOULD BE USED FOR STUDENTS WHO ENTERED GRADE 9 IN THE 2007-2008 SCHOOL YEAR OR LATER.

ELIGIBILITY FOR ADMISSION TO ANY TEXAS PUBLIC UNIVERSITY

A student scheduled to graduate from high school may be considered for admission to a Texas public university if the student has completed the Recommended High School Program, or its equivalent, the Distinguished Achievement Program (also known as the Advanced High School Program), or its equivalent, or has achieved college readiness scores on the ACT or SAT entrance exams. Students who have completed only a portion of the Recommended or Distinguished Achievement Program because the courses are not available to the student may still be eligible for admission to a Texas public university.

COMPLETION AND SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS FOR
TPHSC FORM-1

Please complete the right-hand column of the program and course table, indicating that the above named student has completed the equivalent of the required courses at your institution and complete the appropriate certification statement. Please note that final decisions about admissions, are solely the responsibility of the university to which the student is applying.

For consideration for **admission to any Texas public university**, the high school should attach the completed certification to the student's high school transcript or diploma and submit to the admissions office of the public university to which the student seeks admission by the institution's admissions deadline.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: The admissions office of a Texas public university will not consider a student eligible for admission high school curriculum verification.

Program of Study	Courses	Did this student take an equivalent of these courses?
English, Language Arts, and Reading 4 credits	English I, II, III, IV; English I and II for Speakers of Other Languages (SOL) may be substituted for English I and II only for immigrant students with limited English proficiency	[] yes [] no
Math - 3 credits	Required: Algebra I, II, & Geometry	[] yes [] no
Science 3 credits	No more than 1 credit from each area: (One credit must be a Biology credit) 1) Biology, AP Biology, or IB Biology 2) Integrated Physics and Chemistry (IPC) 3) Chemistry, AP Chemistry, or IB Chemistry 4) Physics, Principles of Technology I, AP Physics, or IB Physics	[] yes [] no
Social Studies 3 1/2 credits	World History Studies (one credit) World Geography Studies (one credit) U.S. History Studies Since Reconstruction (one credit) U.S. Government (one-half credit)	[] yes [] no
Economics - 1/2 credit	Economics with emphasis on the free enterprise system and its benefits	[] yes [] no
Physical Education 1 credit	The following may be substituted for the 5 physical education courses available: drill team, marching band, cheerleading, ROTC, athletics, Dance I-IV, approved private programs, or certain career and technical education courses. There currently is no limit to number of credits or substitutions allowed*	[] yes [] no
Fine Arts - 1 credit	Course may be found in 19 TAC Chapter 17	[] yes [] no
Languages Other Than English 2 credits	Must consist of Level I and Level II in the same language	[] yes [] no
Speech - 1/2 credit	Communication Applications is required** (This course may also be counted as an elective.)	[] yes [] no
Electives 6 credits	Communication Applications may be counted towards the six elective credits. Select courses from the list approved by SBOE for grades 9-12 (relating to Essential Knowledge and Skills), state approved innovative courses, JROTC (one to four credits), or Driver Education (one-half credit)	[] yes [] no
Total – 24 credits		[] yes [] no

Important notes:

- Courses marked as “AP” are Advanced Placement courses; those marked “IB” are International Baccalaureate courses.
- *Foundation of Physical Fitness is no longer required under the Recommended High School Program; however, it is still a requirement under the Distinguished Achievement/Advanced High School Program.
- **Communication Applications is required as the ½ credit for Speech; however, it may be counted towards the six elective course requirements as well in order to prevent the student from having to complete more than 24 credits.

