

BOARD LEGAL STATUS:
POWERS AND DUTIES

BAA
(LEGAL)

All powers and duties not specifically delegated by statute to TEA or the State Board are reserved for the Board. *Education Code 11.151(b)*

The Board has the legal power to:

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| GOVERNANCE | 1. Govern and oversee the management of the public schools of the District. <i>Education Code 11.151(b)</i> |
| RULES AND BYLAWS | 2. Adopt rules and bylaws. <i>Education Code 11.151(d)</i> [See BF] |
| PLANNING AND
DECISION-MAKING
PROCESS | 3. Adopt a policy to establish a District- and campus-level planning and decision-making process. <i>Education Code 11.251(b)</i> [See BQ series] |
| TAX COLLECTION | 4. Levy and collect taxes and issue bonds. <i>Education Code 45.001</i> [See CCA, CCG] |
| TAX OFFICIALS | 5. Employ and compensate a tax assessor or collector, as the Board considers appropriate. <i>Education Code 45.231(a); Tax Code 6.22</i> [See BDAF] |
| ANNUAL BUDGET | 6. Adopt and file a budget for the next succeeding fiscal year. <i>Education Code 44.004, 44.005</i> [See CE] |
| ANNUAL AUDIT | 7. Have District fiscal accounts audited at District expense by a certified or public accountant holding a permit from the Texas State Board of Public Accountancy following the close of each fiscal year. <i>Education Code 44.008(a)</i> [See CFC] |
| INTERNAL AUDITOR | 8. Select the internal auditor if the District employs an internal auditor. The internal auditor shall report directly to the Board. <i>Education Code 11.170</i> |
| ANNUAL
SUPERINTENDENT
APPRAISAL | 9. Appraise the Superintendent annually using either the Commissioner's recommended appraisal process or a process and criteria developed by the District. <i>Education Code 21.354(c)</i> [See BJCD] |
| PERFORMANCE
REPORT | 10. Publish an annual report describing the District's educational performance including campus performance objectives and the progress of each campus toward those objectives. <i>Education Code 39.053(a)</i> [See BQ series, BR] |
| BEQUESTS | 11. Receive bequests and donations or other moneys or funds coming legally into its hands in the name of the District. <i>Education Code 11.151(a)</i> [See CDC] |
| DEPOSITORY | 12. Select a depository for District funds. <i>Education Code, Ch. 45, Subch. G</i> [See BDAE] |

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| ELECTIONS | 13. Canvass election results as required by law. <i>Election Code 67.003</i> [See BBB] |
| PROPERTY ACQUISITION | 14. Acquire and hold real and personal property in the name of the District. <i>Education Code 11.151(a); Local Gov't Code 271.004</i> [See CHG] |
| LEASE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY | 15. Execute, perform, and make payments under contracts, which may include leases, leases with option(s) to purchase, or installment purchases, with any person for the use, acquisition, or purchases of any personal property, or the financing thereof. The contracts shall be on terms and conditions that are deemed appropriate by the Board in accordance with state law. <i>Local Gov't Code 271.005</i> |
| EMINENT DOMAIN | 16. Exercise the right of eminent domain to acquire property. <i>Education Code 11.155</i> |
| TITLE TO PROPERTY | 17. Hold all rights and titles to the school property of the District, whether real or personal. <i>Education Code 11.151(c)</i> [See CI] |
| SALE OF PROPERTY | 18. Authorize the sale of any property, other than minerals, held in trust for free school purposes. <i>Education Code 11.154(a)</i> [See CDB] |
| MINERAL RIGHTS | 19. Sell minerals in land belonging to the District. <i>Education Code 11.153(a)</i> [See CDB] |
| REAL ESTATE BROKER | 20. Employ, retain, contract with, or compensate a licensed real estate broker or salesperson for assistance in the acquisition or sale of real property. <i>Education Code 11.154(c)</i> |
| PERSONNEL | 21. Adopt a policy providing for the employment and duties of District personnel. <i>Education Code 11.163</i> [See BJ series, DC series, DEA] |
| RESTRICTIONS ON WRITTEN REPORTS | 22. Limit redundant requests for information and the number and length of written reports that a classroom teacher is required to prepare. <i>Education Code 11.164(a)</i> [See DLB] |
| PAPERWORK REVIEW | 23. Review paperwork requirements imposed on classroom teachers and transfer to existing noninstructional staff a reporting task that can reasonably be accomplished by that staff. <i>Education Code 11.164(b)</i> [See also DLB] |
| ATTORNEY GENERAL | 24. Request the assistance of the attorney general on any legal matter. The District must pay any costs associated with the assistance. <i>Education Code 11.151(e)</i> |
| LAWSUITS | 25. Sue and be sued in the name of the District. <i>Education Code 11.151(a)</i> |

Candidates for the Board shall file the designation of a campaign treasurer and all required financial statements with the Board Secretary in accordance with applicable law and directives from the Texas Ethics Commission. *Election Code 251.001-254.001 et seq.*

TERMINATION OF
CAMPAIGN
TREASURER
APPOINTMENT

In accordance with statute, the Board by ordinance or order may adopt a process by which the Secretary may terminate the campaign treasurer appointment of an inactive candidate or political committee that is required to file a campaign treasurer appointment with the Secretary.

For purposes of this statute, a candidate or political committee is inactive if the candidate or committee:

1. Has never filed or has ceased to file reports under Election Code Chapter 254;
2. In the case of a candidate, has not been elected to an office for which a candidate is required to file a campaign treasurer appointment with the authority who is seeking to terminate the candidate's campaign treasurer appointment; and
3. Has not filed a final report under Election Code Section 254.065 or 254.125, or a dissolution report under Election Code Section 254.126 or 254.159.

Before the Secretary of a political subdivision may terminate a campaign treasurer appointment, the Board must consider the proposed termination in a regularly scheduled open meeting.

The termination of a campaign treasurer appointment under this section takes effect on the 30th day after the date of the meeting at which the Board votes to terminate the appointment. Following that meeting, the Secretary shall promptly notify the affected candidate or political committee that the appointment has been terminated. The notice must state the effective date of the termination.

Election Code 252.0131

ETHICS:
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES

BBFA
(LEGAL)

SUBSTANTIAL
INTEREST AFFIDAVIT
AND ABSTENTION

If a local public official or a person related to a local public official in the first degree by either affinity or consanguinity has a substantial interest in a business entity or in real property, the local public official, before a vote or decision on any matter involving the business entity or the real property, shall file an affidavit with an official Board recordkeeper stating the nature and extent of the interest and shall abstain from further participation in the matter if:

1. In the case of a substantial interest in a business entity, the action on the matter will have a special economic effect on the business entity that is distinguishable from the effect on the public; or
2. In the case of a substantial interest in real property, it is reasonably foreseeable that an action on the matter will have a special economic effect on the value of the property, distinguishable from its effect on the public.

Local Gov't Code 171.004

CONTRACTS
PERMITTED

The Board may contract with a business entity in which a Trustee has a substantial interest if the Trustee follows the disclosure and abstention procedure set out above. *Atty. Gen. Op. JM-424 (1986)*

DEFINITION OF
SUBSTANTIAL
INTEREST

A person has a substantial interest in a business entity if any of the following is the case:

1. The person owns at least:
 - a. Ten percent of the voting stock or shares of the business entity, or
 - b. Either ten percent or \$15,000 of the fair market value of the business entity.
2. Funds received by the person from the business entity exceed ten percent of the person's gross income for the previous year.

A person has a substantial interest in real property if the interest is an equitable or legal ownership with a fair market value of \$2,500 or more.

The local public official is considered to have a substantial interest if a person related in the first degree by either affinity or consanguinity to the local public official, as determined under Government Code, Chapter 573, Subchapter B [see DBE], has a substantial interest as defined above.

Local Gov't Code 171.002

ETHICS:
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES

BBFA
(LEGAL)

DEFINITION OF LOCAL PUBLIC OFFICIAL	“Local public official” shall mean a member of the governing body or another officer, whether elected, appointed, paid, or unpaid, of any district (including a school district), central appraisal district, or other local governmental entity who exercises responsibilities beyond those that are advisory in nature. <i>Local Gov’t Code 171.001(1)</i>
DEFINITION OF BUSINESS ENTITY	“Business entity” means a sole proprietorship, partnership, firm, corporation, holding company, joint-stock company, receivership, trust, or any other entity recognized by law. <i>Local Gov’t Code 171.001(2)</i>
MAJORITY CONFLICT	If a Trustee is required to file and does file an affidavit, that Trustee shall not be required to abstain from further participation in the matter or matters requiring such an affidavit if a majority of the trustees are likewise required to file and do file affidavits of similar interests on the same official action. <i>Local Gov’t Code 171.004</i>
SEPARATE VOTE ON BUDGET	The Board shall take a separate vote on any budget item specifically dedicated to a contract with a business entity in which a Trustee has a substantial interest. The affected Trustee shall not participate in that separate vote, but may vote on a final budget if he or she filed the affidavit and the matter in which he or she is concerned has been resolved. <i>Local Gov’t Code 171.005</i>
VIOLATIONS	Except as provided above, the local public official shall not knowingly: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Participate in a vote or decision on a matter involving a business entity or real property in which the local public official has a substantial interest if it is reasonably foreseeable that an action on the matter will have a special economic effect on the business entity or value of the property that is distinguishable from the effect on the public.2. Act as surety for a business entity that has a contract, work, or business with the District.3. Act as surety on any official bond required of an officer of the District. <p><i>Local Gov’t Code 171.003</i></p> <p>If a Trustee has a substantial interest in a bank with which the District is considering entering into a loan or other transaction besides a depository contract, then the Trustee must comply with the affidavit and abstention requirements. <i>Atty. Gen. Op. JM-1082 (1989); Local Gov’t Code 171.004</i></p>
VOIDABLE ACTIONS	The finding by a court of a violation of Local Government Code Chapter 171 does not render an action of the Board voidable

ETHICS:
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES

BBFA
(LEGAL)

unless the measure that was the subject of an action involving a conflict of interest would not have passed without the vote of the person who violated the chapter. *Local Gov't Code 171.006*

CONFLICTS
DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT

A local government officer shall file the required conflicts disclosure statement, as adopted by the Texas Ethics Commission, with respect to an applicable vendor if the vendor has contracted with the District or the District is considering doing business with the vendor; and the vendor has an employment or other business relationship with the local government officer or a family member of the officer that results in the officer or family member receiving taxable income; or has given to the local government officer or a family member of the officer one or more gifts, other than gifts of food, lodging, transportation, or entertainment accepted as a guest, that have an aggregate value of more than \$250 in the 12-month period preceding the date the officer becomes aware that such a contract has been executed or the local governmental entity is considering doing business with the vendor.

A local government officer shall file the conflicts disclosure statement with the records administrator of the District not later than 5:00 p.m. on the seventh business day after the date on which the officer becomes aware of the facts that require the filing of the statement.

VIOLATIONS

A local government officer commits a Class C misdemeanor if the officer knowingly violates this law. It is a defense to prosecution that the local government officer filed the required conflicts disclosure statement not later than the seventh business day after receiving notice of the violation.

Local Gov't Code 176.003-.004

DEFINITION OF
LOCAL
GOVERNMENT
OFFICER

"Local government officer" means a member of the governing body of a local governmental entity; or a director, superintendent, administrator, president, or other person designated as the executive officer of the local governmental entity. *Local Gov't Code 176.001(4)*

DEFINITION OF
FAMILY MEMBER

"Family member" shall mean a person related to another person within the first degree by consanguinity or affinity, as described by Subchapter B, Chapter 573, Government Code. *Local Gov't Code 176.001(2)*

DEFINITION OF
RECORDS
ADMINISTRATOR

"Records administrator" means the director, Superintendent, or other person responsible for maintaining the records of the District. *Local Gov't Code 176.001(5)* [See CPC]

INTERNET POSTING
REQUIREMENT

The District shall provide access on the District's Internet Web site to the required conflicts disclosure statements and questionnaires filed with the records administrator. *Local Gov't Code 176.009*

ETHICS:
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES

BBFA
(LEGAL)

AFFIDAVIT
DISCLOSING
INTEREST IN
PROPERTY

If a public servant has a legal or equitable interest in any property that is to be acquired with public funds, and has actual notice of the acquisition or intended acquisition of the property, the public servant shall file an affidavit as follows:

1. The affidavit shall be filed with the county clerk(s) of the county or counties in which the property is located and of the county in which the public servant resides within ten days before the date on which the property is to be acquired by purchase or condemnation.
2. The affidavit must:
 - a. State the name of the public servant and the public office title or job designation held or sought.
 - b. Fully describe the property.
 - c. Fully describe the nature, type, and amount of interest in the property, including the percentage of ownership interest and the date the interest was acquired.
 - d. Include a verification of the truth of the information in the affidavit. [See BBFA(EXHIBIT)]
 - e. Include an acknowledgment of the same type required for recording a deed in the deed records of a county.

Gov't Code 553.002, 553.003

VIOLATIONS

A public servant who fails to file the affidavit when required is presumed to have the intent to commit an offense. An offense under this section is a Class A misdemeanor. *Gov't Code 553.003*

DEFINITION OF
PUBLIC SERVANT —
GOVERNMENT
CODE

"Public servant" shall mean a person who is elected, appointed, employed, or designated, even if not yet qualified for or having assumed the duties of office, as:

1. A candidate for nomination or election to public office, or
2. An officer of government.

Gov't Code 553.001

TRUSTEE FINANCIAL
STATEMENT

The Board by resolution adopted by majority vote may require each member of the Board to file the financial statement required of state officers under Subchapter B, Chapter 572, Government Code, with the Board and the Texas Ethics Commission.

Not later than the 15th day after the date the Board adopts this resolution, the Board shall deliver a certified copy of the resolution to

the Texas Ethics Commission. A resolution applies beginning on January 1 of the second year following the year in which the resolution is adopted. A member of a board that has adopted a resolution is not required to include, in a financial disclosure statement, financial activity occurring before January 1 of the year following the year in which the resolution is adopted.

The Commissioner by order shall require the members of the Board to file the financial statement required of state officers under Subchapter B, Chapter 572, Government Code, in the same manner as the members of the Board that have adopted a resolution if the Commissioner determines that:

1. A Board member has failed to comply with filing and recusal requirements applicable to the member under Chapter 171, Local Government Code;
2. District financial accounting practices are not adequate to safeguard state and District funds; or
3. The District has not met a standard set by the Commissioner in the financial accountability rating system.

The Commissioner may require the filing of financial statements covering not more than three fiscal years and beginning on January 1 of the second year following the date of the Commissioner's order. A member of the Board subject to an order issued by the Commissioner is not required to include, in a financial disclosure statement, financial activity occurring before January 1 of the year following the year in which the order is issued. The Commissioner may renew the requirement if the Commissioner determines that a condition described above continues to exist.

VIOLATIONS

A Trustee serving in a school district that has adopted a resolution or that is subject to an order issued by the Commissioner commits an offense if the Trustee fails to file the statement required by the resolution or order.

An offense under this section is a Class B misdemeanor.

Education Code 11.064

Note: See also CBB for requirements when federal funds are involved.

BOARD INTERNAL ORGANIZATION:
CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEES

BDF
(LEGAL)

SCHOOL HEALTH
ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Board shall establish a local school health advisory council to assist the District in ensuring that local community values and health issues are reflected in the District's health education instruction. The Board shall appoint members to the council, a majority of which must be parents of students enrolled in the District and who are not employed by the District. The Board may also appoint one or more public school teachers, public school administrators, District students, health-care professionals, members of the business community, law enforcement representatives, senior citizens, clergy, representatives of nonprofit health organizations, or representatives of another group. [See EHAA]

STATEMENT FOR
PUBLIC
INSPECTION

The District shall publish in the student handbook and post on the District's Internet Web site, if the District has an Internet Web site, a statement of:

1. District policies adopted to ensure that elementary school, middle school, and junior high school students engage in physical activity;
2. The number of times during the preceding year the council has met;
3. District policies to ensure compliance with applicable vending machine and food service guidelines for restricting student access to vending machines; and
4. District policies and procedures that prescribe penalties for the use of tobacco products by students and others on school campuses or at school-sponsored or school-related activities.

CHANGES IN
CURRICULUM

The District must consider the recommendations of the local school health advisory council before changing the District's health education curriculum or instruction.

Education Code 28.004

LOCAL REVENUE SOURCES:
AD VALOREM TAXES

CCG
(LEGAL)

MAINTENANCE TAX	The Board may levy, assess, and collect annual ad valorem taxes for the maintenance of the District's schools. <i>Education Code 45.002</i>
TAX RATE CAP	<p>If authorized by a majority of qualified voters of the District voting at an election held for that purpose, the District may impose a maintenance tax rate at a rate not to exceed the rate stated in the proposition. For any year, the maintenance tax rate per \$100 of taxable value adopted by the District may not exceed the rate equal to the sum of \$0.17 and the product of the state compression percentage, as determined under Education Code 42.2516, multiplied by \$1.50.</p> <p>A rate that exceeds this maximum rate for the year in which the tax is to be imposed is void. A district with a tax rate that is void under this subsection may, subject to requirements imposed by other law, adopt a rate for that year that does not exceed the specified maximum rate for that year.</p> <p>Notwithstanding any other law, a district that levied a maintenance tax for the 2005 tax year at a rate greater than \$1.50 per \$100 of taxable value in the District as permitted by special law may not levy a maintenance tax at a rate that exceeds the rate per \$100 of taxable value that is equal to the sum of \$0.17 and the product of the state compression percentage, as determined under Education Code 42.2516, multiplied by the rate of the maintenance tax levied by the District for the 2005 tax year.</p> <p><i>Education Code 45.003(a), (d), (e), (f)</i></p>
APPRAISAL ROLL	<p>By August 1 or as soon thereafter as practicable, the District's tax assessor shall submit to the Board the District's appraisal roll, showing the total appraised, assessed, and taxable values of all property and the total taxable value of new property.</p> <hr/> <p>Note: The Texas comptroller of public accounts annually publishes <i>Truth in Taxation: A Guide for Setting Tax Rates</i>. School districts should consult the <i>Truth in Taxation</i> guide, available in print form or through the comptroller's Web site, for detailed guidance on setting local property tax rates.</p> <hr/> <p>By August 1 or as soon thereafter as practicable, the District's tax collector shall certify to the Board the estimates and amounts required by law.</p> <p><i>Tax Code 26.04(b)</i></p>
CERTIFIED ESTIMATE	By June 7, the chief appraiser shall prepare and certify an estimate of the taxable value of District property. <i>Tax Code 26.01(e)</i>

LOCAL REVENUE SOURCES:
AD VALOREM TAXES

CCG
(LEGAL)

MEETING ON
BUDGET AND
PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Board shall call a public meeting to discuss and adopt its budget and proposed tax rate. The Board must provide notice of the budget and proposed tax rate meeting, as described below. The budget must be adopted before the adoption of the tax rate for the tax year in which the fiscal year covered by the budget begins.
[See CE]

PUBLISHED
NOTICE

The Board President shall provide for publication of notice of the budget and proposed tax rate meeting in a daily, weekly, or biweekly newspaper published in the District. If no daily, weekly, or biweekly newspaper is published in the District, the President shall provide for publication of notice in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the District's central administrative office is located. The notice shall be published not earlier than the 30th day or later than the tenth day before the date of the hearing.

FORM OF
NOTICE

The published notice of the public meeting to discuss and adopt the budget and the proposed tax rate must meet the size, format, and content requirements dictated by law.

The notice is not valid if it does not substantially conform to the language and format prescribed by the comptroller.

TAXPAYER
INJUNCTION

If the District has not complied with the published notice requirements in the FORM OF NOTICE described above, and the requirements for DISTRICTS WITH JULY 1 FISCAL YEAR below, if applicable, and the failure to comply was not in good faith, a person who owns taxable property in the District is entitled to an injunction restraining the collection of taxes by the District. An action to enjoin the collection of taxes must be filed before the date the District delivers substantially all of its tax bills.

DISTRICTS WITH
JULY 1 FISCAL
YEAR

A district with a fiscal year beginning July 1 may use the certified estimate of the taxable value of District property in preparing the published notice if the District does not receive the certified appraisal roll on or before June 7. A district that uses a certified estimate may adopt a budget at the public meeting designated in the published notice prepared using the estimate, but the District may not adopt a tax rate before the District receives the certified appraisal roll for the District.

After receipt of the certified appraisal roll, the District must publish a revised published notice and hold another public meeting before the District may adopt a tax rate that exceeds:

LOCAL REVENUE SOURCES:
AD VALOREM TAXES

CCG
(LEGAL)

1. The rate proposed in the notice prepared using the estimate;
or
2. The District's rollback rate determined under Tax Code 26.08 using the certified appraisal roll.

Education Code 44.004

TAX RATE

Before the later of September 30 or the 60th day after the date the certified appraisal roll is received, the Board shall adopt a tax rate for the current tax year that reflects the two components, maintenance and operations expenditures and the debt service rate published under Education Code Section 44.004(c)(2)(A)(ii)(b), and shall notify the assessor of the tax rate adopted. The two components shall be approved separately. *Tax Code 26.05(a)*

The Board may not impose property taxes in any year until it has adopted a tax rate for that year, and the annual tax rate must be set by ordinance, resolution, or order. The vote on the ordinance, resolution, or order setting the tax rate must be separate from the vote adopting the budget. The budget shall be adopted before the adoption of the tax rate. *Tax Code 26.05(b); Education Code 44.004(g)*

EFFECTIVE TAX RATE

The vote on the ordinance setting a tax rate that exceeds the effective tax rate must be a record vote. A motion to adopt an ordinance setting a tax rate that exceeds the effective tax rate must be made in the following form: "I move that property taxes be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of (specify tax rate)." *Tax Code 26.05(b)*

MAINTENANCE AND
OPERATIONS TAX
RATE

If the ordinance sets a tax rate that, if applied to the total taxable value, will impose an amount of taxes to fund maintenance and operation expenditures of the taxing unit that exceeds the amount of taxes imposed for that purpose in the preceding year, the Board must include in the ordinance in type larger than the type used in any other portion of the document the following statement: "THIS TAX RATE WILL RAISE MORE TAXES FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS THAN LAST YEAR'S TAX RATE."; and if the tax rate exceeds the effective maintenance and operations rate, the following statement: "THE TAX RATE WILL RAISE TAXES FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS ON A \$100,000 HOME BY APPROXIMATELY \$(Insert amount)." The District shall also include on the home page of any Internet Web site operated by the District the following statement: "(Insert name of unit) ADOPTED A TAX RATE THAT WILL RAISE MORE TAXES FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS THAN LAST YEAR'S TAX RATE"; and if the tax rate exceeds the effective maintenance and operations rate, the following statement: "THE TAX RATE WILL RAISE

TAXES FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS ON A \$100,000 HOME BY APPROXIMATELY \$(Insert amount).”

Tax Code 26.05(b)

ELECTION TO RATIFY
SCHOOL TAXES

If the Board adopts a tax rate that exceeds the District’s rollback tax rate as defined in Tax Code 26.08, the registered voters of the District at an election held for that purpose must determine whether to approve the adopted tax rate. When increased expenditure of money is necessary due to a natural disaster and the governor has requested federal disaster assistance, an election is not required. *Tax Code 26.08(a)*

The Board shall order that the election be held in the District on a date not less than 30 or more than 90 days after the date on which it adopted the tax rate. The election need not be held on a uniform election date unless a uniform election date falls within the 30–90 day time period. *Tax Code 26.08(b)*

2006 TAX YEAR
ELECTION

An election to approve the adopted tax rate for the 2006 tax year must be ordered not later than August 31, 2006, and must be held on September 30, 2006. If the election is not held on that date, the Board may not adopt a tax rate for the 2006 tax year that exceeds the District’s rollback tax rate. *Tax Code 26.08(p)*

APPROVAL OF
PROPOSITION

If a majority of votes cast in the District favor the proposition, the tax rate for the current year is the rate that was adopted by the Board. If the proposition is not approved, the Board may not adopt a tax rate for the current year that exceeds the District’s rollback tax rate. *Tax Code 26.08(c), (d)*

CALL FOR
ELECTION

A call for an election shall be made not later than the 62nd day before election day except that for an election to be held on the date of the general election for state and county officers, the election shall be called not later than the 70th day before the election day. *Election Code 3.005* [See BBB]

NOTICE TO
COUNTY CLERK

The Board shall deliver notice of the election to the county clerk of each county in which the District is located not later than the 60th day before election day. *Election Code 4.008*

PRECLEARANCE
REQUIRED

A rollback election is subject to federal preclearance requirements to the extent that the District makes changes in the practices or procedures to be followed. Any discretionary setting of the date for a rollback election or scheduling of events leading up to or following a rollback election is subject to the preclearance requirement. *28 CFR 51.17* [See BBB]

DISCOUNTS

The Board may adopt one or both of the following discount options for early payment of District taxes.

LOCAL REVENUE SOURCES:
AD VALOREM TAXES

CCG
(LEGAL)

OPTION 1

If the Board adopts Option 1, the following apply regardless of the date on which the District mails its tax bills.

1. Three percent if the tax is paid in October or earlier.
2. Two percent if the tax is paid in November.
3. One percent if the tax is paid in December.

Tax Code 31.05

This discount does not apply to taxes that are calculated too late for it to be available. *Tax Code 31.04(c)*

OPTION 2

If the Board adopts Option 2, the following discounts apply only when the District mails its tax bills after September 30:

1. Three percent if the tax is paid before or during the next full calendar month following the date on which the tax bills were mailed.
2. Two percent if the tax is paid during the second full calendar month following the date on which the tax bills were mailed.
3. One percent if the tax is paid during the third full calendar month following the date on which the tax bills were mailed.

BOTH OPTIONS

If the Board adopts both discount options, the discounts described at Option 1 apply unless the District mails its tax bills after September 30, in which case only the discounts described at Option 2 apply.

Tax Code 31.05

SPLIT PAYMENT

The Board may provide for split payment of taxes. If a person pays one-half of the taxes before December 1, he or she may pay the remaining one-half of the taxes without penalty or interest at any time before July 1 of the following year. This payment option does not apply to taxes that are calculated too late for it to be available.

Tax Code 31.03, 31.04(c)

DISASTER AREA

Owners of certain property in a disaster area are permitted to pay taxes in installment payments. Installment payments are an option for an owner of real property that:

1. Is the residence homestead of the owner or consists of property that is used for residential purposes and that has fewer than five living units;
2. Is located in a disaster area and has been damaged as a direct result of the disaster; and
3. Has had taxes imposed upon it by a taxing unit before the first anniversary of the disaster.

LOCAL REVENUE SOURCES:
AD VALOREM TAXES

CCG
(LEGAL)

If the owner of such property pays at least one-fourth of the taxes imposed on the property before the delinquency date, accompanied by notice that the person will pay the remaining taxes in installments, the owner may make the remainder of the payments in three equal installments. Such installment payments shall not incur penalty or interest if paid by the applicable dates provided for in the tax code.

Tax Code 31.032

PERFORMING
SERVICES IN LIEU OF
PAYING TAXES

The Board may permit certain individuals or business entities to provide certain services to the District in lieu of paying the District property taxes. While performing services for the District, the individual is not an employee of the District and is not entitled to any benefit, including workers' compensation coverage, that the District provides to its employees.

PERSONS 65 AND
OVER

Subject to the requirements contained in Tax Code 31.035, the Board by order or resolution may permit an individual who is at least 65 years of age to perform services for the taxing unit in lieu of paying taxes imposed by the District on property owned by the individual and occupied as the individual's residence homestead.

Tax Code 31.035

TEACHING
SERVICES BY
INDIVIDUAL

Subject to the requirements contained in Tax Code 31.036, the Board by resolution may permit qualified individuals, who are not employed by the District, to perform teaching services for the District at a junior high school or high school of the District in lieu of paying taxes imposed by the District on property owned and occupied by the individual as a residence homestead. *Tax Code 31.036*

TEACHING
SERVICES BY
EMPLOYEE OF
BUSINESS ENTITY

Subject to the requirements contained in Tax Code 31.037, the Board by resolution may authorize a corporation or other business entity to permit a qualified individual employed by the business entity to perform teaching services in a high school or a junior high school for the District in lieu of paying taxes imposed by the District on property owned by the business entity. *Tax Code 31.037*

INSTALLMENT
PAYMENTS

CERTAIN
HOMESTEADS

An individual who is disabled or at least 65 and qualifies for a homestead exemption may pay taxes on the residence homestead property in installments. To do so, the individual must pay at least one-fourth of the taxes due before the delinquency date. This payment must be accompanied by notice that the individual will pay the remaining taxes in installments. The person may pay the remaining taxes without penalty or interest. The first installment must be paid before April 1, the second before June 1, and the third before August 1. *Tax Code 31.031*

PARTIAL PAYMENTS

The tax collector may decide to accept partial payments of District property taxes. Acceptance of a partial payment does not affect

LOCAL REVENUE SOURCES:
AD VALOREM TAXES

CCG
(LEGAL)

the delinquency date, but penalties and interest are incurred only by the portion of tax that remains unpaid on the date the tax becomes delinquent. The discounts described above do not apply to any portion of a partial payment of District taxes. *Tax Code 31.07(c)*

DELINQUENCY DATE

Taxes are delinquent if not paid before February 1 of the year following the year in which imposed, except as provided below:

1. The District has provided for split payments. *Tax Code 31.03*
2. The District's tax bills are mailed after January 10.
Tax Code 31.04(a)
3. The District's tax bills are mailed after September 30 and the Board has adopted discounts provided by Tax Code 31.05(c).
Tax Code 31.04(d)

Tax Code 31.02

DELINQUENT TAX
COLLECTION

The Board may contract with any competent attorney to represent the District to enforce the collection of delinquent taxes. The attorney's compensation is set in the contract, but the total amount of compensation provided may not exceed 20 percent of the amount of delinquent tax, penalty, and interest collected. *Tax Code 6.30(c)*

ADDITIONAL
PENALTIES

If the District or the tax collector for the District has contracted with a private attorney for the collection of delinquent taxes, the Board may impose, by official action, an additional penalty on taxes that become delinquent on or after February 1 but not later than May 1 and remain delinquent on July 1 of the year in which they become delinquent. This penalty may not exceed the amount of compensation specified in the contract with the attorney to be paid in connection with the collection of the delinquent taxes and shall be secured by a tax lien. The District's tax collector shall deliver notice to the property owner of the delinquency and the penalty 30 to 60 days before July 1. *Tax Code 33.07*

If the District or the tax collector for the District has imposed the penalty described above and has contracted with a private attorney for collection of delinquent taxes, the Board may impose, by official action, an additional penalty on all taxes that become delinquent on or after June 1 under Tax Code 26.15(e), 31.03, 31.031, 31.032, or 31.04. This penalty may not exceed the amount of compensation specified in the contract with the attorney to be paid in connection with the collection of the delinquent taxes and shall be secured by a tax lien. The District's tax collector shall send notice of the delinquency and the penalty to the property owner. The penalty is incurred on the first day of the first month that begins at least 21 days after the date the notice is sent. *Tax Code 33.08*

LOCAL REVENUE SOURCES:
AD VALOREM TAXES

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HOMESTEAD EXEMPTIONS	An adult is entitled to exemption from taxation of \$15,000 of the appraised value of his residence homestead except that \$10,000 of the exemption does not apply to an entity operating under former Education Code Chapters 17, 18, 25, 26, 27, or 28, as those chapters existed on May 1, 1995. An adult who is disabled or 65 or older is entitled to an additional \$10,000 exemption of the appraised value of his residence homestead. <i>Tax Code 11.13(b), (c)</i>
APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION	To receive the residence homestead exemptions, the person claiming the exemption must apply for the exemption. <i>Tax Code 11.43</i>
PERSONS 65 AND OVER OR DISABLED PERSONS	<p>The District shall not increase the total annual amount of ad valorem tax it imposes on the residence homestead of an individual 65 years of age or older, or on the residence homestead of an individual who is disabled as defined by Section 11.13 of the Tax Code, above the amount of the tax it imposed in the first tax year in which the individual qualified that residence homestead for an applicable exemption.</p> <p>The District may increase the taxes if improvements are made to the property, but that tax amount is then frozen.</p> <p><i>Tax Code 11.26(a), (b)</i></p>
PORTABILITY OF LIMITATION	If an individual who receives the 65-and-over limitation on tax increases subsequently qualifies for a different resident homestead, the District may impose taxes on the subsequently acquired homestead only in accordance with Tax Code 11.26. <i>Tax Code 11.26(g), (h)</i>
ADDITIONAL EXEMPTIONS	The Board may grant additional tax exemptions for homestead historic sites and charitable organizations, as provided by law. <i>Tax Code 11.13, 11.184, 11.24; Tex. Const. Art. VIII, Sec. 1-b(e)</i>
NATURAL DISASTER	If the District is located partly or entirely inside an area declared by the governor to be a natural disaster area, the Board may authorize the reappraisal of all property damaged in the disaster at its market value immediately after the disaster. <i>Tax Code 23.02(a)</i>
REINVESTMENT ZONES / TAX INCREMENT FINANCING	When a portion of the real property taxable by the District is proposed for inclusion in a municipal or county reinvestment zone, the Board shall be notified of a description of the proposed boundaries of the zone, the tentative plans for the development or redevelopment of the zone, and an estimate of the general impact of the proposed zone on property values and tax revenues. The District may request additional information from the governing body of the municipality or county proposing to designate a reinvestment zone, and Board members may attend the formal presentation required of the governing body of the municipality or county. Within 15 days

LOCAL REVENUE SOURCES:
AD VALOREM TAXES

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of receipt of the notice, the Board shall designate a representative to meet with the governing body of the municipality or county proposing to designate a reinvestment zone to discuss the project plan and the reinvestment zone financing plan and shall notify the municipality or county governing body of its designation. *Tax Code 311.003(e), (f), (g)*

BOARD OF
DIRECTORS

The Board may appoint one member of the reinvestment zone's board of directors or may waive that right. *Tax Code 311.009(a)*

In certain reinvestment zones, the Board may be entitled to appoint more than one member of the reinvestment zone's board of directors. *Tax Code 311.0091(a), (b)*

When the reinvestment zone has been designated upon petition of property owners under Tax Code 311.005(a)(5), the Board may appoint a member or members, as appropriate, of the reinvestment zone's board of directors only if it has approved the payment of all or part of the tax increment produced by the District. *Tax Code 311.009(b), 311.0091(c)*

COLLECTION AND
DEPOSIT OF TAX
INCREMENTS

The District shall provide for the collection of its taxes in the zone as for any other property tax and shall pay into the zone's tax increment fund the amount specified by law. This payment shall be made no later than 90 days after the delinquency date for District property taxes, except that the District is not required to pay the portion attributable to delinquent taxes until those taxes are collected. The District shall not be required to pay a tax increment into the zone's tax increment fund beyond three years from the date the zone was created, except as provided by law. *Tax Code 311.013*

The District is not required to pay into the tax increment fund any of its tax increment produced from a reinvestment zone created upon petition of property owners under Tax Code 311.005(a) unless it enters into an agreement to do so with the governing body of the municipality or county that created the zone. *Tax Code 311.013(f)*

The District is not required to pay into the tax increment fund any of its tax increment produced from property located in an area added to a reinvestment zone under Tax Code 311.007 unless the Board enters into an agreement to do so with the governing body of the municipality or county that created the zone. *Tax Code 311.013(k)*

A district whose taxable value is reduced under Government Code 403.302(d)(5) shall pay into the tax increment fund, in addition to the amount otherwise required to be paid, the amount by which the amount of taxes the District would have been required to pay into the fund in the current year if the District levied taxes at the rate the

LOCAL REVENUE SOURCES:
AD VALOREM TAXES

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District levied in 2005 exceeds the amount the District is otherwise required to pay into the fund in the year of the reduction, not to exceed the amount the District realizes from the reduction in the District's taxable value. *Tax Code 311.013(n)*

REINVESTMENT
ZONES — TAX
ABATEMENT

On or after September 1, 2001, the District may not enter into a tax abatement agreement under Chapter 312. *Tax Code 312.002(f)*

TEXAS ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT ACT

In order to attract large-scale capital investments, create new jobs, strengthen the economy, and expand the property tax base, districts may offer certain ad valorem tax benefits and financial benefits in accordance with the Texas Economic Development Act. *Tax Code 313*

Districts should strictly interpret the criteria and selection guidelines and approve only those applications for an ad valorem tax benefit or financial benefit that:

1. Enhance the local community;
2. Improve the local public education system;
3. Create high-paying jobs; and
4. Advance the economic development goals of Texas as identified by the Texas Strategic Economic Development Planning Commission.

Tax Code 313.004(3)

Note: *For complete information regarding the Texas Economic Development Act, refer to Tax Code Chapter 313.*

ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET

CE
(LEGAL)

AUTHORIZED
EXPENDITURES

The District shall not lend its credit or gratuitously grant public money or things of value in aid of any individual, association, or corporation. *Tex. Const. Art. III, Sec. 52; Brazoria County v. Perry, 537 S.W.2d 89 (Tex. Civ. App.–Houston [1st Dist.] 1976, no writ)*

The District shall not grant any extra compensation, fee, or allowance to a public officer, agent, servant, or contractor after service has been rendered or a contract entered into and performed in whole or in part. Nor shall the District pay or authorize the payment of any claim against the District under any agreement or contract made without authority of law. *Tex. Const. Art. III, Sec. 53; Harlingen ISD v. C.H. Page and Bro. 48 S.W.2d 983 (Comm. App. 1932)*

The state and county available funds disbursed to the District shall be used exclusively for salaries of professional certified staff and for interest on money borrowed on short time to pay such salaries, when salaries become due before school funds for the current year become available. Loans for paying professional certified staff salaries may not be paid out of funds other than those for the current year. *Education Code 45.105(b)*

Local funds from District taxes, tuition fees, other local sources, and state funds not designated for a specific purpose may be used for salaries of any personnel and for purchasing appliances and supplies; for the payment of insurance premiums; for buying school sites; for buying, building, repairing, and renting school buildings, including acquisition of school buildings and sites by leasing through annual payments with an ultimate option to purchase [see CHG]; and for other purposes necessary in the conduct of the public schools to be determined by the Board. *Education Code 45.105(c)*

No public funds of the District may be spent in any manner other than as provided for in the budget adopted by the Board. *Education Code 44.006(a)*

USE OF DISTRICT
RESOURCES

The Board shall not enter into an agreement authorizing the use of District employees, property, or resources for the provision of materials or labor for the design, construction, or renovation of improvements to real property not owned or leased by the District.

The Board may not use state or local funds or other resources of the District to electioneer for or against any candidate, measure, or political party.

Education Code 11.168

COMMITMENT OF
CURRENT REVENUE

A contract for the acquisition, including lease, of real or personal property is a commitment of the District's current revenue only, pro-

vided the contract contains either or both of the following provisions:

1. Retains to the Board the continuing right to terminate the contract at the expiration of each budget period during the term of the contract.
2. Is conditioned on a best efforts attempt by the Board to obtain and appropriate funds for payment of the contract.

Local Gov't Code 271.903

FISCAL YEAR	The Board may determine if the District's fiscal year begins on July 1 or September 1 of each year. <i>Education Code 44.0011</i>
BUDGET PREPARATION	The Superintendent shall prepare, or cause to be prepared, a proposed budget covering all estimated revenue and proposed expenditures of the District for the following fiscal year. <i>Education Code 44.002</i>
DEADLINES	<p>The proposed budget shall be prepared on or before a date set by the State Board of Education, currently August 20 (June 19 if the District uses a July 1 fiscal year start date). <i>Education Code 44.002(a); 19 TAC 109.1(a), 109.41</i></p> <p>The adopted budget must be filed with the Texas Education Agency on or before the date established in the <i>Financial Accountability System Resource Guide. Education Code 44.005; 19 TAC 109.1(a)</i></p>
PUBLIC MEETING ON BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE	<p>After the proposed budget has been prepared, the Board President shall call a Board meeting for the purpose of adopting a budget for the succeeding fiscal year. Any taxpayer of the District may be present and participate in the meeting. <i>Education Code 44.004</i> [See CCG for provisions governing tax rate adoption]</p> <p>The meeting must comply with the notice requirements of the Open Meetings Act. <i>Gov't Code 551.041, 551.043</i></p>
PUBLISHED NOTICE	The Board President shall also provide for publication of notice of the budget and proposed tax rate meeting in a daily, weekly, or bi-weekly newspaper published in the District. If no daily, weekly, or biweekly newspaper is published in the District, the President shall provide for publication of notice in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the District's central administrative office is located. The notice shall be published not earlier than the 30th day or later than the tenth day before the date of the hearing.
FORM OF NOTICE	The published notice of the public meeting to discuss and adopt the budget and the proposed tax rate must meet the size, format, and content requirements dictated by law.

The notice is not valid if it does not substantially conform to the language and format prescribed by the comptroller.

TAXPAYER
INJUNCTION

If the District has not complied with the published notice requirements in the FORM OF NOTICE described above, and the requirements for DISTRICTS WITH JULY 1 FISCAL YEAR below, if applicable, and the failure to comply was not in good faith, a person who owns taxable property in the District is entitled to an injunction restraining the collection of taxes by the District. An action to enjoin the collection of taxes must be filed before the date the District delivers substantially all of its tax bills.

Education Code 44.004

PUBLICATION
OF PROPOSED
BUDGET
SUMMARY

Concurrently with the publication of notice of the budget under Education Code 44.004, the District shall post a summary of the proposed budget on the District's Internet Web site or, if the District has no Internet Web site, in the District's central administrative office.

The budget summary must include a comparison to the previous year's actual spending and information relating to per student and aggregate spending on:

1. Instruction;
2. Instructional support;
3. Central administration;
4. District operations;
5. Debt service; and
6. Any other category designated by the Commissioner.

Education Code 44.0041

BUDGET
ADOPTION

The Board shall adopt a budget to cover all expenditures for the succeeding fiscal year at the meeting called for that purpose and before the adoption of the tax rate for the tax year in which the fiscal year covered by the budget begins.

DISTRICTS WITH
JULY 1 FISCAL
YEAR

A district with a fiscal year beginning July 1 may use the certified estimate of the taxable value of District property in preparing the published notice if the District does not receive the certified appraisal roll on or before June 7. A district that uses a certified estimate may adopt a budget at the public meeting designated in the published notice prepared using the estimate, but the District may not adopt a tax rate before the District receives the certified appraisal roll for the District.

Education Code 44.004

ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET

CE
(LEGAL)

	<p>By June 7, the chief appraiser shall prepare and certify an estimate of the taxable value of District property. <i>Tax Code 26.01(d)</i></p>
AMENDMENT OF APPROVED BUDGET	<p>The Board shall have the authority to amend the approved budget or to adopt a supplementary emergency budget to cover necessary unforeseen expenses.</p> <p>Copies of any amendment or supplementary budget must be prepared and filed in accordance with State Board rules.</p> <p><i>Education Code 44.006</i></p>
FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH BUDGET REQUIREMENTS	<p>A Board member who votes to approve any expenditure of school funds in excess of the item or items appropriated in the adopted budget or a supplementary or amended budget commits a misdemeanor offense. <i>Education Code 44.052(c)</i></p>
CERTAIN DONATIONS	<p>The District may donate funds or other property or service to the adjutant general's department or to the Texas National Guard. <i>Gov't Code 431.035(b), 431.045(b)</i></p>

PURCHASING AND ACQUISITION:
PAYMENT PROCEDURES

CHF
(LEGAL)

PAYMENT DUE

A payment owed by the District based on a contract executed on or after September 1, 1987, is overdue on the 31st day after the date on which the District received the goods under the contract or the date on which the performance of services under the contract was completed, or the date on which the District received the invoice for the goods or services, whichever is later. However, if the Board meets only once a month, the payment is not overdue until the 45th day after the date of receipt of goods, performance of services, or receipt of invoice, whichever is later. The renewal, amendment, or extension of a contract executed on or before September 1, 1993, is considered to be the execution of a new contract. *Gov't Code 2251.021*

INTEREST

A payment begins to accrue interest on the date the payment becomes overdue. The rate of interest that accrues on an overdue payment is the rate in effect on September 1 of the fiscal year in which the payment becomes overdue. The rate in effect on September 1 is equal to the sum of one percent and the prime rate as published in the Wall Street Journal on the first day of July of the preceding fiscal year that does not fall on a Saturday or Sunday.

Interest on an overdue payment stops accruing on the date the District or vendor mails or electronically transmits the payment.

The unpaid balance of a partial payment made within the prescribed period accrues interest, unless the balance is in dispute.

Gov't Code 2251.025, 2251.029

The District shall compute and pay interest at the time the payment is made on the principal. Interest payments shall accompany payment of the net amount due for the goods or service. The District may not require a vendor to petition, invoice, bill, or wait additional days to receive the interest due. The District may not require a vendor or subcontractor to agree to waive the vendor's or subcontractor's right to interest as a condition of the contract. *Gov't Code 2251.027*

EARLY PAYMENT
DISCOUNT

The District shall attempt to take advantage of an offer for an early payment discount, but may not take an early payment discount unless it makes a full payment within the discount period. If the District takes an early payment discount later, the unpaid balance accrues interest beginning on the date the discount offer expires. *Gov't Code 2251.030*

EXCEPTIONS

These provisions do not apply to payments made by the District or a vendor if:

1. There is a bona fide dispute between the District and a vendor, contractor, subcontractor, or supplier concerning the

PURCHASING AND ACQUISITION:
PAYMENT PROCEDURES

CHF
(LEGAL)

goods delivered or the service performed that causes the payment to be late;

2. There is a bona fide dispute between a vendor and a subcontractor or between a subcontractor and its supplier about the goods delivered or the services performed that causes the payment to be late;
3. The terms of a federal contract, grant, regulation, or statute prevent the District from making a timely payment with federal funds; or
4. The invoice is not mailed to the person to whom it is addressed in strict accordance with any instructions on the purchase order relating to the payment.

Gov't Code 2251.002

ALTERNATE VENDOR
REMEDY FOR
NONPAYMENT OF
CONTRACT

A vendor may suspend performance required under a contract with the District if the District does not pay the vendor an undisputed amount within the time limits provided above and the vendor gives the District written notice informing the District that payment has not been received and stating the intent of the vendor to suspend performance for nonpayment.

The vendor may not suspend performance before the tenth day after the date the vendor gives this notice.

A vendor who suspends performance is not required to supply further labor, services, or materials until the vendor is paid the amount provided for under Government Code Section 2251, plus costs for demobilization and remobilization. The vendor is also not responsible for damages resulting from suspending work if the governmental entity with which the vendor has the contract has not notified the vendor in writing before performance is suspended that payment has been made or that a bona fide dispute for payment exists.

A notification under Government Code 2251.051(c)(2) that a bona fide dispute for payment exists must include a list of the specific reasons for nonpayment. If a reason specified is that labor, services, or materials provided by the vendor or the vendor's subcontractor are not provided in compliance with the contract, the vendor is entitled to a reasonable opportunity to cure the noncompliance of the listed items; or offer a reasonable amount to compensate for listed items for which noncompliance cannot be promptly cured.

Gov't Code Sec. 2251.051

DISPUTED PAYMENT

The District shall notify a vendor of an error in an invoice submitted for payment by the vendor not later than the 21st day after the date

PURCHASING AND ACQUISITION:
PAYMENT PROCEDURES

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the District receives the invoice. If a dispute is resolved in favor of the vendor, the vendor shall receive interest on the unpaid balance beginning on the date that the payment for the invoice is overdue. If a dispute is resolved in favor of the District, the vendor shall submit a corrected invoice that shall be paid within 30 days of receipt. The unpaid balance accrues interest if it is not paid by the appropriate date. *Gov't Code 2251.042*

FOOD SERVICES MANAGEMENT

CO
(LEGAL)

U.S. DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE
RULES

Foods determined to be of minimal nutritional value, as defined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, shall not be sold in the food service areas during meal periods. *7 CFR 210.11, 220.12*

TEXAS DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE
POLICY

Effective August 1, 2004, all districts participating in the federal Child Nutrition Programs must comply with the nutrition policies outlined by the Texas Department of Agriculture. *Texas Department of Agriculture, Texas Public School Nutrition Policy (<http://www.agr.state.tx.us>); 7 CFR 210*

EXCEPTIONS

The District may not adopt any rule, policy, or program under Education Code 28.002 that would prohibit a parent or grandparent of a student from providing any food product of the parent's or grandparent's choice to:

1. Children in the classroom of the child on the occasion of the child's birthday; or
2. Children at a school-designated function.

Education Code 28.002 (1-3)(1)

INSURANCE AND ANNUITIES MANAGEMENT:
HEALTH AND LIFE INSURANCE

CRD
(LEGAL)

COVERAGE
REQUIREMENTS

UNIFORM
PROGRAM
(TRS–ACTIVE
CARE)

Unless an exemption applies, a district with 500 or fewer employees is required to participate in the uniform group coverage program established under Insurance Code 1579 (TRS–Active Care). A district with more than 500 employees may elect to participate in the program. *Insurance Code 1579.151; Education Code 22.004(a), (c)* [See UNIFORM GROUP COVERAGE PROGRAM, below]

The Teacher Retirement System (TRS) shall implement and administer the uniform group coverage program. TRS shall establish plans of group coverages for employees participating in the program and their dependents. *Insurance Code 1579.051, 1579.101*

EMPLOYEE
ELIGIBILITY

Participation in the program is limited to employees of participating districts who are full-time employees and to part-time employees who are participating members in TRS.

A part-time employee who is not a participating member in the TRS is eligible to participate in the program only if the employee pays all of the premiums and other costs associated with the health coverage plan selected by the employee.

A participating employee may select coverage in any coverage plan offered by TRS. If the combined state and District contributions [see COST OF COVERAGE, below] exceed the cost of a coverage plan selected by the employee, the employee may use the excess contributions to obtain coverage under a higher tier coverage plan, or to pay all or part of the cost of coverage for the employee's dependents. A married couple, both of whom are eligible for coverage under the program, may pool the amount of contributions to which the couple are entitled under the program to obtain coverage for themselves and dependent coverage.

Insurance Code 1579, Subch. E

OPTIONAL
COVERAGES

Districts participating in the uniform group coverage program may enter contracts to provide optional insurance coverages for District employees. *Education Code 22.004(j)*

OTHER
PROGRAMS

Districts that do not participate in the uniform group coverage program shall make available to their employees group health coverage provided by a risk pool established by one or more districts under Local Government Code Chapter 172, or under a policy of group insurance or group contract issued by an insurer, a company subject to Insurance Code Chapter 842, or a health maintenance organization under Insurance Code Chapter 843.

COMPARABILITY

The coverage must be comparable to the basic health coverage provided under Insurance Code Chapter 1551 (Texas Employees

INSURANCE AND ANNUITIES MANAGEMENT:
HEALTH AND LIFE INSURANCE

CRD
(LEGAL)

Group Benefits Act) and must meet the substantive coverage requirements set forth in Education Code 22.004(b). TRS shall adopt rules to determine whether the District's group health coverage is comparable to that provided to state employees.

FINANCIAL
STATEMENT

The District may not contract with an insurer, company, or health maintenance organization to issue a policy or contract for group health insurance, or with any person to assist the District in obtaining or managing the policy or contract unless the insurer, company, organization, or person provides the District with an audited financial statement.

Education Code 22.004(b), (c)

SMALL
EMPLOYER
MARKET
ELECTION

A district that does not participate in the uniform group coverage program may elect to participate in the small employer market without regard to the number of eligible employees in the District. If the District makes this election, it will be treated as a small employer for the purposes of Article 1501 of the Texas Insurance Code.

A district that is participating in the uniform group coverage program may not renew a health insurance contract obtained in accordance with Article 1501 after the date on which the program of coverages provided under the uniform group coverage program is implemented. This provision does not affect a contract for the provision of optional coverages. *Insurance Code 1501.009*

EMPLOYEE
ELECTION —
SPOUSES

A District employee who is eligible for coverage under a large or small employer health benefit plan providing coverage to the District's employees and who is the spouse of another District employee covered under the plan may elect whether to be treated under the plan as an employee or as the dependent of the other employee. *Insurance Code 1501.0095*

SELF-FUNDED
HEALTH CARE
PLAN

Except as otherwise provided above, the Board may establish a self-funded health care plan for District employees and their dependents. In implementing the plan, the Board shall establish a fund to pay all or part of plan-authorized costs for health care incurred by program participants. The fund consists of money contributed by the District and money deducted from the employee's salary for coverage, upon the employee's written authorization. *Education Code 22.005*

COMPARABILITY
COMPLIANCE
REPORT

TRS shall, for each district that does not participate in the uniform group coverage program, certify whether the District's coverage is comparable to the basic health coverage provided to state employees.

The District shall report its compliance to TRS not later than March 1 of each even-numbered year. The report must be based

INSURANCE AND ANNUITIES MANAGEMENT:
HEALTH AND LIFE INSURANCE

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(LEGAL)

on the District group health coverage plan in effect during the current plan year and must include:

1. Appropriate documentation of:
 - a. The District's contract for group health coverage, or
 - b. A Board resolution authorizing a self-insurance plan.
2. The schedule of benefits.
3. The premium rate sheet, including the amount paid by the District and the employee.
4. The number of employees covered by each health coverage plan offered by the District.
5. Any other information considered appropriate by the executive director of TRS.

Education Code 22.004(d); 34 TAC 41.91(d)

COST OF COVERAGE

The cost of coverage under the uniform group coverage program shall be shared by the state, the District, and the employees, as set forth below.

UNIFORM GROUP
COVERAGE
PROGRAM

STATE
CONTRIBUTION

The state shall provide for each covered employee the amount of \$900 each state fiscal year or a greater amount as provided by the General Appropriations Act. The state contribution shall be distributed through the school finance formulas under Education Code Chapters 41 and 42 and used by districts as provided by Education Code 42.2514 and 42.260. *Insurance Code 1579, Subch. F*

EMPLOYEE
CONTRIBUTION

An employee covered by the program shall pay that portion of the cost of coverage selected by the employee that exceeds the amount of the state contribution and the District's contribution. The employee may pay the employee's contribution from the employee supplement.

The District may pay any portion of what otherwise would be the employee share of premiums and other costs associated with the coverage selected by the employee.

Insurance Code 1579.253

OTHER
PROGRAMS

If the District does not participate in the uniform group coverage program, the cost of coverage shall be shared by the employees and the District, using the contributions by the state described at Insurance Code Chapter 1579, Subchapter F. [See STATE CONTRIBUTION, above] *Education Code 22.004(c)*

INSURANCE AND ANNUITIES MANAGEMENT:
HEALTH AND LIFE INSURANCE

CRD
(LEGAL)

DISTRICT
CONTRIBUTION
MINIMUM
EFFORT

The District shall, for each fiscal year, pay an amount equal to the number of participating employees multiplied by \$1,800.

MAXIMUM
EFFORT

Subject to the minimum effort requirement, a district that paid amounts for the 2000–01 school year for employees' health coverage shall, for each fiscal year, continue to pay at least the same amounts for each participating employee, computed as follows: the District shall divide the amount the District paid during the 2000–01 school year for the prior group health coverage plan by the total number of full-time employees in the 2000–01 school year and multiply the result by the number of full-time employees in the fiscal year for which the computation is made.

If, for the 2000–01 school year, the District provided group health coverage to its employees through a self-funded insurance plan, the amount the District paid during that school year for the plan includes only the amount of regular contributions made by the District.

Insurance Code 1581.052

EXCESS FUNDS

If the amount the District is required to pay for maintenance of effort exceeds \$1,800 per participating employee, the District may use the excess only to provide employee compensation at a rate greater than the rate of compensation that the District paid an employee in the 2000–01 school year, benefits, or both.

Insurance Code 1581, Subch. B

HEALTH
INSURANCE
CONTRIBUTIONS
FOR REHIRED
RETIREEES

Each payroll period and for each rehired retiree who is enrolled in TRS Care (retiree group health insurance), the District shall contribute to the TRS Care trust fund any difference between the amount the retiree is required to pay for the retiree and any enrolled dependents to participate in the group program and the full cost of the retiree's and enrolled dependents' participation in the group program, as determined by TRS. [See DEA]

EXCEPTION

The District is not required to contribute these amounts for a retiree who was reported under retirement system rules in effect for the report month of January 2005 by:

1. The reporting employer; or
2. Another employer, if both employers are school districts that formed a consolidated school district on or before September 1, 2005.

Gov't Code 825.4092; Insurance Code 1575.204

INSURANCE AND ANNUITIES MANAGEMENT:
HEALTH AND LIFE INSURANCE

CRD
(LEGAL)

DESIGNATION OF
COMPENSATION FOR
BENEFITS

An employee who is covered by a cafeteria plan or who is eligible to pay health care premiums through a premium conversion plan may elect to designate a portion of the employee's compensation to be used as health care supplementation. [See DEA]

USE

An employee may use the compensation designated for health care supplementation for any employee benefit, including depositing the designated amount into a cafeteria plan in which the employee is enrolled or using the designated amount for health care premiums through a premium conversion plan.

Education Code 21.103, 21.106

CONTINUATION
COVERAGE

DURING MILITARY
LEAVE

An employee who is absent from a position of employment by reason of service in the uniformed services may elect to continue coverage under a health plan. The maximum period of coverage of such a person and the person's dependents shall be the lesser of:

1. The 18-month period beginning on the date on which the person's absence begins; or
2. The day after the date on which the person fails to apply for or return to a position of employment. [See DEC]

38 U.S.C. 4317

DURING FMLA
LEAVE

During any period of leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), the District shall allow the employee to maintain coverage under any group health plan for the duration of the leave at the level and under the conditions coverage would have been provided if the employee had continued in employment continuously for the duration of the leave. The District may recover any premiums it paid for maintaining coverage during a period of unpaid FMLA leave if the employee fails to return from leave after the FMLA leave has expired and the failure to return is for a reason other than the continuation, recurrence, or onset of a serious health condition that entitles the employee to FMLA leave or other circumstances beyond the employee's control. *29 U.S.C. 2614(c); 29 CFR 825.209, 825.210, 825.213* [See also DEC]

UPON
TERMINATION OR
OTHER
QUALIFYING
EVENT (COBRA)

In accordance with the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA), the District shall offer continuation coverage under any group health insurance plan established after July 1, 1986, to the following qualified beneficiaries for the stated period of time:

1. To the employee for 18 months after a termination (other than for gross misconduct) or reduction in hours. An employee providing notice of being disabled under Title II or XVI of the Social Security Act before the end of the initial 18 months of

coverage shall be offered up to 29 months of continuation coverage.

2. To dependents of the covered employee for 36 months after the employee becomes eligible for Medicare benefits.
3. To dependents of the covered employee for 36 months after the employee's death or the divorce or legal separation of the employee from a spouse.
4. To a dependent child for 36 months after the child ceases to be a dependent under the terms of the plan.

42 U.S.C. 300bb-1, 300bb-2, 300bb-3

PREMIUM

The District may require premium payments not to exceed 102 percent of the usual cost of the plan for continuation coverage. Individuals entitled to 29 months of continuation coverage may be required to pay premiums not to exceed 150 percent of the usual cost for any month after the 18th month. The qualified beneficiary may choose to pay the premiums in monthly installments. In no event may payment be required before the day that is 45 days after the day on which the qualified beneficiary made the initial election for continuation coverage. *42 U.S.C. 300bb-2(3)*

NOTICE

The District shall notify its group health plan administrator within 30 days of an employee's death, termination or reduction of hours, or becoming eligible for Medicare payments.

The qualified beneficiary is responsible for notifying the plan administrator of a divorce or legal separation from a spouse or of a dependent child's ceasing to be a dependent. A qualified beneficiary who is determined to have been disabled at the time of termination is responsible for notifying the plan administrator of that determination within 60 days of the determination and within 30 days after a subsequent determination that he is no longer disabled.

42 U.S.C. 300bb-6

TERMINATION
OF COVERAGE

Coverage of qualified beneficiaries shall end on the earliest of the following dates:

1. The required period of coverage expires.
2. The District ceases to provide any group health plan to any employee.
3. Coverage ceases for failure to pay the premium.
4. The qualified beneficiary becomes covered under any other group plan.

5. The qualified beneficiary becomes entitled to Medicare benefits.

42 U.S.C. 300bb-2(2)

Note: See also DEB for continuation benefits that are available to survivors of District peace officers under certain conditions.

COVERAGE OF
PRE-EXISTING
CONDITIONS

Notwithstanding any other law, group health benefit coverage provided by or offered through the District to District employees under any law other than the uniform group coverage program is subject to the requirements of Sections 1501.102–1501.105, Insurance Code, which limit exclusion for preexisting conditions. This requirement applies to all group health benefit coverage provided by or offered through the District to District employees, including a standard health benefit plan issued under the Insurance Code and health and accident coverage provided through a risk pool established under Chapter 172, Local Government Code. *Education Code 22.004(m)*

UNIFORM GROUP
COVERAGE
PROGRAM

Coverage provided under the uniform group coverage program may not be made subject to a pre-existing condition limitation during the initial period of eligibility. *Insurance Code 1579.105*

FEDERAL LAW

In addition, a group health plan may not impose a preexisting condition exclusion unless:

1. The exclusion relates to a condition (whether physical or mental), regardless of the cause of the condition, for which medical advice, diagnosis, care, or treatment was recommended or received within the six-month period ending on the enrollment date;
2. The exclusion extends for a period of not more than 12 months (or 18 months in the case of a late enrollee) after the enrollment date; and
3. The period of any such preexisting condition exclusion is reduced by the aggregate of the periods of creditable coverage (if any) applicable to the participant or beneficiary as of the enrollment date.

42 U.S.C. 300gg(a)(1); 45 CFR 146.111(a)

INSURANCE AND ANNUITIES MANAGEMENT:
HEALTH AND LIFE INSURANCE

CRD
(LEGAL)

HEALTH INSURANCE
PORTABILITY AND
ACCOUNTABILITY
ACT (HIPAA)

CERTIFICATE OF
CREDITABLE
COVERAGE

A group health plan shall provide certification:

1. At the time an individual ceases to be covered under the plan or otherwise becomes covered under a COBRA continuation provision. This certification may be provided, to the extent practicable, at a time consistent with notices required under any applicable COBRA continuation provision;
2. In the case of an individual covered under COBRA, at the time the individual's COBRA coverage ceases; and
3. On the request on behalf of an individual made not later than 24 months after the date of cessation of coverage.

The certification is a written certification of:

1. The period of creditable coverage of the individual under such plan and the coverage (if any) under such COBRA continuation provision, and
2. The waiting period (if any) (and affiliation period, if applicable) imposed with respect to the individual for any coverage under such plan.

To the extent that medical care under a plan consists of group health insurance coverage, the plan is deemed to have satisfied the certification requirements if any issuer offering the coverage provides for certification.

42 U.S.C. 300gg(e); 45 CFR 146.115

OTHER HIPAA
REQUIREMENTS

HIPAA requires plan sponsors to observe certain coverage requirements and restrictions, including:

1. Limitations on preexisting condition exclusion periods;
2. Special enrollment periods for individuals;
3. Prohibitions against discriminating against individual participants and beneficiaries based on health status;
4. Standards relating to benefits for mothers and newborns;
5. Parity in the application of certain limits to mental health benefits.

ELECTION TO
BE EXCLUDED

The plan sponsor of a nonfederal governmental group health plan may elect to be exempted from the following provisions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA).

FORM OF
ELECTION

The election must be in writing and state the name of the plan and the name and address of the plan administrator. The election doc-

ument must either state that the plan does not include health insurance coverage, or identify which portion of the plan is not funded through insurance. The election must be made in conformity with all the plan sponsor's rules, including any public hearing, if required. The election document must be signed, and must certify that the person signing the election document, including if applicable a third party plan administrator, is legally authorized to do so by the plan sponsor.

TIMING OF
ELECTION

The election must be received by the Health Care Financing Administration by the day preceding the beginning date of the plan year. The election applies for a single specified plan year.

An election may be extended through subsequent elections.

CONTENTS OF
NOTICE

If this election is made, the plan shall provide for notice to enrollees, on an annual basis and at the time of enrollment under the plan. The notice shall be provided to each participant individually.

42 U.S.C. 300gg-21; 45 CFR 146.180

PRIVACY OF HEALTH
INFORMATION

To the extent the District is a covered entity under the Administrative Simplification provisions of HIPAA, the District must maintain the privacy of protected health information in accordance with the Privacy Rule, 45 CFR Part 164. *42 U.S.C. 1320d et seq.*

'COVERED ENTITY'
DEFINED

The District is a "covered entity" under the Privacy Rule to the extent it is:

1. A health plan;
2. A health-care clearinghouse; or
3. A health-care provider who transmits any health information in electronic form in connection with a transaction covered by the Privacy Rule.

45 CFR 160.103

'PROTECTED
HEALTH
INFORMATION'
DEFINED

"Protected health information" means individually identifiable health information that is transmitted or maintained in any form or medium, including electronic media and oral communications. "Protected health information" excludes individually identifiable health information in:

1. Education records covered by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), as amended.
2. Medical treatment records, as described at 20 U.S.C. 1232g(a)(4)(B)(iv), on a student who is at least 18 years of age.

INSURANCE AND ANNUITIES MANAGEMENT:
HEALTH AND LIFE INSURANCE

CRD
(LEGAL)

3. Employment records held by a covered entity in its role as employer.

20 U.S.C. 1232g, 45 CFR 160.102, 164.501 [See FL]

SPONSORS OF
GROUP HEALTH
PLANS

Before a group health plan may disclose protected health information to the District that is a plan sponsor, the group health plan must ensure that the plan documents restrict uses and disclosures of such information by the District consistent with the requirements of the Privacy Rule. *45 CFR 164.504(f)*

The group health plan may disclose the following information to a district that is a plan sponsor without amending the plan documents:

1. Summary health information, consistent with the requirements of the Privacy Rule; and
2. Enrollment and disenrollment information relating to an individual participating in the plan.

45 CFR 164.504(f)

'PLAN
SPONSOR'
DEFINED

The term "plan sponsor" includes employers who establish or maintain employee benefit plans, alone or jointly with one or more employers. *29 U.S.C. 1002(16)(B)*

SELF-FUNDED
PLANS

A district that is a sponsor of a self-funded group health plan is a covered entity under the Privacy Rule. *45 CFR 160.103*

EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES

DC
(LEGAL)

EMPLOYMENT POLICIES	The Board shall adopt a policy providing for the employment and duties of District personnel. The policy shall provide that:
SELECTION OF PERSONNEL	1. The Superintendent has sole authority to make recommendations to the Board regarding the selection of all personnel, except that the Board may delegate final authority for those decisions to the Superintendent [see SUPERINTENDENT RECOMMENDATIONS, below];
CAMPUS ASSIGNMENTS	2. Each principal must approve each teacher or staff appointment to the principal's campus as provided by Education Code 11.202 [see DK and DP]; and
JOB POSTINGS	3. Notice will be provided of vacant positions [see POSTING OF VACANCIES, below]. <i>Education Code 11.163</i>
CONTRACT POSITIONS	The Board shall establish a policy designating specific positions of employment, or categories of positions based on considerations such as length of service, to which continuing contracts or term contracts apply. <i>Education Code 21.002(c)</i>
DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY	The District's employment policy may specify the terms of District employment or delegate to the Superintendent the authority to determine the terms of employment with the District. <i>Education Code 11.163(c)</i>
NEPOTISM	A superintendent to whom the Board has delegated final hiring authority to select personnel is a "public official" with appointment authority for purposes of the nepotism laws. <i>Atty. Gen. Op. GA-123 (2003)</i> [See DBE]
INTERNAL AUDITOR	If the District employs an internal auditor, the Board shall select the internal auditor and the internal auditor shall report directly to the Board. <i>Education Code 11.163</i>
SUPERINTENDENT RECOMMENDATIONS	The Board may accept or reject the Superintendent's recommendation regarding the selection of District personnel. If the Board rejects the Superintendent's recommendation, the Superintendent shall make alternative recommendations until the Board accepts a recommendation. <i>Education Code 11.163</i>
POSTING OF VACANCIES	The District's employment policy must provide that not later than the tenth school day before the date on which the District fills a vacant position for which a certificate or license is required as provided by Education Code 21.003 [see DBA], other than a position that affects the safety and security of students as determined by the Board, the District must provide to each current District employee:

1. Notice of the position by posting the position on:
 - a. A bulletin board at:
 - (1) A place convenient to the public in the District's central administrative office, and
 - (2) The central administrative office of each campus during any time the office is open; and
 - b. The District's Internet Web site, if the District has a Web site; and
2. A reasonable opportunity to apply for the position.

Education Code 11.163(d)

EXCEPTION

If, during the school year, the District must fill a vacant position held by a teacher, as defined by Education Code 21.201 [see DCB], in less than ten school days, the District must provide notice of the position in the manner described above as soon as possible after the vacancy occurs. However, the District is not required to provide the notice for ten school days before filling the position or to provide a reasonable opportunity to apply for the position.

Education Code 11.163(e)

CONTRACT
EMPLOYEES

The District shall employ each classroom teacher, principal, librarian, nurse, or counselor under a probationary contract, a continuing contract, or a term contract. The District is not required to employ a person other than these listed employees under a probationary, continuing, or term contract. *Education Code 21.002*

"Classroom teacher" means an educator who is employed by the District and who, not less than an average of four hours each day, teaches in an academic instructional setting or a career and technology instructional setting. The term does not include a teacher's aide or a full-time administrator. *Education Code 5.001(2)*

LENGTH OF
CONTRACT

A contract between the District and an educator must be for a minimum of ten months of service. An educator employed under a ten-month contract must provide a minimum of 187 days of service. The Commissioner may reduce the number of days of service, but such a reduction by the Commissioner does not reduce an educator's salary. *Education Code 21.401*

EDUCATIONAL AIDES

The Board shall establish a plan to encourage the hiring of educational aides who show a willingness to become certified teachers. *Education Code 54.214(f); 19 TAC Chapter 21*

EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES

DC
(LEGAL)

EMPLOYMENT OF
RETIREES

REPORT TO TRS

The District shall file a monthly certified statement of employment of a retiree in the form and manner required by TRS. The District shall inform TRS of changes in status of the District that affect the District's reporting responsibilities.

The certified statement must include information regarding employees of third party entities if the employees are service or disability retirees who were first employed by the third party entity on or after May 24, 2003, and are performing duties or providing services on behalf of or for the benefit of the District.

An administrator of the District who is responsible for filing the statement, and who knowingly fails to file the statement, commits an offense.

Gov't Code 824.6022, 825.403(k); 34 TAC 31.2

ACUTE SHORTAGE
AREAS

For purposes of Government Code 824.602(a)(5) (permitting certain retirees to return to work in acute shortage areas) the Board shall determine by rule whether there are acute shortage areas in a District based on TEA's acute shortage area guidelines. The guidelines must include:

1. A list of acute shortage areas;
2. Suggested criteria for identifying local acute shortage areas; and
3. A requirement that a certified applicant for a position as a classroom teacher who is not a retiree be given preference in hiring.

Gov't Code 824.602(m)

NEW HIRES

I-9 FORMS

The District shall ensure that an employee properly completes section 1—"Employee Information and Verification"—on Form I-9 at the time of hire.

The District must verify employment eligibility, pursuant to the Immigration Reform and Control Act, and complete Form I-9 by the following dates:

1. Within three business days of initial hiring. If the District hires an individual for employment for a duration of less than three business days, the District must verify employment at the time of hire.

The District shall not be deemed to have hired an individual if the individual is continuing in his or her employment and has a reasonable expectation of employment at all times.

EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES

DC
(LEGAL)

When the District rehires an individual, the District may, in lieu of completing a new I-9, inspect a previously completed I-9 executed within three years of the date of rehire, to determine whether the individual is still eligible to work.

2. For an individual whose employment authorization expires, not later than the date of expiration.

8 CFR 274a.2(b)(1)(ii), (iii), (vii), (viii)

NEW HIRE
REPORTING

The District shall furnish to the Directory of New Hires (Texas Attorney General's Office) a report that contains the name, address, and Social Security number of each newly hired employee. The report shall also contain the District's name, address, and employer identification number.

The District may also provide, at its option, the employee's date of hire, date of birth, expected salary or wages, and the District's payroll address for mailing of notice to withhold child support.

The District shall report new hire information on a Form W-4 or an equivalent form, by first class mail, telephonically, electronically, or by magnetic media, as determined by the District and in a format acceptable to the attorney general.

DEADLINE

New hire reports are due:

1. Not later than 20 calendar days after the date the District hires the employee; or
2. In the case of the District transmitting reports magnetically or electronically, by two monthly transmissions (if necessary) not less than 12 days nor more than 16 days apart.

New hire reports shall be considered timely if postmarked by the due date or, if filed electronically, upon receipt by the agency.

42 U.S.C. 653a(b), (c); Family Code 234.101-234.104; 1 TAC 55, Subch. I

SOCIAL SECURITY
NUMBERS

It shall be unlawful for the District to deny to any individual any right, benefit, or privilege provided by law because of the individual's refusal to disclose his or her Social Security number.

EXCEPTIONS

The above provision does not apply to:

1. Any disclosure that is required by federal statute. The United States Internal Revenue Code provides that the Social Security number issued to an individual for purposes of federal income tax laws shall be used as the identifying number for taxpayers;

EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES

DC
(LEGAL)

2. Any disclosure to a district maintaining a system of records in existence and operating before January 1, 1975, if such disclosure was required under statute or regulation adopted before such date to verify the identity of an individual; or
3. Any use for the purposes of establishing the identity of individuals affected by any tax, general public assistance, driver's license, or motor vehicle registration law within the District's jurisdiction.

STATEMENT OF
USES

A district that requests disclosure of a Social Security number shall inform that individual whether the disclosure is mandatory or voluntary, by what statutory authority such number is solicited, and what uses will be made of it.

5 U.S.C. 552(a); Pub. L. 94-455, Stat. 1520 (1976)

CRIMINAL HISTORY
RECORD

The District may obtain from any law enforcement or criminal justice agency all criminal history information that relates to:

1. A person the District intends to employ in any capacity;
2. A person who has indicated, in writing, an intention to serve as a volunteer with the District; or
3. A volunteer or employee of the District.

Criminal history record information regarding a person who is a volunteer or employee of the District may be obtained no more than twice each year.

Education Code 22.083(a), (c); Gov't Code 411.097(b)

CONFIDENTIALITY
OF RECORD

Criminal history record information obtained by the District may not be released or disclosed to any person, other than the individual who is the subject of the information, TEA, or SBEC (State Board for Educator Certification). *Gov't Code 411.097(d)* [See CNA]

SBEC
NOTIFICATION

The Superintendent shall promptly notify SBEC in writing by filing a report with the executive director of SBEC within seven calendar days of the date the Superintendent obtains or has knowledge of information indicating that an applicant for or holder of a certificate issued under Chapter 21, Subchapter B, of the Education Code has a reported criminal history. *Education Code 22.083(d); 19 TAC 249.14(d)(1)* [See also DF]

DISCHARGE OF
CONVICTED
EMPLOYEES

The District may discharge an employee if the District obtains information of the employee's conviction of a felony or misdemeanor involving moral turpitude that the employee did not disclose to SBEC or to the District. An employee so discharged is

considered to have been discharged for misconduct for the purposes of Labor Code Section 207.044 (unemployment compensation). *Education Code 22.085*

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS:
SALARIES, WAGES, AND STIPENDS

DEA
(LEGAL)

STATE FUNDING

Subject to Education Code 42.2516(g) and (h) (regarding reduction in state aid for certain districts), the District is entitled to state revenue necessary to provide the District with an amount equal to \$2,500 for each classroom teacher, full-time librarian, full-time counselor, and full-time school nurse employed by the District and entitled to the state minimum salary. *Education Code 42.2516(b)(2)*

The District is entitled to state aid in an amount equal to the sum of:

1. \$500 for each full-time District employee, other than administrators or employees subject to the minimum salary schedule; and
2. \$250 for each part-time District employee, other than administrators

A determination by the Commissioner under this provision is final and may not be appealed.

Education Code 42.2513

MINIMUM SALARY
SCHEDULE —
EDUCATORS

The District shall pay each classroom teacher, full-time librarian, full-time counselor, or full-time nurse not less than the minimum monthly salary, based on the employee's level of experience, specified in Education Code 21.402 and 19 TAC 153.1021.

DEFINITIONS

"Classroom teacher" means an educator who teaches an average of at least four hours per day in an academic or career and technology instructional setting, focusing on the delivery of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills, and who holds the relevant certificate from SBEC. Although noninstructional duties do not qualify as teaching, necessary functions related to the educator's instructional assignment, such as instructional planning and transition between instructional periods, should be applied to creditable classroom time.

"Librarian" means an educator who provides full-time library services and holds the relevant certificate from SBEC.

"Counselor" means an educator who provides full-time counseling and guidance services and holds the relevant certificate from SBEC.

"Nurse" means an educator employed to provide full-time nursing and health care services and who meets all the requirements to practice as a registered nurse (RN) pursuant to the Nursing Practice Act and the rules and regulations relating to professional nurse education, licensure, and practice and has been issued a license to practice professional nursing in Texas.

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS:
SALARIES, WAGES, AND STIPENDS

DEA
(LEGAL)

“Full-time” means contracted employment for at least ten months (187 days) for 100 percent of the school day, in accordance with the definitions of school day in Education Code 25.082, employment contract in Education Code 21.002, and school year in Education Code 25.081.

19 TAC 153.1022(a)

PLACEMENT ON
SALARY
SCHEDULE

The Commissioner's rules determine the experience for which a teacher, librarian, counselor, or nurse is to be given credit in placing the teacher, librarian, counselor, or nurse on the minimum salary schedule. The District shall credit the teacher, librarian, counselor, or nurse for each year of experience, whether or not the years are consecutive. *Education Code 21.402(a), 21.403(c); 19 TAC 153.1022*

EDUCATOR
COMPENSATION
FOR 2006–07

For the 2006–07 school year, a classroom teacher, full-time librarian, full-time counselor, or full-time school nurse is entitled to a monthly salary that is at least equal to the sum of:

1. The monthly salary the employee would have received for the 2006–07 school year under the District's salary schedule for the 2005–06 school year, if that schedule had been in effect for the 2006–07 school year, including any local supplement and any money representing a career ladder supplement the employee would have received in the 2006–07 school year; and
2. \$250.

Education Code 21.402(c–1)

A classroom teacher, full-time librarian, full-time counselor, and full-time school nurse employed by a school district in the 2006–07 school year is, as long as the employee is employed by the same district, entitled to a salary that is at least equal to the salary the employee received for the 2006–07 school year. *Education Code 21.402(c–2)*

Education Code 21.402(c–1) and (c–2) expire September 1, 2007.

EMPLOYEES
FORMERLY ON
CAREER LADDER

A teacher or librarian who received a career ladder supplement on August 31, 1993, is entitled to at least the same gross monthly salary the teacher or librarian received for the 1994–95 school year as long as the teacher or librarian is employed by the same district.

“Gross monthly salary” includes the amount the teacher or librarian received as a career ladder supplement under Section 16.057, as that section existed January 1, 1993.

Education Code 21.402(f), 21.403(d)

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS:
SALARIES, WAGES, AND STIPENDS

DEA
(LEGAL)

In addition, a teacher or librarian who was on level two or three of the career ladder is entitled, as long as he or she is employed by the same district, to:

LEVEL TWO
EDUCATORS

1. Placement on the minimum salary schedule at the step above the step on which the teacher would otherwise be placed, if the teacher or librarian received a career ladder supplement for level two of the career ladder on August 31, 1993; or

LEVEL THREE
EDUCATORS

2. Placement on the minimum salary schedule at the step two steps above the step on which the teacher would otherwise be placed, if the teacher or librarian received a career ladder supplement for level three of the career ladder on August 31, 1993.

Education Code 21.403(d)

SUPPORT STAFF
COMPENSATION

The District shall pay each District employee, other than an administrator or an employee subject to the minimum salary schedule, an amount at least equal to:

1. \$500, for full-time employees.
2. \$250, for part-time employees.

Such payment is in addition to wages the District would otherwise pay the employee during the school year.

Education Code 22.107

PAY INCREASES

The District shall not grant any extra compensation, fee, or allowance to a public officer, agent, servant, or contractor after service has been rendered or a contract entered into and performed in whole or in part. *Tex. Const. Art. III, Sec. 53* [See CE(LEGAL)]

SALARY
ADVANCES AND
LOANS

The District shall not lend its credit or gratuitously grant public money or things of value in aid of any individual, association, or corporation. *Tex. Const. Art. III, Sec. 52; Brazoria County v. Perry, 537 S.W.2d 89 (Tex. Civ. App.—Houston [1st Dist.] 1976, no writ)*

DESIGNATION OF
COMPENSATION FOR
BENEFITS

An employee who is covered by a cafeteria plan or who is eligible to pay health care premiums through a premium conversion plan may elect to designate a portion of the employee's compensation to be used as health care supplementation. The amount designated may not exceed the amount permitted under federal law. *Education Code 21.103*

USE

An employee may use the compensation designated for health care supplementation for any employee benefit, including depositing the designated amount into a cafeteria plan in which the

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS:
SALARIES, WAGES, AND STIPENDS

DEA
(LEGAL)

employee is enrolled or using the designated amount for health care premiums through a premium conversion plan. *Education Code 21.106*

ANNUAL ELECTION Each school year, an active employee must elect in writing whether to designate a portion of the employee's compensation to be used as health care supplementation. The election must be made at the same time that the employee elects to participate in a cafeteria plan, if applicable. *Education Code 21.105*

DEFINITION For purposes of the designation of compensation as health care supplementation, "employee" means an active, contributing member of TRS who:

1. Is employed by the District;
2. Is not a retiree eligible for coverage under Insurance Code Chapter 1575 (retiree group health benefits);
3. Is not eligible for coverage by a group insurance plan under Insurance Code Chapter 1551 (state employee health insurance) or Chapter 1601 (state university employee health insurance); and
4. Is not an individual performing personal services for the District as an independent contractor.

Education Code 22.101(2)

FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT Unless an exemption applies, the District shall pay each of its employees not less than minimum wage. *29 U.S.C. 206(a)(1)*

MINIMUM WAGE Unless an exemption applies, the District shall pay an employee not less than one and one-half times the employee's regular rate of pay for all hours in excess of forty in any workweek. *29 U.S.C. 207(a)(1); 29 CFR part 778*

COMPENSATORY TIME Nonexempt employees may receive, in lieu of overtime compensation, compensatory time off at a rate of not less than one and one-half hours for each hour of overtime work, pursuant to an agreement or understanding arrived at between the employer and employee before the performance of the work. Such agreement or understanding may be informal, such as when an employee works overtime knowing that the employer rewards overtime with compensatory time.

ACCRUAL

An employee may accrue not more than 240 hours of compensatory time. If the employee's overtime work included a public safety activity, an emergency response activity, or a seasonal activity, the employee may accrue not more than 480 hours of compensatory

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS:
SALARIES, WAGES, AND STIPENDS

DEA
(LEGAL)

	<p>time. After the employee has reached these limits, the employee shall be paid overtime compensation for additional overtime work.</p>
PAYMENT FOR ACCRUED TIME	<p>Compensation paid to an employee for accrued compensatory time shall be paid at the regular rate earned by the employee at the time of payment. An employee who has accrued compensatory time off shall be paid for any unused compensatory time upon separation from employment at the rates set forth at 29 U.S.C. 207(o)(4).</p>
USE	<p>An employee who has requested the use of compensatory time shall be permitted to use such time within a reasonable period after making the request if the use of the compensatory time does not unduly disrupt the operations of the District.</p> <p>The Fair Labor Standards Act does not prohibit the District from compelling the use of accrued compensatory time.</p> <p><i>29 U.S.C. 207(o); Christensen v. Harris County, 529 U.S. 576 (2000); Houston Police Officers' Union v. City of Houston, 330 F.3d 298 (5th Cir. 2003)</i></p>
EXEMPT EMPLOYEES	<p>The minimum wage and overtime provisions do not apply to any employee employed in a bona fide executive, administrative, or professional capacity, including academic administrative personnel or teachers in elementary or secondary schools. 29 U.S.C. 213(a)(1)</p>
SALARY BASIS	<p>To qualify as an exempt executive, administrative, or professional employee, the employee must be compensated on a salary basis. Subject to the exceptions listed in the rule, an employee must receive the full salary for any week in which the employee performs any work, without regard to the number of days or hours worked. A district that makes improper deductions from salary shall lose the exemption if the facts demonstrate that the District did not intend to pay employees on a salary basis.</p>
SAFE HARBOR POLICY	<p>If the District has a clearly communicated policy that prohibits improper pay deductions and includes a complaint mechanism; reimburses employees for any improper deductions, and makes a good faith commitment to comply in the future, the District will not lose the deduction unless the District willfully violates the policy by continuing to make improper deductions after receiving employee complaints.</p> <p>The best evidence of a clearly communicated policy is a written policy that was distributed to employees before the improper pay deductions by, for example, providing a copy of the policy to employees upon hire, publishing the policy in an employee handbook, or publishing the policy on the District's intranet.</p> <p><i>29 CFR 541.600, .602(a), .603</i></p>

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS:
SALARIES, WAGES, AND STIPENDS

DEA
(LEGAL)

WAGE AND HOUR
RECORDS

The District shall maintain and preserve payroll or other records for nonexempt employees containing the information required by the regulations under the Fair Labor Standards Act. *29 CFR 516.2*

TRS CONTRIBUTIONS
FOR NEW HIRES

During each fiscal year, the District shall pay an amount equal to the state contribution rate, as established by the General Appropriations Act for the fiscal year, applied to the aggregate compensation of new members of the retirement system, during their first 90 days of employment.

“New member” means a person first employed on or after September 1, 2005, including a former member who withdrew retirement contributions under Government Code 822.003 and is reemployed on or after September 1, 2005.

On a monthly basis, the District shall:

1. Certify to TRS the total amount of salary paid during the first 90 days of employment of a new member and the total amount of employer payments under this section for the payroll periods; and
2. Retain information, as determined by TRS, sufficient to allow administration of this section, including information for each employee showing the applicable salary as well as aggregate compensation for the first 90 days of employment for new employees.

A person who was hired before September 1, 2005, and was subject to a 90-day waiting period for membership in the retirement system becomes eligible to participate in the retirement system as a member starting September 1, 2005. For the purpose of this section, the member shall be treated as a new member for the remainder of the waiting period.

The District must remit the amount required under this section to TRS at the same time the District remits the member’s contribution. In computing the amount required to be remitted, the District shall include compensation paid to an employee for the entire pay period that contains the 90th calendar day of new employment.

Gov’t Code 825.4041

TRS SURCHARGE
FOR REHIRED
RETIREEES

During each payroll period for which a retiree is reported, the District shall contribute to the retirement system for each retiree reported an amount based on the retiree’s salary equal to the sum of:

TRS FUND
CONTRIBUTIONS

1. The current contribution amount that would be contributed by the retiree if the retiree were an active, contributing member; and

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS:
SALARIES, WAGES, AND STIPENDS

DEA
(LEGAL)

2. The current contribution amount authorized by the General Appropriations Act that the state would contribute for that retiree if the retiree were an active, contributing member.

HEALTH
INSURANCE
CONTRIBUTIONS

In addition, each payroll period and for each rehired retiree who is enrolled in TRS Care (retiree group health insurance), the District shall contribute to the TRS Care trust fund any difference between the amount the retiree is required to pay for the retiree and any enrolled dependents to participate in the group program and the full cost of the retiree's and enrolled dependents' participation in the group program, as determined by TRS. If more than one employer reports the retiree to TRS during a month, the amount of the required payment shall be prorated among employers.

EXCEPTION

The District is not required to contribute these amounts for a retiree who was reported under retirement system rules in effect for the report month of January 2005 by:

1. The reporting employer; or
2. Another employer, if both employers are school districts that formed a consolidated school district on or before September 1, 2005.

Gov't Code 825.4092; Insurance Code 1575.204

RETIREMENT
INCENTIVES

The District may not offer or provide a financial or other incentive to an employee to encourage the employee to retire from the Teacher Retirement System of Texas. *Education Code 22.007*

ATTENDANCE
SUPPLEMENT

The District shall not deny an educator a salary bonus or similar compensation given in whole or in part on the basis of educator attendance because of the educator's absence from school for observance of a religious holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Tax Code 11.20. *Education Code 21.406*

Note: For provisions regarding inventory and requisition of textbooks, see CMD.

STATE TEXTBOOK LISTS	For each subject and grade level, the State Board of Education (SBOE) shall adopt two lists of textbooks: conforming and nonconforming:
CONFORMING LIST	1. The conforming list includes each textbook that meets applicable physical specifications and contains material covering each element of the essential knowledge and skills of the subject and grade level.
NONCONFORMING LIST	2. The nonconforming list includes each textbook that meets the applicable physical specifications and contains material covering at least half, but not all, of the elements of the essential knowledge and skills.
	<i>Education Code 31.023</i>
REVIEW AND ADOPTION CYCLES	The SBOE shall adopt a review and adoption cycle for textbooks for each subject in the required curriculum under Education Code 28.002. <i>Education Code 31.022(a)</i>
INFORMATION FROM PUBLISHERS	A publisher shall provide each district with information that fully describes each of the publisher's adopted textbooks. On request of the District, a publisher shall provide a sample copy of an adopted textbook. <i>Education Code 31.027</i>
	Samples shall be provided and distributed at the expense of the publisher. No state or local funds shall be expended to purchase, distribute, or ship sample materials. <i>19 TAC 66.101(c)</i>
LOCAL SELECTION	Each year, during a period established by the SBOE, the Board shall select textbooks for subjects in the foundation and enrichment curricula. <i>Education Code 31.101(a)</i>
POLICY	The Board shall adopt a policy for selecting instructional materials. Final selections must be recorded in Board minutes. <i>19 TAC 66.104(a)</i>
FOUNDATION TEXTBOOKS	The Board shall select textbooks for a subject in the foundation curriculum from either the conforming list or the nonconforming list. <i>Education Code 31.101(a)(1)</i>
ENRICHMENT TEXTBOOKS	The Board may select textbooks for courses in the enrichment curriculum from the conforming list or the nonconforming list, or it may select books that do not appear on either list (nonadopted materials). <i>Education Code 21.101(a)(2)</i>

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS SELECTION AND ADOPTION:
TEXTBOOK SELECTION AND ADOPTION

EFAA
(LEGAL)

DURATION OF SELECTION	Once instructional materials have been requisitioned and delivered, including nonadopted materials, the District shall continue to use those materials during the period of the review and adoption cycle the SBOE has established for the subject and grade level for which the materials are used. <i>Education Code 31.101(d); 19 TAC 66.104(f), (j)</i>
REPORT	By April 1 of each year, the District shall transmit a report to TEA listing the instructional materials selected for use in the District. Selections certified to TEA are final and, therefore, not subject to reconsideration during the original contract period or readoption contract periods covering the instructional materials selected. <i>19 TAC 66.104(g), (h)</i>
CRIMINAL OFFENSE	<p>A trustee, administrator, or teacher commits an offense if the person receives any commission or rebate on any textbooks used in the schools with which the person is associated.</p> <p>A trustee, administrator, or teacher commits an offense if the person accepts a gift, favor, or service that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Is given to the person or the person's school;2. Might reasonably tend to influence the person in the selection of a textbook; and3. Could not be lawfully purchased with funds from the state textbook fund. <p>"Gift, favor, or service" does not include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Staff development, in-service, or teacher training; or2. Instructional materials, such as maps or worksheets, that convey information to the student or otherwise contribute to the learning process. <p><i>Education Code 31.152</i></p>
TEXTBOOK FUNDING	Annually, the SBOE shall set aside out of the available school fund an amount sufficient for districts to purchase and distribute the necessary textbooks for the use of the students of this state for the following school year. <i>Education Code 31.021(b)</i>
MAXIMUM COST	<p>The SBOE shall set a limit on the cost that may be paid from the state textbook fund for a textbook on the conforming or nonconforming list. <i>Education Code 31.025</i></p> <p>If the District selects instructional materials priced above the limit set by SBOE, the District is responsible for paying the publisher the portion of the cost above the state maximum. <i>19 TAC 66.104(b)</i></p>

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS SELECTION AND ADOPTION:
TEXTBOOK SELECTION AND ADOPTION

EFAA
(LEGAL)

NONADOPTED MATERIALS	<p>If the District selects a book for a course in the enrichment curriculum and grade level that is not on either of the SBOE lists, the state shall pay the District the lesser of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="561 411 1443 474">1. Seventy percent of the total actual cost to the District of the books; or<li data-bbox="561 506 1443 537">2. Seventy percent of the limit set by SBOE for that book. <p><i>Education Code 31.101(b)</i></p>
BRAILLE / LARGE-TYPE	<p>Funds received from the state under this provision may be used only to purchase the nonadopted instructional materials selected and ratified by the Board. The minutes of the Board meeting at which such a selection is ratified shall reflect the District's agreement to bear responsibility for the portion of the costs not eligible for payment by the state. <i>19 TAC 66.104(c), (e)</i></p> <p>The District also bears responsibility for providing Braille and/or large-type versions of nonadopted enrichment materials. <i>19 TAC 66.104(d)</i></p>
LOCAL FUNDS	<p>The District may use local funds to purchase any textbooks in addition to those selected under Education Code Chapter 31. <i>Education Code 31.106</i></p>
ANCILLARY MATERIALS	<p>Selection and use of ancillary materials is at the discretion of the Board. <i>19 TAC 66.104(p)</i></p>
HUMAN SEXUALITY MATERIALS	<p>Course materials relating to human sexuality, sexually transmitted diseases, or human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) shall be selected by the Board with the advice of the local school health advisory council. <i>Education Code 28.004(e)</i> [See EHAA]</p>

SPECIAL PROGRAMS:
COMPENSATORY/ACCELERATED SERVICES

EHBC
(LEGAL)

COMPENSATORY
EDUCATION
ALLOTMENT

The District is entitled to an annual compensatory education allotment for each student:

1. Who is educationally disadvantaged; or
2. Who does not have a disability and resides in a residential placement facility in the district in which the student's parent or legal guardian does not reside.

The number of educationally disadvantaged students is determined by the formula set forth at Education Code 42.152(b).

Education Code 42.152(a)–(b)

USE

The District shall use its compensatory education allotment to fund supplemental programs and services designed to eliminate any disparity in performance on state assessment instruments or disparity in the rates of high school completion between students at-risk of dropping out of school, as defined below, and all other students.

Specifically, the District may use the funds, other than an indirect cost allotment established by State Board rule, to meet the costs of providing a compensatory, intensive, or accelerated instruction program under Education Code 29.081, a disciplinary alternative education program under Education Code 37.008, or to support a Title I program [see EHBD], at a campus at which at least 40 percent of the students are educationally disadvantaged.

The District may also use allocated funds for:

1. A mentoring services program under Education Code 29.089;
2. An accelerated reading instruction program under Education Code 28.006(g);
3. A program for treatment of students who have dyslexia or a related disorder, as required by Education Code 38.003; and
4. A program under Education Code 29.081 specifically designed to serve students at risk of dropping out of school.

Education Code 42.152(c), (c-1), (c-2)

LIMIT ON DAEP
EXPENDITURES

The District may not use more than 18 percent of its compensatory education allotment for disciplinary alternative education programs.

The Commissioner may waive this limitation upon an annual petition, by the District's Board and site-based decision making committee, presenting the reason for the need to spend supplemental compensatory education funds on disciplinary alternative education programs.

Education Code 42.152(c)(1)–(2)

DEFINITION OF
AT-RISK STUDENT

“Student at risk of dropping out of school” includes each student who is under 21 years of age and who:

1. If the student is in prekindergarten, kindergarten, or grades 1–3, did not perform satisfactorily on a readiness test or assessment instrument administered during the current school year;
2. If the student is in grades 7–12 did not maintain an average equivalent to 70 on a scale of 100 in two or more subjects in the foundation curriculum during a semester in the preceding or current school year, or is not maintaining such an average in two or more subjects in the foundation curriculum in the current semester;
3. Was not advanced from one grade level to the next for one or more school years;
4. Did not perform satisfactorily on a state assessment instrument and who has not in the previous or current school year subsequently performed on that instrument or another appropriate instrument at a level equal to at least 110 percent of the level of satisfactory performance on that instrument;
5. Is pregnant or is a parent;
6. Has been placed in a disciplinary alternative education program during the preceding or current school year;
7. Has been expelled during the preceding or current school year;
8. Is currently on parole, probation, deferred prosecution, or other conditional release;
9. Was previously reported through the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) to have dropped out of school;
10. Is a student of limited English proficiency, as defined by Section 29.052;
11. Is in the custody or care of the Department of Family and Protective Services or has, during the current school year, been referred to the department by a school official, officer of the juvenile court, or law enforcement official;
12. Is homeless, as defined by 42 U.S.C. 11302 and its subsequent amendments [see FD]; or
13. Resided in the preceding school year or resides in the current school year in a residential placement facility in the District,

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including a detention facility, substance abuse treatment facility, emergency shelter, psychiatric hospital, halfway house, or foster group home.

Education Code 29.081(d)

LOCAL ELIGIBILITY
CRITERIA

In addition to students described above, a student who satisfies local eligibility criteria adopted by a Board may receive compensatory education services. The number of students receiving services under local eligibility criteria during a school year may not exceed ten percent of the number of students described above who received services from the District during the preceding school year. *Education Code 29.081(g)*

COMPENSATORY,
INTENSIVE, AND
ACCELERATED
INSTRUCTION

The District shall use student performance data from state basic skills assessment instruments and achievement tests to design and implement appropriate compensatory, intensive, or accelerated instructional services for students in the District's schools that enable the students to perform at grade level at the conclusion of the next regular school term. *Education Code 29.081(a)*

ACCELERATED
INSTRUCTION

The District shall provide accelerated instruction to enrolled students who have not performed satisfactorily on each section of the secondary exit-level assessment instrument or who are at risk of dropping out of school. *Education Code 29.081(b)*

EFFECTIVENESS

The District shall evaluate and document the effectiveness of the accelerated instruction in reducing any disparity in performance on state assessment instruments or disparity in the rates of high school completion between students at risk of dropping out of school and all other District students. *Education Code 29.081(c)*

DROPOUT
RECOVERY
EDUCATION
PROGRAMS

The District may use a private or public community-based dropout recovery education program to provide alternative education programs for students at risk of dropping out of school. The programs must meet the criteria set forth at Education Code 29.081(e)(1)–(5).

Students in attendance at a dropout recovery education program shall be included in the District's average daily attendance for funding purposes.

Education Code 29.081(f)

OPTIONAL
EXTENDED-YEAR
PROGRAM

The District may set aside an amount from its compensatory education allotment or may apply to TEA for funding of an extended-year program (OEYP), for a period not to exceed 30 instructional days for students:

1. In kindergarten through grade 11, who are identified as not likely to be promoted to the next grade level for the succeeding school year; or

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COMPENSATORY/ACCELERATED SERVICES

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2. In grade 12, who are identified as not likely to graduate from high school before the beginning of the succeeding school year.

POLICY	If the District provides an OEYP, it shall adopt a policy designed to lead to immediate reduction and ultimate elimination of student retention.
PROGRAM CRITERIA	An OEYP must meet the requirements set forth at Education Code 29.082 and 19 TAC 105.1001.
PROMOTION OF STUDENT	A student who attends at least 90 percent of the program days and who satisfies the requirements for promotion at Education Code 28.021 shall be promoted or retained in accordance with Education Code 29.082(e).
TRANSPORTATION	The District shall provide transportation to each student who is required to attend a program under this section and who is eligible for regular transportation services. [See EIE and FDC] <i>Education Code 29.082; 19 TAC 105.1001</i>
OPTIONAL FLEXIBLE YEAR PROGRAM	The District may provide an optional flexible year program (OFYP) for students who did not or are not likely to perform successfully on state assessment instruments or who would not otherwise be promoted to the next grade level.
PROGRAM CRITERIA	An OFYP must meet the requirements set forth at Education Code 29.0821 and 19 TAC 61.1017. <i>Education Code 29.0821; 19 TAC 61.1017</i>
OPTIONAL FLEXIBLE SCHOOL DAY PROGRAM	Notwithstanding Education Code 25.081 (school year) or 25.082 (school day) [see EB and EC], the District may apply to the Commissioner to provide a flexible school day program (OFSDP) for students in grades 9 through 12.
PROGRAM CRITERIA	A district that meets application requirements may: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Provide flexibility in the number of hours each day a student attends;2. Provide flexibility in the number of days each week a student attends; or3. Allow a student to enroll in less than or more than a full course load. A course offered in a program under this section must provide for at least the same number of instructional hours as required for a course offered in a program that meets the required minimum num-

ber of instructional days under Education Code 25.081 and the required length of school day under Education Code 25.082.

STUDENT
ELIGIBILITY

The District may provide an OFSDP for students who:

1. Have dropped out of school or are at risk of dropping out of school, as defined above at DEFINITION OF AT-RISK STUDENT; or
2. Attend a campus that is implementing an innovative redesign of the campus or an early college high school under a plan approved by the Commissioner.

FUNDING

Funding for an optional flexible school day program shall be based on the number of instructional days in the District calendar and a seven-hour school day, but attendance may be cumulated over a school year, including any summer or vacation session. The attendance of students who accumulate less than the number of attendance hours required shall be proportionately reduced for funding purposes.

Education Code 28.025

TUTORIAL SERVICES

The District may provide tutorial services at District schools. If the District provides tutorial services, it shall require a student whose grade in a subject for a reporting period is lower than the equivalent of 70 on a scale of 100 to attend tutorials.

The District may provide transportation services to accommodate students who are required to attend tutorials and who are eligible for regular transportation.

Education Code 29.084

BASIC SKILLS
PROGRAMS

The District may apply to the Commissioner for funding of basic skills programs for students in grade 9 who are at risk of not earning sufficient credit or who have not earned sufficient credit to advance to grade 10 and who fail to meet minimum skills levels established by the Commissioner.

With the consent of a student's parent or guardian, the District may assign a student to the basic skills program.

A basic skills program may not exceed 210 instructional days and must meet the requirements set forth at Education Code 29.086.

Education Code 29.086

AFTER-SCHOOL AND
SUMMER INTENSIVE
MATHEMATICS AND
SCIENCE

The District may provide an intensive after-school program or an intensive program during the period that school is recessed for the summer to provide mathematics and science instruction to:

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1. Students who are not performing at grade level in mathematics or science to assist those students in performing at grade level;
2. Students who are not performing successfully in a mathematics course or science course to assist those students in successfully completing the course; or
3. Other students as determined by the District.

Before providing a program, the Board must adopt a policy for:

1. Determining student eligibility for participating in the program that:
 - a. Prescribes the grade level or course a student must be enrolled in to be eligible; and
 - b. Provides for considering teacher recommendations in determining eligibility;
2. Ensuring that parents of or persons standing in parental relation to eligible students are provided notice of the program;
3. Ensuring that eligible students are encouraged to attend the program;
4. Ensuring that the program is offered at one or more locations in the District that are easily accessible to eligible students; and
5. Measuring student progress on completion of the program.

Education Code 29.088, 29.090; 19 TAC 102.1041

MENTORING
SERVICES PROGRAM

The District may provide a mentoring services program to students at risk of dropping out of school. The Board may arrange for any public or nonprofit community-based organization to come to the District's schools and implement the program.

The Board shall obtain the consent of a student's parent or guardian before allowing the student to participate in the program.

Education Code 29.089

ACCELERATED
READING
INSTRUCTION
PROGRAM

The District shall implement an accelerated reading instruction program that provides reading instruction that addresses reading deficiencies to each student in kindergarten, first grade, or second grade who is determined, on the basis of reading instrument results [see EKC], to be at risk for dyslexia or other reading difficulties. The District shall determine the form, content, and timing of the program.

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LIMITATION	<p>The District may implement an accelerated reading instruction program only if the Commissioner certifies that funds have been appropriated during a school year for administering the program.</p> <p><i>Education Code 28.006(f), (g)</i></p>
INTENSIVE PROGRAM OF INSTRUCTION	<p>The District shall offer an intensive program of instruction to a student who does not perform satisfactorily on a state assessment instrument.</p>
STATE ASSESSMENTS	<p>The program shall be designed to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Enable the student to:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. To the extent practicable, perform at the student's grade level at the conclusion of the next regular school term; orb. Attain a standard of annual growth specified by the District and reported by the District to TEA; and2. If applicable, carry out the purposes of Education Code 28.0211.
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS	<p>The District shall use funds appropriated by the legislature for an intensive program of instruction to plan and implement intensive instruction and other activities aimed at helping a student satisfy state and local high school graduation requirements.</p>
NO CAUSE OF ACTION	<p>The District's determination of the appropriateness of an intensive program of instruction for a student is final and does not create a cause of action.</p> <p><i>Education Code 28.0213</i></p>

SPECIAL PROGRAMS:
BILINGUAL EDUCATION/ESL

EHBE
(LEGAL)

TITLE III
REQUIREMENTS

A district that receives funds under Title III of the No Child Left Behind Act shall comply with the statutory requirements regarding limited English proficient (LEP) and immigrant students. *20 U.S.C. 6801–7014*

STATE POLICY

It is the policy of the State that every student who has a home language other than English and who is identified as LEP shall be provided a full opportunity to participate in a bilingual education or English as a second language (ESL) program.

DISTRICT
RESPONSIBILITY

Each district shall:

1. Identify LEP students based on criteria established by the State;
2. Provide bilingual education and ESL programs, as integral parts of the regular program;
3. Seek certified teaching personnel to ensure that LEP students are afforded full opportunity to master the essential knowledge and skills; and
4. Assess achievement for essential knowledge and skills in accordance with Education Code chapter 39 to ensure accountability for LEP students and the schools that serve them.

Education Code 29.051; 19 TAC 89.1201(a)

IDENTIFICATION OF
LEP STUDENTS

Within the first four weeks of the first day of school, the language proficiency assessment committee (LPAC) shall determine and report to the Board the number of LEP students on each campus and shall classify each student according to the language in which the student possesses primary proficiency. The Board shall report that information to TEA before November 1 each year. *Education Code 29.053(b)*

LANGUAGE
PROFICIENCY
ASSESSMENT
COMMITTEES
(LPAC)

Each district that is required to offer bilingual and special language programs shall, by local Board policy, establish a language proficiency assessment committee (LPAC). The District shall establish and operate a sufficient number of LPACs to enable them to discharge their duties within four weeks of the enrollment of LEP students. The District shall have on file policy and procedures for the selection, appointment, and training of members of the LPAC.

MEMBERSHIP
OF LPAC

The LPAC shall include:

1. A professional bilingual educator;
2. A professional transitional language educator;

3. A parent of a LEP student; and
4. A campus administrator.

The District may add other members to the committee in any of the required categories. If the District does not have an individual in one or more of the job classifications required, it shall designate another professional staff member to serve on the LPAC.

In districts and grade levels at which the District is not required to provide a bilingual education program, the LPAC shall be composed of one or more professional personnel and a District-designated parent of an LEP student.

No parent serving on the LPAC shall be an employee of the District.

All members of the LPAC, including parents, shall be acting for the District and shall observe all laws and rules governing confidentiality of information concerning individual students. The District shall be responsible for the orientation and training of all members, including the parents, of the LPAC.

Education Code 29.063(a), (b); 19 TAC 89.1220(a)–(f)

DUTIES

The LPAC shall have the duties set forth at Education Code 29.063(c) and 19 TAC 89.1220(g)–(j), (l).

HOME LANGUAGE
SURVEY

Within four weeks of each student's enrollment, the District shall conduct a home language survey to determine the language normally used in the home and the language normally used by the student. The home language survey shall be conducted in English and in the home language, and signed by the student's parents if the student is in kindergarten through grade 8, or by the student if the student is in grades 9 through 12. The original copy of the survey shall be retained in the student's permanent record.

If a student is identified through the home language survey as normally speaking a language other than English, the student shall be tested in accordance with 19 TAC 89.1225 or, for students with disabilities, 19 TAC 89.1230.

Education Code 29.056(a); 19 TAC 89.1215

LEP
CLASSIFICATION

The LPAC may classify a student as LEP if:

1. The student's ability in English is so limited or the student's disabilities are so severe that assessment procedures cannot be administered;
2. The student's score or relative degree of achievement on the TEA-approved English proficiency test is below the levels established by TEA as indicative of reasonable proficiency;

3. The student's primary language proficiency score as measured by a TEA-approved test is greater than the student's proficiency in English; or
4. The LPAC determines, based on other information, including a teacher evaluation, parental viewpoint, or student interview, that the student's primary language proficiency is greater than the student's proficiency in English or that the student is not reasonably proficient in English.

Education Code 29.056(c)

PARENTAL NOTICE
AND CONSENT

Within ten days of the LPAC's classification of a student as LEP, the LPAC shall give written notice to the student's parent. The notice must be in English and in the parent's primary language. The notice shall inform the parents of the benefits of the program for which the student is recommended and that it is an integral part of the school program.

Pending parent approval, the District shall place the student in the recommended program, but may count only those students with parent approval for bilingual education allotment.

Education Code 29.056(a), (d); 19 TAC 89.1220(k)

PARTICIPATION OF
NON-LEP
STUDENTS

With the approval of the District and a student's parents, a student who is not LEP may also participate in a bilingual education program. The number of participating students who are not LEP may not exceed 40 percent of the number of students enrolled in the program. *Education Code 29.058*

BILINGUAL AND ESL
PROGRAMS

Each district with an enrollment of 20 or more LEP students in any language classification in the same grade shall offer a bilingual education or special language program, as follows:

1. Kindergarten through elementary grades: the District shall offer bilingual education.
2. Post-elementary through grade 8: the District shall offer bilingual education, ESL, or other transitional language instruction approved by TEA.
3. Grades 9 through 12: the District shall offer instruction in ESL.

If a program other than bilingual education must be used in kindergarten through the elementary grades, documentation for the exception must be filed with and approved by TEA.

Education Code 29.053(c), (d), 29.054

PROGRAM
CONTENT

The District's bilingual education program shall be a full-time program of dual-language instruction that provides for learning

basic skills in the primary language of the students enrolled in the program and for carefully structured and sequenced mastery of English language skills.

An ESL program shall be an intensive program of instruction in English from teachers trained in recognizing and dealing with language differences. The bilingual or ESL program shall be designed to consider the students' learning experiences and shall incorporate the cultural aspects of the students' backgrounds.

Students enrolled in the bilingual or ESL programs shall be placed in classes with other students of approximately the same age and level of educational attainment. The District shall ensure that each student's instruction is appropriate to the student's level of educational attainment, and the District shall keep adequate records of the educational level and progress of each student enrolled in the program.

LEP students shall participate fully with English-speaking students in regular classes provided in subjects such as art, music, and physical education. The District shall provide students enrolled in the bilingual or ESL program a meaningful opportunity to participate fully with other students in all extracurricular activities. Elective courses may be taught in a language other than English.

Education Code 29.055, 29.057(b); 19 TAC 89.1010(g)

FACILITIES

Bilingual education and special language programs shall be located in the District's regular schools rather than in separate facilities. The District may concentrate the programs at a limited number of schools, provided that the enrollment in those schools shall not exceed 60 percent LEP students. *Education Code 29.057; 19 TAC 89.1235*

COOPERATION
AMONG DISTRICTS

The District may join with one or more other districts to provide the required bilingual and special education programs. The availability of the programs shall be publicized throughout the districts involved.

The District may allow a nonresident LEP student to enroll in or attend its bilingual education or special language program if the student's district of residence does not provide an appropriate program. The tuition for the student shall be paid by the district of residence.

Education Code 29.059

SUMMER
PROGRAM

If the District is required to offer a bilingual education or special language program, it shall offer a voluntary summer school program for LEP children who will be eligible for admission to kindergarten or first grade at the beginning of the next school year.

A school that operates on a semester system shall offer the program during the period school is recessed for the summer and for one-half day for eight weeks or on a similar schedule approved by the Board. A school that operates on any other system shall offer 120 hours of instruction on a schedule established by the Board.

The program must be an intensive bilingual education or special language program that meets the standards set by TEA, and the student/teacher ratio may not exceed 18:1. The District shall comply with the requirements of 19 TAC 89.1250 in providing such a program.

OTHER PROGRAM

The District may establish on a full- or part-time basis other summer school, extended day, or extended week bilingual or special language programs for LEP students and may join with other districts in establishing such programs.

Neither the summer program nor the other programs may substitute for the program to be provided during the regular school year.

Education Code 29.060

PERSONNEL

Teachers assigned to bilingual education and ESL programs must be appropriately certified in bilingual education or ESL, respectively. *Education Code 29.061(b), (c)*

If the District is unable to hire a sufficient number of teachers with bilingual teaching or ESL certificates, the District may file an application for exception with TEA, in accordance with 19 TAC 89.1205(h).

Education Code 29.054; 19 TAC 89.1205(g)

LEP STUDENTS AND
STATE
ASSESSMENTS

In grades 3–12, an LEP student shall participate in the assessment of academic skills in accordance with Commissioner's rules at 19 TAC Chapter 101, subchapter AA. *19 TAC 101.5(d)* [See EKB]

PROGRAM EXIT

The District may transfer an LEP student out of a bilingual education or special language program for the first time or a subsequent time if the student is able to participate equally in a regular all-English instructional program as determined by:

1. TEA-approved tests administered at the end of each school year to determine the extent to which the student has developed oral and written language proficiency and specific language skills in English;
2. Satisfactory performance on the reading assessment instrument under Education Code 39.023(a) or an English language arts assessment instrument under Education Code

39.023(c), as applicable, with the assessment instrument administered in English, or, if the student is enrolled in the first or second grade, an achievement score at or above the 40th percentile in the reading and language arts sections of an English standardized test approved by TEA; and

3. TEA-approved criterion-referenced tests and the results of a subjective teacher evaluation.

Education Code 29.056(g)

NOTICE TO
PARENTS

The District shall notify parents of a student's reclassification as English proficient and his or her exit from the bilingual or ESL program. *19 TAC 89.1240(b)*

POST-EXIT
MONITORING

The LPAC committee shall reevaluate a student who is transferred out of a bilingual education or special language program if the student earns a failing grade in a subject in the foundation curriculum during any grading period in the first two school years after the student is transferred to determine whether the student should be reenrolled in a bilingual education or special language program.

During the first two school years after a student is transferred out of a bilingual education or special language program, the LPAC shall review the student's performance and consider:

1. The total amount of time the student was enrolled in bilingual education or special language programs;
2. The student's grades each grading period in each subject in the foundation curriculum;
3. The student's performance on state assessment instruments;
4. The number of credits the student has earned toward high school graduation, if applicable; and
5. Any disciplinary actions taken against the student under Education Code Chapter 37, Subchapter A.

After the evaluation, the LPAC may require intensive instruction for the student or reenroll the student in a bilingual education or special language program.

Education Code 29.0561

Note: Only districts that identify 15 or more eligible students are required to provide prekindergarten programs.

TUITION-FREE

The District shall offer prekindergarten classes if it identifies 15 or more eligible students who are at least four years of age. The District may offer prekindergarten if it identifies 15 or more eligible children who are at least three years of age.

The District may not charge tuition for a prekindergarten program offered under these provisions.

EXEMPTION

The District may apply to the Commissioner for an exemption from the requirement that it provide a free prekindergarten program if the District would be required to construct classroom facilities in order to provide the program.

ELIGIBILITY

A child is eligible for enrollment in free prekindergarten if the child is at least three years of age and is:

1. Unable to speak and comprehend the English language;
2. Educationally disadvantaged;
3. Homeless, as defined by federal law [see FD(LEGAL)], regardless of the residence of the child, of either parent of the child, or of the child's guardian or other person having lawful control;
4. The child of an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States, including the state military forces or a reserve component of the armed forces, who is ordered to active duty by proper authority; or
5. The child of a member of the armed forces of the United States, including the state military forces or a reserve component of the armed forces, who was injured or killed while serving on active duty.

A child who is eligible for enrollment under item 4 or 5 above remains eligible if the child's parent leaves the armed forces, or is no longer on active duty, after the child begins the prekindergarten class.

NOTICE

The District shall develop a system to notify the population in the District with children who are eligible for enrollment in a free prekindergarten program of the availability of the program. The system must include public notices issued in English and Spanish.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS:
PREKINDERGARTEN

EHBG
(LEGAL)

HALF-DAY BASIS	A free prekindergarten class shall be operated on a half-day basis.
TRANSPORTATION	<p>The District is not required to provide transportation for a prekindergarten class. If transportation is provided, it is included for funding purposes as part of the regular transportation system.</p> <p><i>Education Code 29.153</i></p>
TUITION-SUPPORTED OR DISTRICT-FINANCED	<p>The District may offer on a tuition basis or use District funds to provide:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. An additional half-day of prekindergarten classes to children eligible for free prekindergarten; and2. Half-day and full-day prekindergarten classes to children not eligible for free prekindergarten. <p>The District may not adopt a tuition rate that is higher than necessary to cover the added costs of the program, including any costs associated with collecting, reporting, and analyzing data under Education Code 29.1532(c) (regarding PEIMS data for prekindergarten programs). The District must submit its proposed tuition rate to the Commissioner for approval.</p> <p><i>Education Code 29.1531</i></p>
PROGRAM DESIGN	<p>The District's prekindergarten program shall be designed to develop skills necessary for success in the regular public school curriculum, including language, mathematics, and social skills.</p> <p><i>Education Code 29.1532(a)</i></p>
PREKINDERGARTEN EXPANSION GRANT	<p>The District may use funds from grants administered by the Commissioner of Education to expand an existing half-day prekindergarten program to a full-day basis or to implement a prekindergarten program on a campus that does not have a prekindergarten program.</p> <p>The District may use funds received under this program to employ teachers and other personnel for a prekindergarten program or to acquire curriculum materials or equipment, including computers, for use in prekindergarten programs.</p> <p>The District may use funds granted under this program in contracting with another entity, including a private entity.</p> <p><i>Education Code 29.155</i></p>
READY TO READ GRANT	<p>A district that operates a prekindergarten program is eligible to apply for a Ready to Read grant if at least 75 percent of the children enrolled in the program are low-income students, as determined by Commissioner rule.</p>

Grants shall be used to provide scientific, research-based prereading instruction for the purpose of directly improving prereading skills and for identifying cost-effective models for prereading intervention. Grants funds shall be used for:

1. Professional staff development in prereading instruction;
2. Prereading curriculum and materials;
3. Prereading skills assessment materials; and
4. Employment of prereading instructors.

Education Code 29.157

STATEWIDE
INFORMATION
REFERRAL
NETWORK

The District shall provide the Texas Information and Referral Network with information regarding eligibility for and availability of child-care and education services for inclusion in the statewide information referral network. The District shall provide the information in a form determined by the executive commissioner of the Texas Health and Human Services Commission. *Gov't Code 531.0312*

“Child care and education services” includes child-care and education services provided by the District through a prekindergarten or after-school program. *Gov't Code 531.03131(a)*

Staff of the Texas Information and Referral Network shall send an electronic mail message to each appropriate entity containing the name of and contact information for each applicant and a description of the services for which the applicant is applying.

On receipt of such an electronic mail message, the District shall contact the applicant to verify information regarding the applicant's eligibility for available child-care and education services. On certifying eligibility, the District shall match the applicant with entities providing those services in the applicant's community, including local workforce development boards, local child-care providers, or a Head Start or Early Head Start program provider.

The District shall cooperate with the Texas Information and Referral Network as necessary in the administration of this project.

Gov't Code 531.0312(c)–(e)

SHARED SITE

Before establishing a new prekindergarten program, the District shall consider the possibility of sharing use of an existing Head Start or other child-care program site as a prekindergarten site. *Education Code 29.1533*

PRE-K LICENSING
STANDARDS

If the District contracts with a private entity to operate a prekindergarten program, the program shall comply at a minimum with the

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SPECIAL PROGRAMS:
PREKINDERGARTEN

EHBG
(LEGAL)

applicable child-care licensing standards adopted by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services under Human Resources Code 42.042. *Education Code 29.1532(b)*

TESTING PROGRAMS:
STATE ASSESSMENT

EKB
(LEGAL)

STATE ASSESSMENT
OF ACADEMIC SKILLS

The statewide assessment program shall be primarily knowledge and skills based to ensure accountability for student achievement that achieves the state goals for public education. The state-adopted criterion-referenced assessment program shall be designed to assess essential knowledge and skills in reading, writing, mathematics, social studies, and science. Assessment instruments shall include assessment of a student's problem-solving ability and complex-thinking skills using a method of assessing those abilities and skills that is demonstrated to be highly reliable.

The state-adopted exit-level assessment instrument shall be designed to be administered to students in grade 11 to assess essential knowledge and skills in mathematics, English language arts, social studies, and science.

Every student receiving instruction in the essential knowledge and skills shall take the appropriate criterion-referenced tests, as required by Education Code 39.023(a), (b), (c), (l), and 39.027(e).

Education Code 39.022, 39.023(a), (c), (f); 19 TAC 101.1, 101.5(a)

To be eligible to receive a high school diploma, a nonexempt student must demonstrate satisfactory performance on the exit-level test. *Education Code 39.025(b); 19 TAC 101.7(a)* [See EIF]

ADMINISTRATION

The District shall follow the test administration procedures established by TEA in the applicable test administration materials. The Superintendent shall be responsible for:

1. Maintaining the integrity of the test administration process; and
2. Ensuring that every test administrator receives at least annual training in these procedures as provided by TEA through the education service centers.

19 TAC 101.27

SCHEDULE

The Commissioner shall specify the schedule for testing. The Superintendent shall be responsible for administering tests. The Commissioner may provide alternate dates for the administration of tests required for a high school diploma to students who are migratory children and who are out of the state. *19 TAC 101.25*

ALTERNATE
TEST DATES

The Commissioner shall consider requests from districts or campuses for alternate test dates on a case-by-case basis. Alternate test dates shall only be allowed if the campus or District is closed on the day on which testing is scheduled or if there is an exceptional circumstance, defined below, that may affect the District's or campus's ability to administer an assessment or the students' performance on the assessment.

“Exceptional circumstances” include:

1. Inclement weather or natural disasters that would cause the District or campus to be closed or that would cause a small percentage of students to be in attendance on the day testing is scheduled;
2. Health epidemics that result in a large number of students being absent on the day of testing;
3. Death of a student or school official that may impact student performance; and
4. Sudden emergencies that occur on the day of testing or shortly before testing that may inhibit students from completing the assessments, such as a fire on campus, a bomb threat, an extended power outage, or a water main break.

If an alternate test date for primary test administration is approved, the Commissioner may prohibit the District or campus from participating in UIL competition on the new test date if that is determined to be in the best interest of the District, campus, and students.

19 TAC 101.5003

NOTICE TO PARENTS
AND STUDENTS

In order to provide timely and full notification of graduation requirements and of testing requirements for advancement at certain grades, the Superintendent shall be responsible for:

1. Notifying each student and the student’s parent or guardian in writing no later than the beginning of the student’s seventh-grade year of the testing requirements for graduation;
2. Notifying each student in grades 7–12 new to the District and the student’s parent or guardian in writing of the testing requirements for graduation;
3. Notifying each student who shall take the tests required for graduation and his or her parent or guardian, as well as out-of-school individuals, of the dates, times, and locations of testing;
4. Notifying each student and the student’s parent or guardian in writing no later than the beginning of the student’s first-grade year or no later than the beginning of the student’s kindergarten year, for students attending kindergarten in the District, of the testing requirements for grade advancement as specified in Education Code 28.0211 [see EIE];
5. Notifying each student in grades 1–8 who is new to the District and his or her parent or guardian in writing of the testing requirements for grade advancement; and

6. Notifying each student required to take the grade advancement tests of the dates, times, and locations of testing.

19 TAC 101.13

RETAKES

According to procedures specified in the applicable test administration materials, an eligible student or out-of-school individual who has not met graduation requirements may retest on a schedule determined by the Commissioner. A student who has been denied a diploma because the student failed to meet standards of performance on any sections of the instrument may retake the sections each time the instrument is administered. A student shall not be required to demonstrate performance at a standard higher than the one in effect when the student was first eligible to take the test.

Education Code 39.025(b); 19 TAC 101.7(a)(2), (d)

ALL STUDENTS

All students, except students who are exempted, who are in special education programs, and whose ARD committees determine the assessment instrument would not provide an appropriate measure of achievement [see ALTERNATIVE ASSESSMENT, below], shall be assessed in:

1. Mathematics, annually in grades 3 through 7 without the aid of technology and in grades 8 through 11 with the aid of technology on any assessment instruments that include algebra;
2. Reading, annually in grades 3–9;
3. Writing, including spelling and grammar, in grades 4 and 7;
4. English language arts in grade 10;
5. Social studies in grades 8 and 10; and
6. Science in grades 5, 8, and 10.

Education Code 39.023(a)

SPECIAL EDUCATION
STUDENTS

A student receiving special education services enrolled in grades 3–10 and who is receiving instruction in the essential knowledge and skills shall take the assessment of academic skills unless the student's ARD committee determines that it is an inappropriate measure of the student's academic progress as outlined in the student's IEP. If the ARD committee determines that the assessment is an inappropriate measure of the student's academic progress in whole or part, the student shall take the alternative assessment of academic skills in whole or part. Each testing accommodation shall be documented in the student's IEP in accordance with federal law. *19 TAC 101.5(b)*

ALTERNATIVE
ASSESSMENT

The ARD committee shall determine the level of performance considered to be satisfactory on the assessment instruments administered to that student in accordance with TEA rules. *Education Code 39.024(a)*

TEA shall develop or adopt appropriate criterion-referenced assessment instruments to be administered to each student in a special education program who receives modified instruction in the essential knowledge and skills identified under Education Code 28.002 for the assessed subject but for whom an assessment instrument, even with allowable modifications, would not provide an appropriate measure of student achievement, as determined by the student's admission, review, and dismissal committee.

The alternative assessment instrument must assess essential knowledge and skills and growth in the subjects of reading, mathematics, and writing and shall be administered on the same schedule as the assessment instruments administered to all other students.

Education Code 39.023(b)

The alternative assessment of academic skills will measure annual growth based on appropriate expectations for each special education student, as determined by the student's ARD committee in accordance with criteria established by the Commissioner. *19 TAC 101.23(b)*

PERMISSIBLE
ACCOMMODATIONS

Testing accommodations on the assessments administered are permitted for any student unless they would make a particular test invalid. Decisions regarding testing accommodations shall take into consideration the needs of the student and the accommodations the student routinely receives in classroom instruction.

For a student receiving special education services, the ARD committee shall determine the allowable accommodations necessary for the student to take the assessments and shall document them in the student's IEP. Permissible testing accommodations shall be described in the appropriate test administration materials.

19 TAC 101.29

EXEMPTIONS –
SPECIAL
EDUCATION

A student may be exempted from the administration of:

1. The state assessment instrument or an alternate assessment if the student is eligible for special education and the student's IEP does not include instruction in the essential knowledge and skills at any grade level;
2. Exit-level exams if the student is eligible for special education, and:

- a. The student's IEP does not include instruction in the essential knowledge and skills at any grade level; or
- b. The assessment instrument, even with allowable modifications, would not provide an appropriate measure of the student's achievement as determined by the student's ARD committee.

Education Code 39.027(a)(1), (2)

A student receiving special education services enrolled in grades 3–10, according to the grade implementation schedule stated at SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS, and who is not receiving any instruction in the essential knowledge and skills, shall be considered exempt. Each exemption shall be documented in the student's IEP in accordance with federal law. Each exempted student shall take an appropriate locally selected assessment, as determined by the student's ARD committee, in accordance with procedures developed by TEA. Student performance results on these alternate assessments must be reported to TEA. *19 TAC 101.5(c)*

LEP STUDENTS
IN SPECIAL
EDUCATION

Decisions regarding the selection of assessments for LEP students who receive special education services shall be made by the ARD committee, which includes a member of the language proficiency assessment committee (LPAC) to ensure that issues related to the student's language proficiency are duly considered. *19 TAC 1001.1009(a)*

An LEP student who receives special education services may be exempted from the English language proficiency assessments only if the ARD committee determines that these assessments cannot provide a meaningful measure of the student's annual growth in English language proficiency for reasons associated with the student's disability. *19 TAC 101.1009(c)*

The provisions at LEP STUDENTS AT OTHER GRADES apply to the assessment of academic skills and the state-developed alternative assessment of academic skills. *19 TAC 101.1009(d)*

An LEP student who receives special education services and whose parent or guardian has declined the services required by Education Code Chapter 29, Subchapter B [see EHBE], is not eligible for an exemption on the basis of limited English proficiency. *19 TAC 101.1009(e)*

STUDENTS WITH
DYSLEXIA

TEA shall adopt or develop appropriate criterion-referenced assessment instruments designed to assess the ability of and to be administered to each student who is determined to have dyslexia or a related disorder and who is an individual with a disability under 29 U.S.C. 705(20), for whom the assessment instruments, even

with allowable modifications, would not provide an appropriate measure of student achievement, as determined by the committee established by the Board to determine the placement of students with dyslexia or related disorders. The committee shall determine whether any allowable modification is necessary in administering to a student an assessment instrument required under this provision. *Education Code 39.023(n)*

LIMITED ENGLISH
PROFICIENCY (LEP)
STUDENTS

In grades 3–12, an LEP student, as defined by Education Code Chapter 29, Subchapter B, shall participate in the assessment of academic skills in accordance with Commissioner's rules at 19 TAC Chapter 101, subchapter AA. In grades 3–6, the LPAC [see EHBE] shall determine whether a nonexempt LEP student whose primary language is Spanish will take the assessment of academic skills in English or in Spanish. The decision as to the language of the assessment shall be based on the assessment that will provide the most appropriate measure of the student's academic progress. *19 TAC 101.5(d)*

ACADEMIC
PROGRESS
EVALUATION

An LEP student who is exempt from the administration of an assessment instrument who achieves reading proficiency in English as determined by the assessment system shall be administered the appropriate assessment instrument. *Education Code 39.027(e)*

TESTING IN
SPANISH

Each LEP student whose primary language is Spanish, other than a student eligible for special education services, may be assessed using assessment instruments in Spanish for up to three years or assessment instruments in English. The LPAC shall determine which students are to be administered assessment instruments in Spanish. *Education Code 39.023(l), (m)*

ENGLISH
LANGUAGE
PROFICIENCY
TESTS

In kindergarten through grade 12, LEP students shall be administered state-identified English language proficiency assessments annually in listening, speaking, reading, and writing to fulfill the state requirements for the assessment of academic skills and federal requirements under the No Child Left Behind Act. *19 TAC 101.1001*

LANGUAGE
PROFICIENCY
ASSESSMENT
COMMITTEE

The LPAC shall select the appropriate assessment option for each LEP student in accordance with this policy at LEP STUDENTS AT THE EXIT LEVEL and LEP STUDENTS AT OTHER GRADES. Assessment decisions must be made on an individual student basis in accordance with administrative procedures established by TEA. The LPAC must document the reason for the postponement or exemption in the student's permanent record file. The District shall make a reasonable effort to determine a student's previous testing history. *19 TAC 101.1003*

EXEMPTIONS

A student may be exempted from the administration of the state assessment of academic skills:

1. For up to one year if the student is of limited English proficiency and has not demonstrated proficiency in English as determined by the assessment system developed to evaluate academic progress of an LEP student; or
2. For an additional two years if the student received the one year exemption and is a recent unschooled immigrant or is in a grade for which no assessment instrument in the primary language of the student is available.

“Recent unschooled immigrant” means an immigrant who initially enrolled in a school in the United States not more than 12 months before the date of the administration of an assessment of academic skills and who, as a result of inadequate schooling outside of the United States, lacks the necessary foundation in the essential knowledge and skills of the curriculum determined by the LPAC. [See EHBE] To the extent authorized by federal law, a child’s prior enrollment in a school in the United States shall be determined on the basis of documents and records required for enrollment. [See FD]

Education Code 39.027(a)(3), (4), (g)

LEP STUDENTS AT
THE EXIT LEVEL

LEP students are not eligible for an exemption from the exit-level assessment of academic skills on the basis of limited English proficiency. However, LEP students who are recent immigrants may postpone one time the initial administration of the exit-level test. “Recent immigrant” means an immigrant who first enrolls in U.S. schools no more than 12 months before the administration of the test from which the postponement is sought. *19 TAC 101.1005*

LEP STUDENTS AT
OTHER GRADES

In grades 3–6, the LPAC shall determine whether an LEP student is administered the assessment of academic skills in English or in Spanish. An LEP student may be administered a Spanish version of the assessment of academic skills for a maximum of three years. If the LEP student is an immigrant, the number of LEP exemptions and administrations of the assessment in Spanish must not exceed three.

IMMIGRANT
STUDENTS

Certain immigrant LEP students who have had inadequate schooling outside the U.S. may be eligible for an exemption from the assessment of academic skills during a period not to exceed their first three school years of enrollment in U.S. schools. “Immigrant” is defined as a student who has resided outside the 50 United States for at least two consecutive years.

1. An immigrant LEP student who achieves a rating of advanced high on the state-administered reading proficiency tests in

English during the student's first school year of enrollment in U.S. schools is not eligible for an exemption in the second or third school year of enrollment in U.S. schools. An immigrant LEP student who achieves a rating of advanced or advanced high on this assessment during the student's second school year of enrollment in U.S. schools is not eligible for an exemption in the third school year of enrollment in U.S. schools.

2. During the first school year of enrollment in U.S. schools, the immigrant student may be granted an LEP exemption if the LPAC determines that the student has not had the schooling outside the U.S. necessary to provide the foundation of learning that Texas schools require and measure on the assessment, whether the foundation be in knowledge of the English language or specific academic skills and concepts in the subjects assessed.
3. During the second and third school year of enrollment in U.S. schools, the immigrant student whose schooling outside the U.S. was inadequate and for whom a primary language assessment is not available may be granted an LEP exemption if the LPAC determines that the student lacks the academic language proficiency in English necessary for an assessment of academic skills in English to measure the student's academic progress in a valid, reliable manner.
4. During the second and third school year of enrollment in U.S. schools, the immigrant student whose schooling outside the U.S. was inadequate and for whom a Spanish-version assessment is available is not eligible for an LEP exemption and must take the assessment in either English or Spanish unless:
 - a. The student is in an English as a second language program that does not call for instruction in Spanish and the LPAC determines that the student lacks the language proficiency in English and the academic instruction and/or literacy in Spanish for the assessment in either English or Spanish to measure the student's academic progress in a valid, reliable manner; or
 - b. The student is in a bilingual education program and the LPAC has documentation, including signed verification by the parent or guardian whenever possible, that there was an extensive period of time outside the U.S. in which the student did not attend school and that this absence of schooling resulted in such limited academic achievement and/or literacy that assessment in either English or Spanish is inappropriate as a measure for

school accountability. The term “extensive period of time outside the U.S.,” as used in this paragraph, shall be defined in the test administration materials.

Students exempted under the above provisions shall be administered assessments in subjects and grades required by federal law and regulations as delineated in the test administration materials. Exempt students assessed only for federal accountability purposes shall not be subject to the grade advancement requirements under the Student Success Initiative.

An LEP student whose parent or guardian has declined the services required by Education Code Chapter 29, Subchapter B [see EHBE], is not eligible for an exemption under the above provisions. The student shall take the assessments of academic skills in English and the English Language Proficiency Assessments.

The District may administer the assessment of academic skills in Spanish to a student who is not identified as LEP but who participates in a two-way bilingual program if the LPAC determines the assessment in Spanish to be the most appropriate measure of the student’s academic progress. However, the student may not be administered the Spanish-version assessment for longer than three years.

19 TAC 101.1007

EXIT-LEVEL TEST —
STUDENTS FROM
OTHER STATES

The Commissioner by rule shall adopt one or more alternative, nationally recognized, norm-referenced assessment instruments to administer to a student to qualify for a high school diploma if the student enrolls after January 1 of the school year in which the student is otherwise eligible to graduate:

1. For the first time in a public school in Texas; or
2. After an absence of at least four years from any public school in Texas.

Education Code 39.025(d)

FOREIGN EXCHANGE
STUDENTS

A foreign exchange student who has waived in writing his or her intention to receive a Texas high school diploma may be excused from the exit-level assessment requirement. *19 TAC 101.7(a)(3)*

REPORTING
RESULTS

TO THE PUBLIC

Overall student performance data, aggregated by ethnicity, sex, grade level, subject area, campus, and District, shall be made available to the public, with appropriate interpretations, at regularly scheduled meetings of the Board, after receipt from TEA. The information shall not contain the names of individual students or teachers. *Education Code 39.030(b)*

TESTING PROGRAMS:
STATE ASSESSMENT

EKB
(LEGAL)

TO THE BOARD	The Superintendent shall accurately report all test results with appropriate interpretations to the Board according to the schedule in the applicable test administration materials.
TO PARENTS AND STUDENTS	The District shall notify each of its students and his or her parent or guardian of test results, observing confidentiality requirements stated at CONFIDENTIALITY. All test results shall be included in each student's academic achievement record and shall be furnished for each student transferring to another district or school. [See BQ series, FD, and FL] <i>19 TAC 101.81; No Child Left Behind Act, 20 U.S.C. 6311(h)(6)</i>
PARENTAL ACCESS	A parent is entitled to access to a copy of each state assessment instrument administered to the parent's child. This right of access does not apply, however, to those instruments or particular questions that are being field-tested by TEA. <i>Education Code 26.005, 26.006(a)(2)</i>
SECURITY	The statewide assessment program is a secure testing program. Procedures for maintaining security shall be specified in the appropriate test administration materials. Secure test materials must be accounted for before, during, and after each test administration. Only authorized personnel may have access to secure test materials. <i>19 TAC 101.61</i>
CONFIDENTIALITY	The contents of each test booklet and answer document are confidential in accordance with state and federal law. Individual student performance results are confidential and may be released only in accordance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974. <i>Education Code 39.030(b); 19 TAC 101.63</i> [See FL and GBA]
PENALTIES	Violation of security or confidential integrity of any test shall be prohibited. A person who engages in prohibited conduct may be subject to sanction of credentials. Procedures for maintaining the security and confidential integrity of a test shall be specified in the appropriate test administration materials. Conduct that violates the security and confidential integrity of a test is defined as any departure from the test administration procedures established by the Commissioner. Conduct of this nature may include the following acts and omissions: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Duplicating secure examination materials;2. Disclosing the contents of any portion of a secure test;3. Providing, suggesting, or indicating to an examinee a response or answer to a secure test item or prompt;

4. Changing or altering a response or answer of an examinee to a secure test item or prompt;
5. Aiding or assisting an examinee with a response or answer to a secure test item or prompt;
6. Encouraging or assisting an individual to engage in the conduct described in 1–5 above; or
7. Failing to report to an appropriate authority that an individual has engaged in conduct outlined in 1–6 above.

Any person who violates, assists in the violation of, or solicits another to violate or assist in the violation of test security or confidential integrity, and any person who fails to report such a violation are subject to the following penalties:

1. Placement of restrictions on the issuance, renewal, or holding of a Texas teacher certificate, either indefinitely or for a set term;
2. Issuance of an inscribed or non-inscribed reprimand;
3. Suspension of a Texas teacher certificate for a set term; or
4. Revocation or cancellation of a Texas teacher certificate without opportunity for reapplication for a set term or permanently.

Any irregularities in test security or confidential integrity may also result in the invalidation of student results.

The Superintendent and campus principal shall develop procedures to ensure the security and confidential integrity of the tests and shall be responsible for notifying TEA in writing of conduct that violates the security or confidential integrity of a test. Failure to report can subject the person responsible to the applicable penalties specified above.

19 TAC 101.65

INTERDISTRICT TRANSFERS:
PUBLIC EDUCATION GRANTS

FDA
(LEGAL)

An eligible student may attend a public school in the district in which the student resides or may use a public education grant to attend any other district chosen by the student's parent. *Education Code 29.201*

ELIGIBLE STUDENT

A student is eligible to receive a public education grant or to attend another public school in the district in which the student resides if the student is assigned to attend a public school campus:

1. At which 50 percent or more of the students did not perform satisfactorily on the state-mandated assessments in any two of the three preceding years; or
2. That was considered academically unacceptable at any time in the preceding three years.

After a student has used a public education grant to attend a school in a district other than the district in which the student resides:

1. The student does not become ineligible for the grant if the school on which the student's initial eligibility is based no longer meets the criteria; and
2. The student becomes ineligible for the grant if the student is assigned to attend a school that does not meet the criteria described above.

Education Code 29.201, 29.202

FUNDING

The District is entitled to a public education grant allotment for each eligible student using a public education grant.

The District is entitled to additional facilities assistance under Education Code 42.4101 if the District agrees to:

1. Accept a number of students using public education grants that is at least one percent of the District's average daily attendance for the preceding school year; and
2. Provide services to each student until the student either voluntarily decides to attend a school in a different district or graduates from high school.

AVERAGE DAILY
ATTENDANCE

A student who uses a public education grant to attend a public school in a district other than the district in which the student resides is included in the average daily attendance of the district in which the student attends school.

Education Code 29.203(a)-(c); 19 TAC 61.1011

INTERDISTRICT TRANSFERS:
PUBLIC EDUCATION GRANTS

FDA
(LEGAL)

ADMISSION	A district chosen by a student's parent under Education Code section 29.201 is entitled to accept or reject the application for the student to attend school in that district, but may not use criteria that discriminate on the basis of the student's race, ethnicity, academic achievement, athletic abilities, language proficiency, sex, or socioeconomic status.
PRIORITIES	If the District has more acceptable applicants for attendance under public education grants than available positions, it must give priority to students at risk of dropping out of school, as defined by Education Code section 29.081 [see EHBC] and must fill the available positions by lottery.
EXCEPTION	To achieve continuity in education, however, the District may give preference over at-risk students to: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Enrolled students; or2. Siblings or other children residing in the same household as enrolled students, for the convenience of parents, guardians, or custodians of those children.
TUITION	A district chosen by a student's parent under a public education grant may not charge the student tuition. <i>Education Code 29.203(b), (c)</i>
TRANSPORTATION	The district in which a student resides shall provide each student attending a school in another district under a public education grant transportation free of charge to and from the school the student would otherwise attend. <i>Education Code 29.203(f)</i>
CONTRACT FOR SERVICES	The Board may contract for the provision of educational services to a student eligible to receive a public education grant. <i>Education Code 29.205</i>
COMMISSIONER'S NOTICE	Not later than February 1 of each year, the District shall notify the parent of each student in the District assigned to attend a campus described by Education Code 29.202 that the student is eligible for a public education grant. The notice must contain a clear, concise explanation of the public education grant program and of the manner in which the parent may obtain further information about the program. <i>Education Code 29.204</i>

ASSIGNMENTS

The Board or its designee may assign and transfer any student from one school facility or classroom to another facility or classroom within its jurisdiction. *Education Code 25.031*

The Board or its designee must make the decision concerning the assignment or transfer of a student on an individual basis and may not consider as a factor in its decision any matter relating to the national origin of the student or the student's ancestral language. *Education Code 25.032*

PETITIONS AND
OBJECTIONS

The parent or person standing in parental relation may by written petition either:

1. Request the assignment or transfer of the student to a designated school or to a school to be designated by the Board; or
2. File objections to the assignment of the student to the school to which the student has been assigned.

Education Code 25.033; 26.003(a)(1)

PROCEDURE

Upon receiving a written petition, the Board shall proceed as follows:

1. If no hearing is requested, act on the petition not later than the 30th day after the petition is submitted and notify the petitioner of its conclusion; or
2. If a hearing is requested, designate a time and place for holding a hearing not later than the 30th day after the petition is submitted.

If a hearing is requested, it shall be conducted by the Board in compliance with the following:

1. The petitioner may present evidence relevant to the student.
2. The Board may conduct investigations as to the objection or request, examine any student involved, and employ agents, professional or otherwise, for the purpose of examinations and investigations.

BOARD'S
DECISION

The decision of the Board, with or without a hearing, shall be final, unless the student, or the parent, guardian, or custodian of the student as next friend, files an exception to the decision as constituting a denial of any right of the student guaranteed under the U.S. Constitution.

If such an exception is filed, the Board may reconsider its decision. If the Board has not ruled on the exception before the 16th day after the date of the filing, the objection is considered overruled. If

the exception is overruled, an appeal of the Board's decision may be filed in the district court of the county in which the Board is located.

Education Code 25.034

VICTIM OF BULLYING

On the request of a parent or other person with authority to act on behalf of a student who is a victim of bullying, the Board or its designee shall transfer the victim to:

1. Another classroom at the campus to which the victim was assigned at the time the bullying occurred; or
2. A campus in the District other than the campus to which the victim was assigned at the time the bullying occurred.

"Bullying" means engaging in written or verbal expression or physical conduct that the Board or its designee determines:

1. Will have the effect of physically harming a student, damaging a student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or of damage to the student's property; or
2. Is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that the action or threat creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for a student.

The Board or designee shall verify that a student has been a victim of bullying before transferring the student. The Board may consider past student behavior when identifying a bully.

The determination by the Board or designee is final and may not be appealed. The procedures set forth at Education Code 25.034 (see PROCEDURE, above) do not apply to a transfer under this provision.

The District is not required to provide transportation to a student who transfers to another campus under this provision.

Education Code 25.0341

Note: For bullying rising to the level of prohibited harassment, see also FFH.

OTHERS IN SPECIAL
EDUCATION
STUDENT'S
HOUSEHOLD

If the District assigns a student to a District campus other than the campus the student would attend based on the student's residence, for purposes of receiving special education services, the District shall permit the student's parent, guardian, or other person

standing in parental relation to the student to obtain a transfer to the assigned campus for any other student residing in the household of the student receiving special education services, subject to the conditions below.

A student residing in the same household as the transferred special education student is eligible for a transfer if:

1. The other student is entitled to attend school in the District [see FD];
2. The appropriate grade level for the other student is offered at the campus.

This provision does not apply if the student receiving special education services resides in a residential facility.

Education Code section 25.034 [see PETITIONS AND OBJECTIONS, PROCEDURE, above] does not apply to a transfer under this provision.

TRANSPORTATION

The District is not required to provide transportation to a student who transfers to another campus under this provision. This provision does not affect any transportation services provided by the District in accordance with other law for students receiving special education services.

Education Code 25.0343

STUDENTS IN
ACADEMICALLY
UNACCEPTABLE
SCHOOLS

A student is eligible to attend another public school in the district in which the student resides if the student is assigned to attend a public school campus:

1. At which 50 percent or more of the students did not perform satisfactorily on the state-mandated assessment in any two of the three preceding years; or
2. That was considered academically unacceptable at any time in the preceding three years.

Education Code 29.202(a) [See FDAA]

STUDENTS IN
SCHOOLS
IDENTIFIED FOR
IMPROVEMENT

If a school is identified for school improvement, pursuant to the No Child Left Behind Act, the District shall provide all students enrolled in the school with the option to transfer to another public school served by the District, which may include a public charter school, that has not been identified for school improvement, unless such an option is prohibited by state law. The District shall provide this option not later than the first day of the school year following such identification.

ADMISSIONS:
INTRADISTRICT TRANSFERS

FDB
(LEGAL)

The District shall give priority to the lowest achieving children from low-income families. Students who use the option to transfer shall be enrolled in classes and other activities in the public school to which the students transfer in the same manner as all other children at the public school.

The District shall permit a child who transferred to another school to remain in that school until the child has completed the highest grade in that school. The obligation of the District to provide, or to provide for, transportation for the child ends at the end of a school year if the District determines that the school from which the child transferred is no longer identified for school improvement or subject to corrective action or restructuring.

No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, 20 U.S.C. 6316(b)(1)(E), (F), 6316(b)(13)

Note: See also EHBD for identification for school improvement and FDD for the school safety transfer option in Title I programs.

CLASS CHANGES

A parent or person standing in parental relation is entitled to reasonable access to the school principal, or to a designated administrator with authority to reassign a student, to request a change in the class or teacher to which the parent's child has been assigned, if the reassignment or change would not affect the assignment or reassignment of another student. The decision of the Board regarding such a request is final and may not be appealed. *Education Code 26.002, 26.003(a)(2), (b)* [See FNG]

ATTENDANCE:
COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE

FEA
(LEGAL)

GENERAL RULE

Students who are at least six years of age, or who have been previously enrolled in first grade, and who have not yet reached their eighteenth birthday shall attend school for the entire period the program is offered, unless exempted as indicated below. Students enrolled in prekindergarten or kindergarten shall attend school.

STUDENTS 18 AND OVER

A person who voluntarily enrolls in school or voluntarily attends school after the person's eighteenth birthday shall attend school each school day for the entire period the program of instruction is offered. The District may revoke for the remainder of the school year the enrollment of a person who has more than five unexcused absences in a semester. A person whose enrollment is revoked for exceeding this limit may be considered an unauthorized person on school grounds for the purposes of Education Code 37.107 regarding trespassing.

ACCELERATED /
COMPENSATORY
PROGRAMS

A student must also attend:

1. An extended-year program for which the student is eligible that is provided by the District for students identified as likely not to be promoted to the next grade level or tutorial classes required by the District under Education Code 29.084 [see EHBC];
2. An accelerated reading instruction program to which the student has been assigned under Education Code 28.006(g) [see EKC];
3. An accelerated instruction program to which the student is assigned under Education Code 28.0211 [see EIE];
4. A basic skills program to which the student is assigned under Education Code 29.086 [see EHBC]; or
5. A summer program provided:
 - a. To a student placed in in-school suspension or other alternative setting, other than a disciplinary alternative education program (DAEP), who has been offered the opportunity to complete each course in which the student was enrolled at the time of removal. [See FO]
 - b. To a student removed to a DAEP who has been offered an opportunity to complete coursework, before the beginning of the next school year. [See FOCA]

Education Code 25.085

EXEMPTIONS

Students who meet one or more of the following conditions shall be exempt from compulsory attendance requirements:

ATTENDANCE:
COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE

FEA
(LEGAL)

- | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| EQUIVALENCY
DIPLOMA | 1. | The student is at least 17 years of age and has been issued a high school equivalency certificate or diploma. |
| PRIVATE OR HOME
SCHOOL | 2. | <p>The student attends a private or parochial school that includes in its course a study of good citizenship.</p> <p>A student in a home school shall be exempt from compulsory attendance if he or she is pursuing in good faith a curriculum consisting of books, workbooks, other written materials (including those that appear on an electronic screen of either a computer or video tape monitor), or any combination of these. The curriculum shall be designed to meet basic education goals of reading, spelling, grammar, mathematics, and a study of good citizenship. <i>TEA v. Leeper, 893 S.W.2d 432 (Tex. 1994)</i></p> |
| SPECIAL
EDUCATION —
NONDISTRICT
PLACEMENT | 3. | The student is eligible to participate in the District's special education program under Education Code 29.003 and cannot be appropriately served by the resident district. |
| MEDICAL
CONDITION | 4. | The student has a temporary and remediable physical or mental condition that renders attendance infeasible and the student has a certificate from a qualified physician that specifies the condition, indicates the prescribed treatment, and covers the anticipated time of absence needed for receiving and recuperating from remedial treatment. |
| EXPULSION — NO
JJAEP | 5. | The student has been expelled in accordance with legal requirements in a district that does not participate in a mandatory juvenile justice alternative education program. [See FOD] |
| 17-YEAR-OLD IN
GED COURSE | 6. | <p>The student is at least 17 years old, is attending a course of instruction to prepare for the high school equivalency examinations, and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Has the permission of the student's parent or guardian to attend the course;b. Is required by court order to attend the course;c. Has established a residence separate and apart from the student's parent, guardian, or other person having lawful control of the student; ord. Is homeless as defined by 42 U.S.C. 11302. |
| HIGH SCHOOL
REPLACEMENT
PROGRAMS | 7. | The student is enrolled in the Texas Academy of Leadership in the Humanities or Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science. |

ATTENDANCE:
COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE

FEA
(LEGAL)

16-YEAR-OLD IN
GED PROGRAM OR
JOB CORPS

8. The student is at least 16 years old and is attending a course of instruction to prepare for the high school equivalency examinations, if:
 - a. The student is recommended to take the course by a public agency that has supervision or custody of the student under a court order; or
 - b. The student is enrolled in a Job Corps training program under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, 29 U.S.C. 2801.

OTHER
EXEMPTION

9. The student is specifically exempted under another law.
Education Code 25.086

EXCUSED ABSENCES

TEMPORARY
ABSENCES

A person required to attend school may be excused for temporary absence resulting from any cause acceptable to the teacher, principal, or superintendent of the school in which the person is enrolled. *Education Code 25.087*

SPECIAL
EDUCATION
MATTERS

Students may be excused for special education assessment procedures and for special education-related services. *19 TAC 129.21(l)*

COURT
PROCEEDINGS

A student who has been referred to a juvenile court for delinquent conduct or conduct indicating a need for supervision shall receive an excused absence for any missed class when:

1. The assigned juvenile judge or probation officer has detained the student or required the student to participate in activities related to the student's referral;
2. Detention or participation in such activities resulted in absence from class;
3. The probation officer communicates the cause of the absence in writing to District personnel; and
4. The student successfully completes all missed assignments.

19 TAC 129.22(a)

HUMAN SERVICES
ACTIVITIES

A student who has been referred to the Texas Department of Human Services or a county or local welfare unit on the basis that he or she has been abused or is neglected shall be excused when:

1. The assigned caseworker has required the student to participate in activities related to the student's referral;
2. Participation in such activities resulted in an absence from class;

ATTENDANCE:
COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE

FEA
(LEGAL)

3. The caseworker communicates the cause of the absence in writing to District personnel; and
4. The student successfully completes all missed assignments.

19 TAC 129.22(b)

HOLY DAYS

The District shall excuse a student from attending school for the purpose of observing religious holy days, including traveling for that purpose. Excused days for travel shall be limited to not more than one day for travel to and one day for travel from the site where the student will observe the religious holy days.

HEALTH CARE
APPOINTMENTS

The District shall excuse a student for temporary absence resulting from an appointment with a health-care professional if that student commences classes or returns to school on the same day of the appointment.

Education Code 25.087; 19 TAC 129.21(k) [See FEB]

MAKE-UP WORK

A student who is excused for the observance of a religious holy day or for a temporary medical absence shall be allowed a reasonable time to make up school work missed on those days. If the student satisfactorily completes the work, the days of absence shall be counted as days of compulsory attendance. The student shall not be penalized for the absence. *Education Code 25.087*

In the case of a student who has missed class due to court proceedings or human services activities, it is the responsibility of the liaison for court-related children [see FFC(LEGAL)] to assist students and teachers to ensure that students are provided the opportunity to complete all missed assignments. *19 TAC 129.22(c)*

NOTICES TO
PARENTS

WARNING NOTICE

The District shall notify a student's parent in writing at the beginning of the school year that, if the student is absent from school on ten or more days or parts of days within a six-month period in the same school year or on three or more days or parts of days within a four-week period, the student's parent is subject to prosecution under Education Code 25.093, and the student is subject to prosecution under Education Code 25.094 or to referral to a juvenile court in a county with a population less than 100,000.

NOTICE OF
ABSENCES

The District shall notify a student's parent if the student has been absent from school, without excuse under Education Code 25.087, on three days or parts of days within a four-week period. The notice must:

1. Inform the parent that:
 - a. It is the parent's duty to monitor the student's school attendance and require the student to attend school, and

ATTENDANCE:
COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE

FEA
(LEGAL)

- b. The parent is subject to prosecution under Education Code 25.093; and
2. Request a conference between school officials and the parent to discuss the absences.

The fact that a parent did not receive the notices described above is not a defense to prosecution for the parent's failure to require a child to attend school nor for the student's failure to attend school.

Education Code 25.095

NON-ATTENDANCE
PARENT LIABILITY

If a warning notice is issued, a parent or person standing in parental relation with criminal negligence fails to require the child to attend school as required by law, and the child has absences for the amount of time specified under Education Code 25.094, the attendance officer [see FED] or other appropriate school official shall file a complaint against him or her in an appropriate court, as permitted under Education Code 25.093.

AFFIRMATIVE
DEFENSE —
PARENT

It is an affirmative defense to prosecution that one or more of the absences required to be proven was excused by a school official or should be excused by the court. A decision by the court to excuse an absence for this purpose does not affect the ability of the District to determine whether to excuse the absence for another purpose.

Education Code 25.093

STUDENT
LIABILITY

A student who is required to attend school under the compulsory attendance laws and fails to attend school on ten or more days or parts of days within a six-month period in the same school year or on three or more days or parts of days within a four-week period may be prosecuted for nonattendance in:

1. The constitutional county court of the county in which the individual resides or in which the school is located, if the county has a population of two million or more;
2. The justice court of any precinct in the county in which the student resides;
3. The justice court of any precinct in the county in which the school is located;
4. The municipal court in the municipality in which the child resides; or
5. The municipal court in the municipality in which the school is located.

Education Code 25.094(a), (b)

ATTENDANCE:
COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE

FEA
(LEGAL)

CONDUCT IN NEED OF SUPERVISION	Conduct indicating a need for supervision includes the absence of a child on ten or more days or parts of days within a six-month period in the same school year or on three or more days or parts of days within a four-week period from school. <i>Family Code 51.03(b)(2)</i>
AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE — STUDENT	<p>It is an affirmative defense to prosecution for nonattendance or to an allegation of conduct in need of supervision that one or more of the absences required to be proven were excused by a school official or by the court or that one or more of the absences were involuntary, but only if there is an insufficient number of unexcused or voluntary absences remaining to constitute an offense.</p> <p>A decision by the court to excuse an absence for this purpose does not affect the ability of the District to determine whether to excuse the absence for another purpose.</p> <p><i>Education Code 25.094(f), (g); Family Code 51.03(d)</i></p>
DISTRICT COMPLAINT OR REFERRAL	<p>If a student fails to attend school without excuse on ten or more days or parts of days within a six-month period in the same school year, the District shall within seven school days of the student's last absence:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="561 1066 1443 1234">1. File a complaint against the student or the student's parent or both in a county, justice, or municipal court for an offense under Education Code 25.093 or 25.094, as appropriate, or refer the student to a juvenile court in a county with a population of less than 100,000; or<li data-bbox="561 1266 1443 1333">2. Refer the student to a juvenile court for conduct indicating a need for supervision under Family Code 51.03(b)(2). <p>A court shall dismiss a complaint or referral by the District that does not comply with these requirements.</p> <p>The District may take the actions listed above if a student fails to attend school without excuse on three or more days or parts of days within a four-week period, but does not fail to attend school for the time specified above.</p> <p><i>Education Code 25.0951</i></p>

RECORDS	<p>The District shall maintain records to reflect the average daily attendance (ADA), as required by the Commissioner. The Superintendent, principals, and teachers shall be responsible to the Board and the state to maintain accurate, current attendance records. <i>19 TAC 129.21(a)</i></p> <p>Districts shall use the student attendance accounting standards established by the Commissioner to maintain records and make reports on student attendance and student participation in special programs. The official standards are described in TEA's <i>Student Attendance Accounting Handbook</i>. <i>19 TAC 129.1023–1025</i></p> <p>The Superintendent is responsible for the safekeeping of attendance records and reports. The Superintendent may determine whether the properly certified attendance records or reports for the school year are to be filed in the central office or properly stored on the respective school campuses of the District. Regardless of where such records are filed or stored, they must be readily available for audit by TEA. <i>19 TAC 129.21(m)</i></p>
MINIMUM ENROLLMENT	<p>A student must be enrolled for at least two hours to be considered in membership for a half-day, and for at least four hours to be considered in membership for one full day.</p>
HALF-DAY STUDENTS	<p>Students enrolled on a half-day basis may earn only half-day attendance each school day. Attendance is determined for these pupils by recording absences in a period during the half-day they are scheduled to be present.</p>
ATTENDANCE FOR STATE FUNDING PURPOSES	<p>Attendance for all grades shall be determined by the absences recorded in the second or fifth period of the day, unless the District has obtained permission from TEA for an alternate period to record absences.</p> <p>The established period in which absences are recorded may not be changed during the school year.</p> <p>Students absent during the daily period selected by the District for taking attendance shall be counted absent for the entire day. Students present at the time attendance is taken shall be counted present for the entire day.</p> <p><i>19 TAC 129.21</i></p> <p>A student in a disciplinary alternative education program shall be counted in computing the average daily attendance of students in the District for the student's time in actual attendance in the program. <i>Education Code 37.008(f)</i></p>
EXCEPTIONS	<p>A student not actually on campus when attendance is taken may be considered in attendance for Foundation School Program purposes if:</p>

ATTENDANCE:
ATTENDANCE ACCOUNTING

FEB
(LEGAL)

BOARD-
APPROVED
ACTIVITIES

1. The student is participating in a Board-approved activity under the direction of a member of the District's professional staff, or an adjunct staff member who has a bachelor's degree and is eligible for participation in TRS. [See FM]

MENTORSHIPS

2. The student is participating in a mentorship approved by District personnel to serve as one or more of the advanced measures needed to complete the Distinguished Achievement Program outlined in 19 TAC 74.13(a)(3). [See Exhibit C at EIF(EXHIBIT)]

MEDICAID
STUDENTS

3. The student is Medicaid-eligible and participating in the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment Program. Such students may be excused for up to one day at any time without loss of ADA.

RELIGIOUS
HOLY DAYS

4. The student is observing religious holy days, including days of travel to or from a site where the student will observe holy days. Excused days for travel shall be limited to not more than one day for travel to and one day for travel from the site where the student will observe the religious holy days. [See FEA]

HEALTH CARE
APPOINTMENTS

5. The student has a documented appointment with a health care professional during regular school hours, if that student commences classes or returns to school on the same day of the appointment. The appointment should be supported by a document such as a note from the health care professional.

6. The student is in attendance at a dropout recovery education program.

Education Code 25.087, 29.081(e); 19 TAC 129.21

PARENTAL CONSENT
TO LEAVE CAMPUS

Before the District or a charter school may count a student in attendance under this section or in attendance when the student was allowed to leave campus during any part of the school day, the District or charter school shall adopt a policy addressing parental consent for a student to leave campus and distribute the policy to staff and to all parents of students in the District or charter school.

19 TAC 129.21(d)

WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES:
IMMUNIZATIONS

FFAB
(LEGAL)

IMMUNIZATION
REQUIREMENT

Each student shall be fully immunized against diphtheria, rubeola (measles), rubella, mumps, tetanus, and poliomyelitis. The Texas Board of Health may modify or delete any of these immunizations or may require immunizations against additional diseases as a requirement for admission to any elementary or secondary school. *Education Code 38.001(a), (b)*

The Texas Department of State Health Services (TDSHS) requires students in kindergarten through twelfth grade to have the following additional vaccines, according to the immunization schedules set forth in department regulations: pertussis, hepatitis B, hepatitis A (for students attending schools in high incidence geographic areas as designated by the department), and varicella (chickenpox). *25 TAC 97.63(2)(B)* [See TDSHS's Web site at http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/immunize/imm_sched.shtml]

In the event of an outbreak of vaccine-preventable disease, the local health authority may require or recommend additional doses or boosters to provide further protection. *25 TAC 97.72*

APPLICABILITY

The vaccine requirements apply to all students entering, attending, enrolling in, and/or transferring to the District. *25 TAC 97.61(a)*

EXCEPTIONS

Immunization is not required for admission to the District:

1. If the student submits to the admitting official:

MEDICAL
REASONS

- a. An affidavit or a certificate signed by the student's physician (M.D. or D.O.) who is duly registered and licensed to practice medicine in the United States and who has examined the student.

The affidavit or certificate must state that, in the physician's opinion, the immunization required is medically contraindicated or poses a significant risk to the health and well-being of the student or any member of the student's household. Unless it is written in the statement that a lifelong condition exists, the exemption statement is valid for only one year from the date signed by the physician.

OR

REASONS OF
CONSCIENCE

- b. An affidavit signed by the student or, if a minor, the student's parent or guardian stating that the student declines immunization for reasons of conscience, including a religious belief. The affidavit will be valid for a two-year period.

The affidavit must be on a form obtained from the TDSHS and must be submitted to the admitting official

WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES:
IMMUNIZATIONS

FFAB
(LEGAL)

not later than the 90th day after the date the affidavit is notarized.

A student who has not received the required immunizations for reasons of conscience may be excluded from school in times of emergency or epidemic declared by the commissioner of public health.

or

MILITARY DUTY	<p>2. If the student can prove that he or she is a member of the armed forces of the United States and is on active duty.</p> <p><i>Education Code 38.001(c), (c-1), (f); Health and Safety Code 161.004(a), (d)(2), 161.0041; 25 TAC 97.62</i></p>
PROVISIONAL ADMISSION	<p>A student may be provisionally admitted or enrolled if the student has begun the required immunizations. The student must have an immunization record that indicates the student has received at least one dose of each age-appropriate vaccine specified in the regulations.</p>
COMPLETION OF VACCINATIONS	<p>To remain enrolled, the student must continue to receive the necessary immunizations as rapidly as medically feasible. The student must complete the required subsequent doses in each vaccination series on schedule and provide acceptable evidence of vaccination to the District.</p>
REVIEW OF STATUS	<p>A school nurse or school administrator shall review the immunization status of a provisionally enrolled student every 30 days to ensure continued compliance in completing the required doses of vaccination. If, at the end of the 30-day period, a student has not received a subsequent dose of vaccine, the student is not in compliance and the District will exclude the student from school attendance until the required dose is administered.</p>
HOMELESS STUDENT	<p>A student who is homeless, as defined in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Act, shall be admitted temporarily for 30 days if acceptable evidence of vaccination is not available. The school shall promptly refer the student to appropriate public health programs to obtain the required vaccinations. [See FD and FDC]</p>
TRANSFER STUDENTS	<p>A student can be enrolled provisionally for no more than 30 days if he or she transfers from one Texas school to another, and is awaiting the transfer of the immunization record.</p>
MILITARY DEPENDENTS	<p>A dependent of a person who is on active duty with the armed forces of the United States can be enrolled provisionally for no more than 30 days if the student transfers from one school to another and is awaiting the transfer of the immunization record.</p> <p><i>Education Code 38.001(e); 25 TAC 97.66, 97.69; Atty. Gen. Op. GA-178 (2004)</i></p>

WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES:
IMMUNIZATIONS

FFAB
(LEGAL)

EVIDENCE OF
IMMUNIZATION

A student shall show acceptable evidence of vaccination before entry, attendance, or transfer to the District. *25 TAC 97.63(2)*

Vaccines administered after September 1, 1991, shall include the month, day, and year each vaccine was administered. The following documentation is acceptable:

1. Documentation of vaccines administered that includes the signature or stamp of the physician or his or her designee, or public health personnel;
2. An official immunization record generated from a state or local health authority, such as a registry; or
3. A record received from school officials including a record from another state.

25 TAC 97.68

Serologic confirmations of immunity to measles, rubella, mumps, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, or varicella are acceptable. Evidence of measles, rubella, mumps, hepatitis A, or hepatitis B, or varicella illnesses must consist of a laboratory report that indicates either confirmation of immunity or infection.

A parent- or physician-validated history of varicella disease (chickenpox) or varicella immunity is acceptable in lieu of vaccine. A written statement from a physician, or the student's parent or guardian, or school nurse, must support histories of varicella disease.

25 TAC 97.65

IMMUNIZATION
RECORDS

Not later than the 30th day after a parent or other person with legal control of a student under a court order enrolls the student in the District, the parent or other person, or the district in which the student most recently attended school, shall furnish to the District a record showing that the student has the required immunizations. *Education Code 25.002(a)(3)*

Each district shall keep an individual immunization record during the period of attendance for each student admitted. The records shall be sufficient for a valid audit to be completed. The records shall be open for inspection at all reasonable times by TEA, local health departments, or the TDSHS. *Education Code 38.002(a); 25 TAC 97.67*

TRANSFER OF
RECORDS

Each district shall cooperate in transferring students' immunization records to other schools. Specific approval from students, parents, or guardians is not required before transferring those records. *Education Code 38.002(b)*

WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES:
IMMUNIZATIONS

FFAB
(LEGAL)

ANNUAL REPORT	Districts shall submit annual reports of the immunization status of students, in a format prescribed by TDSHS, to monitor compliance with immunization requirements. All districts shall submit the report at the time and in the manner indicated in the instructions printed on the form. <i>Education Code 38.002(c); 25 TAC 97.71</i>
CONSENT TO IMMUNIZATION	<p>In addition to persons authorized to consent to immunization under Family Code Chapters 151 (parents) and 153 (conservators), the following persons may consent to the immunization of a child:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="560 588 974 619">1. A guardian of the child; and<li data-bbox="560 640 1422 703">2. A person authorized under the law of another state or a court order to consent for the child. <p><i>Family Code 32.101(a)</i></p> <p>The district in which the child is enrolled may give consent to the immunization if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="560 871 1234 903">1. The persons listed above are not available; and<li data-bbox="560 924 1396 987">2. The District has written authorization to consent from a person listed above. <p><i>Family Code 32.101(b)(5)</i></p> <p>The District may not consent for the child if it has actual knowledge that a person listed above has:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="560 1144 1331 1176">1. Expressly refused to give consent to the immunization;<li data-bbox="560 1197 1136 1228">2. Been told not to consent for the child; or<li data-bbox="560 1249 1347 1312">3. Withdrawn a prior written authorization for the District to consent. <p><i>Family Code 32.101(c)</i></p>
DUTY TO PROVIDE INFORMATION	A district that consents to immunization of a child shall provide the health-care provider with sufficient and accurate health history and other information as set forth in Family Code 32.101(e).
FORM OF CONSENT	Consent to immunization must meet the requirements of Family Code 32.002(a). [See FFAC] The District has the responsibility to ensure that the consent, if given, is an informed consent. The District is not required to be present when the immunization is requested if a consent form has been given to the health-care provider. <i>Family Code 32.101(f), 32.102</i>
LIABILITY	A district consenting to immunization of a child is not liable for damages arising from an immunization administered to a child authorized under Family Code Subchapter B except for injuries resulting from the District's own acts of negligence. <i>Family Code 32.103</i>

WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES:
MEDICAL TREATMENT

FFAC
(LEGAL)

CONSENT TO
MEDICAL
TREATMENT

The school in which a minor student is enrolled may consent to medical, dental, psychological, and surgical treatment of that student, provided all of the following conditions are met:

1. The person having the power to consent as otherwise provided by law cannot be contacted.
2. Actual notice to the contrary has not been given by that person.
3. Written authorization to consent has been received from that person.

Family Code 32.001(a)(4)

FORM OF CONSENT

Consent to medical treatment under this policy shall be in writing, signed by the school official giving consent, and given to the doctor, hospital, or other medical facility that administers the treatment. The consent must contain:

1. The name of the student.
2. The name of one or both parents, if known, and the name of the managing conservator or guardian of the student, if either has been appointed.
3. The name of the person giving consent and the person's relation to the student.
4. A statement of the nature of the medical treatment to be given.
5. The date on which the treatment is to begin.

Family Code 32.002

MINOR'S CONSENT
TO TREATMENT

A minor may consent to medical, dental, psychological, and surgical treatment furnished by a licensed physician or dentist if the minor:

1. Is 16 years of age and residing separate and apart from the minor's parents, managing conservator, or guardian, with or without the consent of the parents, conservator, or guardian and regardless of the duration of the residence, and is managing his or her own financial affairs, regardless of the source of the income;
2. Consents to the diagnosis and treatment of any infectious, contagious, or communicable disease required to be reported to the Texas Department of Health, including all reportable diseases under Health and Safety Code 81.041;

WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES:
MEDICAL TREATMENT

FFAC
(LEGAL)

3. Is unmarried and pregnant, and consents to hospital, medical, or surgical treatment, other than abortion, related to her pregnancy; or
4. Consents to examination and treatment for drug or chemical addiction, drug or chemical dependency, or any other condition directly related to drug or chemical use.

Family Code 32.003; Planned Parenthood of Cent. Mo. v. Danforth, 428 U.S. 52 (1976); Bellotti v. Baird, 443 U.S. 622 (1979)

ADMINISTERING
MEDICATION

Upon adoption of policies concerning the administration of medication to students by District employees, the District, the Board, and the District's employees are immune as described below, provided:

1. The District has received a written request to administer the medication from the parent, legal guardian, or other person having legal control of the student.
2. When administering prescription medication, the medication is administered either:
 - a. From a container that appears to be the original container and to be properly labeled; or
 - b. From a properly labeled unit dosage container filled by a registered nurse or another qualified District employee, as determined by District policy, from a container that appears to be the original container and to be properly labeled.

BY VOLUNTEER
PROFESSIONALS

If the District provides liability insurance for a licensed physician or registered nurse who provides volunteer services to the District, the Board may allow the physician or nurse to administer to any student nonprescription medication or medication currently prescribed for the student by the student's personal physician.

IMMUNITY FROM
CIVIL LIABILITY

The District, the Board, and its employees shall be immune from civil liability for damages or injuries resulting from the administration of medication to a student in accordance with this policy.

Education Code 22.052(a), (b)

SELF-
ADMINISTRATION OF
ASTHMA OR
ANAPHYLAXIS
MEDICINE

A student with asthma or anaphylaxis may possess and self-administer prescription asthma or anaphylaxis medicine while on school property or at a school-related event or activity if:

1. The medicine has been prescribed for that student as indicated by the prescription label on the medicine;
2. The student has demonstrated to the student's physician or other licensed health care provider and the school nurse, if

WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES:
MEDICAL TREATMENT

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(LEGAL)

available, the skill level necessary to self-administer the prescription medication, including the use of any device required to administer the medication;

3. The self-administration is done in compliance with the prescription or written instructions from the student's physician or other licensed health care provider; and
4. A parent of the student provides to the school:
 - a. Written authorization, signed by the parent, for the student to self-administer the prescription medicine while on school property or at a school-related event or activity; and
 - b. A written statement, signed by the student's physician or other licensed health care provider, that states:
 - (1) That the student has asthma or anaphylaxis and is capable of self-administering the medicine;
 - (2) The name and purpose of the medicine;
 - (3) The prescribed dosage for the medicine;
 - (4) The times at which or circumstances under which the medicine may be administered; and
 - (5) The period for which the medicine is prescribed.

The physician's statement must be kept on file in the school nurse's office, or, if there is no school nurse, in the office of the principal of the school the student attends.

NO WAIVER OF
IMMUNITY

The provisions above neither waive any liability or immunity nor create any liability for or a cause of action against the District, the Board, or its employees.

Education Code 38.015

DIETARY
SUPPLEMENTS

A District employee commits a Class C misdemeanor offense if the employee:

1. Knowingly sells, markets, or distributes a dietary supplement that contains performance enhancing compounds to a primary or secondary education student with whom the employee has contact as part of the employee's District duties; or
2. Knowingly endorses or suggests the ingestion, intranasal application, or inhalation of a dietary supplement that contains performance enhancing compounds by a primary or second-

WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES:
MEDICAL TREATMENT

FFAC
(LEGAL)

dary education student with whom the employee has contact as part of the employee's District duties.

Education Code 38.011(a), (c)

PRESCRIPTION
MEDICATION AND
SPECIAL EDUCATION
STUDENTS

An employee of the District is prohibited from requiring a child to obtain a prescription for a substance covered under the federal Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.) as a condition of attending school, receiving an evaluation for special education, or receiving special education and related services.

An employee is not prohibited from consulting or sharing classroom-based observations with parents regarding a student's academic and functional performance, behavior in the classroom or school, or the need for evaluation for special education or related services.

20 U.S.C. 1412(a)(25)

PSYCHOTROPICS
AND PSYCHIATRIC
EVALUATIONS

A District employee may not:

1. Recommend that a student use a psychotropic drug; or
2. Suggest any particular diagnosis; or
3. Use the refusal by a parent to consent to administration of a psychotropic drug to a student or to a psychiatric evaluation or examination of a student as grounds, by itself, for prohibiting the child from attending a class or participating in a school-related activity.

Psychotropic drug means a substance that is used in the diagnosis, treatment, or prevention of a disease or as a component of a medication and intended to have an altering effect on perception, emotion, or behavior.

Education Code 38.016(b) does not:

1. Prevent an appropriate referral under the Child Find system required under 20 U.S.C. Section 1412, as amended; or
2. Prohibit a District employee who is a registered nurse, advanced nurse practitioner, physician, or certified or appropriately credentialed mental health professional from recommending that a child be evaluated by an appropriate medical practitioner; or
3. Prohibit a school employee from discussing any aspect of a child's behavior or academic progress with the child's parent or another District employee.

WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES:
MEDICAL TREATMENT

FFAC
(LEGAL)

The Board shall adopt a policy to ensure implementation and enforcement of Education Code 38.016.

A violation of Education Code 38.016(b) does not override the immunity from personal liability granted in Education Code 22.051 or other law or the District's sovereign or governmental immunity.

Education Code 38.016

STUDENT DISCIPLINE:
PLACEMENT IN A DISCIPLINARY ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION SETTING

FOC
(LEGAL)

REMOVAL UNDER
STUDENT CODE OF
CONDUCT

The Student Code of Conduct must specify conditions that authorize or require a principal or other appropriate administrator to transfer a student to a disciplinary alternative education program (DAEP). *Education Code 37.001(a)(2)*

MANDATORY
PLACEMENT IN DAEP

A student shall be removed from class and placed in a DAEP if the student engages in conduct described in Education Code 37.006 that requires placement. *Education Code 37.006*

SCHOOL-RELATED
MISCONDUCT

A student shall be removed from class and placed in a DAEP if the student engages in conduct involving a public school that contains the elements of the offense of false alarm or report under Penal Code 42.06, or terroristic threat under Penal Code 22.07.

A student shall also be removed from class and placed in a DAEP if the student commits the following on or within 300 feet of school property, as measured from any point on the school's real property boundary line, or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property:

1. Engages in conduct punishable as a felony;
2. Engages in conduct that contains the elements of assault, under Penal Code 22.01(a)(1).
3. Sells, gives, or delivers to another person or possesses, uses, or is under the influence of:
 - a. Marijuana or a controlled substance, as defined by the Texas Controlled Substances Act, Health and Safety Code Chapter 481, or by 21 U.S.C. 801, et seq.;
 - b. A dangerous drug, as defined by the Texas Dangerous Drug Act, Health and Safety Code Chapter 483.
4. Sells, gives, or delivers to another person an alcoholic beverage, as defined by Alcoholic Beverage Code 1.04, or commits a serious act or offense while under the influence of alcohol, or possesses, uses, or is under the influence of an alcoholic beverage.
5. Engages in conduct that contains the elements of an offense relating to an abusable volatile chemical under Health and Safety Code 485.031 through 485.034.
6. Engages in conduct that contains the elements of the offense of public lewdness under Penal Code 21.07.
7. Engages in conduct that contains the elements of the offense of indecent exposure under Penal Code 21.08.

Education Code 37.006(a)

STUDENT DISCIPLINE:
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FOC
(LEGAL)

EXCEPTION	Removal to a DAEP for school-related misconduct is not required if the student is expelled for the same conduct. <i>Education Code 37.006(m)</i>
RETALIATION	Except where a student engages in retaliatory acts against a District employee for which expulsion is mandatory [see FOD], a student shall be removed from class and placed in a DAEP if the student engages in conduct on or off school property containing the elements of retaliation, as defined in Penal Code 36.06, against any school employee. <i>Education Code 37.006(b)</i>
CONDUCT UNRELATED TO SCHOOL	<p>In addition to the circumstances listed above, a student shall be removed from class and placed in a DAEP based on conduct occurring off campus and while the student is not in attendance at a school-sponsored or school-related activity if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The student receives deferred prosecution under Family Code 53.03, for conduct defined as a felony offense in Title 5, Penal Code;2. A court or jury finds that the student has engaged in delinquent conduct under Family Code 54.03 for conduct defined as a felony offense in Title 5, Penal Code; or3. The Superintendent or designee has a reasonable belief that the student has engaged in conduct defined as a felony offense in Title 5, Penal Code. <p>[See FOC(EXHIBIT) for list of Title 5 felonies]</p> <p><i>Education Code 37.006(c)</i></p>
REASONABLE BELIEF	<p>In determining whether there is a reasonable belief that a student has engaged in conduct defined as a felony offense, the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee may consider all available information, including the information furnished under Code of Criminal Procedure Article 15.27.</p> <p><i>Education Code 37.006(e)</i> [See GRA]</p>
SEXUAL ASSAULT OF ANOTHER STUDENT	<p>A student shall be removed from class and placed in a DAEP or juvenile justice alternative education program (JJAEP) if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The student was convicted of, received adjudication for, or was placed on probation for sexual assault of another student while the students were assigned to the same campus, regardless of whether the assault occurred on or off school property;2. The parent of the victim of the assault has requested that the student be transferred to a campus other than that to which the victim is assigned; and

STUDENT DISCIPLINE:
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FOC
(LEGAL)

3. There is only one campus in the District serving the grade level in which the student is enrolled.

Education Code 25.0341, 37.0051(a) [See FDD]

A limitation imposed by Education Code Chapter 37 on the length of placement in a DAEP or a JJAEP does not apply to a placement under this provision. *Education Code 37.0051(b)*

PERMISSIVE
REMOVAL

NON-TITLE 5
FELONY

A student may be removed from class and placed in a DAEP based on conduct occurring off campus and while the student is not in attendance at a school-sponsored or school-related activity if:

1. The Superintendent or designee has a reasonable belief (as determined above) that the student has engaged in conduct defined as a felony offense other than those listed in Title 5, Penal Code [see FOC(EXHIBIT)]; and
2. The continued presence of the student in the regular classroom threatens the safety of other students or teachers or will be detrimental to the educational process.

Education Code 37.006(d), (e)

TITLE 5 FELONY

Notwithstanding any other provision of Education Code Chapter 37, Subchapter A, the Board, or its designee, after an opportunity for hearing, may elect to place a student in a DAEP if:

1. The student has received deferred prosecution (under Family Code 53.03) for conduct defined as a felony offense under Title 5, Penal Code; or the student has been found by a court or jury to have engaged in delinquent conduct (under Family Code 54.03) for conduct defined as a felony offense under Title 5, Penal Code; and
2. The Board or its designee determines that the student's presence in the regular classroom threatens the safety of other students or teachers, will be detrimental to the educational process, or is not in the best interests of the District's students.

The Board or its designee may order placement regardless of:

1. The date or location of the conduct;
2. Whether the conduct occurred while the student was enrolled in the District; or
3. Whether the student has successfully completed any court disposition requirements imposed in connection with the conduct.

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FOC
(LEGAL)

LENGTH OF PLACEMENT	Notwithstanding Education Code 37.009(c) (placements beyond one year) or any other provision of Education Code Chapter 37, Subchapter A, the Board or designee may order placement for any period considered necessary in connection with the above determinations. The student is entitled to the periodic review prescribed by Education Code 37.009(e).
FINAL DECISION	The decision of the Board or designee is final and may not be appealed. <i>Education Code 37.0081</i>
ONE YEAR AFTER CONDUCT	A principal or other appropriate administrator may, but is not required to, remove a student to a DAEP for off-campus conduct, for which removal would otherwise be required, if the principal or other appropriate administrator did not have knowledge of the conduct before the first anniversary of the date the conduct occurred. <i>Education Code 37.006(n)</i>
PLACEMENT OF YOUNGER STUDENTS	A student who is younger than ten shall be removed from class and placed in a DAEP if the student engages in conduct for which expulsion would be required by Section 37.007. <i>Education Code 37.006(f); 37.007(e)</i> [See FOD]
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS	An elementary school student may not be placed in a DAEP with any other student who is not an elementary school student. <i>Education Code 37.006(f)</i>
STUDENTS YOUNGER THAN SIX	Notwithstanding any other provision of the Education Code, a student who is younger than six years of age may not be removed from class and placed in a DAEP, except that a student younger than six years of age who has been expelled pursuant to the Gun Free Schools Act [see FOD] may be provided educational services in a DAEP. <i>Education Code 37.006(l)</i>
CONFERENCE	Not later than the third class day after a student is removed by a teacher or by the school principal or other appropriate administrator, the principal or other appropriate administrator shall schedule a conference among the principal or other appropriate administrator, the student's parent or guardian, the teacher removing the student from class, if any, and the student. At the conference, the student is entitled to written or oral notice of the reasons for the removal, an explanation of the basis for the removal, and an opportunity to respond to the reasons for the removal. The student may not be returned to the regular class pending the conference. Following the conference, and whether or not each requested person is in attendance after valid attempts to require the person's

STUDENT DISCIPLINE:
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(LEGAL)

attendance, the principal shall order the placement of the student for a period consistent with the Student Code of Conduct.

Education Code 37.009(a)

TERM OF REMOVAL The Board or designee shall set a term for a student's placement in a DAEP. If the period of placement is inconsistent with the guidelines in the Student Code of Conduct, the order must give notice of the inconsistency. The period of the placement may not exceed one year unless, after a review, the District determines that the student is a threat to the safety of other students or to District employees; or extended placement is in the best interest of the student. *Education Code 37.009(d)*

BEYOND GRADING PERIOD OR 60 DAYS If placement in a DAEP is to extend beyond 60 days or the end of the next grading period, whichever is earlier, the student's parent or guardian is entitled to notice of and an opportunity to participate in a proceeding before the Board or designee.

NO APPEAL Any decision of the Board or designee concerning placement beyond 60 days or the end of the next grading period is final and cannot be appealed.

Education Code 37.009(b)

BEYOND END OF SCHOOL YEAR Before a student may be placed in a DAEP for a period that extends beyond the end of the school year, the Board or designee must determine that:

1. The student's presence in the regular classroom program or at the student's regular campus presents a danger of physical harm to the student or another individual; or
2. The student has engaged in serious or persistent misbehavior that violates the Student Code of Conduct.

Education Code 37.009(c)

ORDER OF REMOVAL The Board or designee shall deliver to the student and the student's parent or guardian a copy of the order placing the student in a DAEP. *Education Code 37.009(g)*

Not later than the second business day after the date of the removal conference, the Board or designee shall deliver a copy of the order placing the student in a DAEP and any information required under Family Code 52.04 to the authorized officer of the juvenile court in the county in which the juvenile resides. *Education Code 37.010(a)*

ACTIVITIES The terms of a placement under Education Code 37.006 must prohibit the student from attending or participating in school-sponsored or school-related activities. *Education Code 37.006(g)*

STUDENT DISCIPLINE:
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FOC
(LEGAL)

In addition to any notice required under Code of Criminal Procedure 15.27 [see GRA], a principal or designee shall inform each educator who has responsibility for, or is under the direction and supervision of an educator who has responsibility for, the instruction of a student who has engaged in conduct for which DAEP placement must or may be ordered.

Each educator shall keep the information confidential from any person not entitled to the information, except that the educator may share the information with the student's parent or guardian as provided by state or federal law. An educator's certificate may be suspended or revoked for intentional failure to keep such information confidential.

Education Code 37.006(o)

COMPLETION OF
PROCEEDINGS UPON
WITHDRAWAL

If a student withdraws from the District before an order for placement in a DAEP is entered, the principal or Board, as appropriate, may complete the proceedings and enter an order. If the student re-enrolls in the District the same or subsequent school year, the District may enforce the order at that time except for any period of the placement that has been served by the student in another district that honored the order. If the principal or Board fails to enter an order after the student withdraws, the next district in which the student enrolls may complete the proceedings and enter an order.
Education Code 37.009(i)

ENROLLMENT IN
ANOTHER DISTRICT

If a student placed in a DAEP enrolls in another district before the expiration of the placement, the Board shall provide to the district in which the student enrolls a copy of the placement order at the same time it provides other records. The district in which the student enrolls shall inform each educator who will have responsibility for, or will be under the direction and supervision of an educator who will have responsibility for, the instruction of the student of the contents of the placement order. Each educator shall keep the information confidential from any person not entitled to the information, except that the educator may share the information with the student's parent or guardian as provided by state or federal law.

The district in which the student enrolls may continue the placement or allow the student to attend regular classes. [See FO] The district in which the student enrolls may take any of these actions if:

1. The student was placed in a DAEP by an open-enrollment charter school and the charter school provides the District a copy of the placement order; or
2. The student was placed in a DAEP by a district in another state and:

STUDENT DISCIPLINE:
PLACEMENT IN A DISCIPLINARY ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION SETTING

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(LEGAL)

- a. The out-of-state district provides a copy of the placement order; and
- b. The grounds for placement are the same as grounds for placement in the enrolling district.

Education Code 37.008(j)

OUT-OF-STATE
PLACEMENT

If a student was placed in a DAEP in another state for more than one year and the enrolling district continues the placement under Education Code 37.008(j), the enrolling district shall reduce the period of placement so that the aggregate period does not exceed one year unless the enrolling district determines that:

1. The student is a threat to the safety of other students or to District employees; or
2. Extended placement is in the best interest of the student.

Education Code 37.008(j-1)

COURT-ORDERED
PLACEMENT

Unless the Board and the juvenile board for the county in which the District's central administrative office is located have entered into a memorandum of understanding concerning the juvenile probation department's role in supervising and providing other support services for students in DAEP programs:

EXPELLED
STUDENT

1. A court may not order a student expelled under Section 37.007 to attend a school district DAEP as a condition of probation;

MULTIPLE
REFERRALS

2. A court may not order a student to attend a DAEP without the District's consent, until the student has successfully completed any sentencing requirements, if the court has ordered the student to attend a DAEP as a condition of probation once during a school year and the student is referred to juvenile court again during that school year.

Education Code 37.010(c), (d)

SCHOOL
ACTIVITIES

Any court placement in a DAEP must prohibit the student from attending or participating in school-sponsored or school-related activities. *Education Code 37.010(d)*

PLACEMENT
AFTER COURT
DISPOSITION

After the student has successfully completed any court disposition requirements, including conditions of deferred prosecution or conditions required by the prosecutor or probation department, the District may not refuse to admit the student if the student meets the requirements for admission into the public schools. The District may place the student in the DAEP.

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(LEGAL)

Notwithstanding Education Code 37.002(d) [see FOA], the student may not be returned to the classroom of the teacher under whose supervision the offense occurred without that teacher's consent. The teacher may not be coerced to consent.

Education Code 37.010(f)

NOT GUILTY /
INSUFFICIENT
EVIDENCE /
CHARGES DROPPED

If a student was removed to DAEP for a reason other than false alarm or report, terroristic threat, or conduct on or within 300 feet of school property, the Superintendent or designee shall review the student's placement in the DAEP upon receipt of notice under Article 15.27(g), Code of Criminal Procedure, stating that:

1. Prosecution of a student was refused for lack of prosecutorial merit or insufficient evidence, and no formal proceedings, deferred adjudication, or deferred prosecution will be initiated; or
2. A court or jury found the student not guilty or made a finding the child did not engage in delinquent conduct or conduct indicating a need for supervision and the case was dismissed with prejudice.

A student may not be returned to the regular classroom pending the review. The Superintendent or designee shall schedule a review of the student's placement with the student's parent or guardian not later than the third class day after the Superintendent or designee receives notice from the office or official designated by the court.

After reviewing the notice and receiving information from the student's parent or guardian, the Superintendent or designee may continue the student's placement in the DAEP if there is reason to believe that the presence of the student in the regular classroom threatens the safety of other students or teachers.

Education Code 37.006(h)

APPEAL AFTER
PLACEMENT
UPHELD

The student or the student's parent or guardian may appeal the Superintendent's decision to the Board. The student may not be returned to the regular classroom pending the appeal. The Board shall, at the next scheduled meeting, review the notice provided under Article 15.27(g), Code of Criminal Procedure, and receive information from the student, the student's parent or guardian, and the Superintendent or designee and confirm or reverse the Superintendent's decision. The Board shall make a record of the proceedings.

If the Board confirms the decision, the Board shall inform the student and the student's parent or guardian of the right to appeal to

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the Commissioner. The student may not be returned to the regular classroom pending the appeal to the Commissioner.

Education Code 37.006(i), (j)

120-DAY REVIEW OF
STATUS

A student placed in a DAEP shall be provided a review of the student's status, including a review of the student's academic status, by the Board's designee at intervals not to exceed 120 days. In the case of a high school student, the Board's designee, with the student's parent or guardian, shall review the student's progress toward meeting high school graduation requirements and shall establish a specific graduation plan for the student. This requirement does not, however, obligate the District to provide in the DAEP a course, except as required by Education Code 37.008(l). [See FOCA] At the review, the student or the student's parent or guardian must be given the opportunity to present arguments for the student's return to the regular classroom or campus. The student may not be returned to the classroom of the teacher that removed the student without that teacher's consent. The teacher cannot be coerced to consent. *Education Code 37.009(e)*

ADDITIONAL
PROCEEDINGS

If, during the term of placement, a student engages in additional conduct for which placement in a DAEP or expulsion is required or permitted, additional proceedings may be conducted and the principal or Board, as appropriate, may enter an additional order. *Education Code 37.009(j)*

REPORTING

The District shall include the number of students removed to a DAEP in its annual performance report. *Education Code 37.053(e)(5)* [See BR]

Note: See FOF for provisions concerning students with disabilities.
