

EMPLOYEE STANDARDS OF CONDUCT
REPORTS TO STATE BOARD FOR EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION

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REPORT REQUIRED	In addition to the reporting requirement under Family Code 261.101 [see FFG], a superintendent shall notify the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) if:
CRIMINAL HISTORY	1. An educator employed by or seeking employment with the district has a reported criminal history and the district obtained information about the educator's criminal record by a means other than the criminal history clearinghouse established by the Texas Department of Public Safety;
TERMINATION	2. An educator's employment at the district was terminated based on evidence that the educator engaged in an act of misconduct listed below;
RESIGNATION	3. An educator has submitted a notice of resignation and evidence exists that would support a finding that the educator engaged in an act of misconduct listed below; or
ASSESSMENT INSTRUMENT	4. The educator engaged in conduct that violated the assessment instrument security procedures established under Education Code 39.0301.

Education Code 21.006, 22.087; 19 TAC 249.14(d)

REPORTABLE MISCONDUCT	<p>A superintendent shall make a report to SBEC under Education Code 21.006 if there is evidence that the educator:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Sexually or physically abused or otherwise committed an unlawful act with a student or minor;2. Was involved in a romantic relationship with or solicited or engaged in sexual contact with a student or minor;3. Possessed, transferred, sold, or distributed a controlled substance, as defined by Health and Safety Code Chapter 481 or by 21 U.S.C. Section 801 et seq.;4. Illegally transferred, appropriated, or expended funds or other property of the district;5. Attempted by fraudulent or unauthorized means to obtain or alter a professional certificate or permit for the purpose of promotion or additional compensation; or6. Committed a criminal offense or any part of a criminal offense on school property or at a school-sponsored event.
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Education Code 21.006(b); 19 TAC 249.14(d)

DEFINITIONS	"Abuse" includes the following acts or omissions:
"ABUSE"	

EMPLOYEE STANDARDS OF CONDUCT
REPORTS TO STATE BOARD FOR EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION

DHB
(LEGAL)

1. Mental or emotional injury to a student or minor that results in an observable and material impairment in the student's or minor's development, learning, or psychological functioning;
2. Causing or permitting a student or minor to be in a situation in which the student or minor sustains a mental or emotional injury that results in an observable and material impairment in the student's or minor's development, learning, or psychological functioning;
3. Physical injury that results in substantial harm to a student or minor, or the genuine threat of substantial harm from physical injury to the student or minor, including an injury that is at variance with the history or explanation given and excluding an accident or reasonable discipline; or
4. Sexual conduct harmful to a student's or minor's mental, emotional, or physical welfare.

19 TAC 249.3(1)

"REPORTED
CRIMINAL HISTORY"

"Reported criminal history" means information concerning any formal criminal justice system charges and dispositions. The term includes arrests, detentions, indictments, criminal informations, convictions, deferred adjudications, and probations in any state or federal jurisdiction. *19 TAC 249.3(43)*

"SOLICITATION OF A
ROMANTIC
RELATIONSHIP"

"Solicitation of a romantic relationship" means deliberate or repeated acts that can be reasonably interpreted as the solicitation by an educator of a relationship with a student that is romantic in nature. A romantic relationship is often characterized by a strong emotional or sexual attachment and/or patterns of exclusivity, but does not include appropriate educator-student relationships that arise out of legitimate contexts such as familial connections or longtime acquaintance. The following acts, considered in context, may constitute prima facie evidence of the solicitation by an educator of a romantic relationship with a student:

1. Behavior, gestures, expressions, or communications with a student that are unrelated to the educator's job duties and evidence a romantic intent or interest in the student, including statements of love, affection, or attraction. Factors that may be considered in determining the romantic intent of such communications or behavior include:
 - a. The nature of the communications;
 - b. The timing of the communications;
 - c. The extent of the communications;

EMPLOYEE STANDARDS OF CONDUCT
REPORTS TO STATE BOARD FOR EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION

DHB
(LEGAL)

- d. Whether the communications were made openly or secretly;
 - e. The extent that the educator attempts to conceal the communications;
 - f. If the educator claims to be counseling a student, SBEC may consider whether the educator's job duties included counseling, whether the educator reported the subject of the counseling to the student's guardians or to the appropriate school personnel, or, in the case of alleged abuse or neglect, whether the educator reported the abuse or neglect to the appropriate authorities; and
 - g. Any other evidence tending to show the context of the communications between educator and student.
- 2. Making inappropriate comments about a student's body, creating or transmitting sexually suggestive photographs or images, or encouraging the student to transmit sexually suggestive photographs or images.
 - 3. Making sexually demeaning comments to a student.
 - 4. Making comments about a student's potential sexual performance.
 - 5. Requesting details of a student's sexual history.
 - 6. Requesting a date, sexual contact, or any activity intended for the sexual gratification of the educator.
 - 7. Engaging in conversations regarding the sexual problems, preferences, or fantasies of either party.
 - 8. Inappropriate hugging, kissing, or excessive touching.
 - 9. Providing the student with drugs or alcohol.
 - 10. Suggestions that a romantic relationship is desired after the student graduates, including post-graduation plans for dating or marriage.
 - 11. Any other acts tending to show that the educator solicited a romantic relationship with the student.

19 TAC 249.3(50)

A superintendent may notify SBEC of any educator misconduct that the superintendent believes in good faith may be subject to sanctions by SBEC. *19 TAC 249.14(d)*

EMPLOYEE STANDARDS OF CONDUCT
REPORTS TO STATE BOARD FOR EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION

DHB
(LEGAL)

DEADLINE TO REPORT The superintendent must notify SBEC in writing not later than the seventh day after the date the superintendent knew about an employee's termination of employment following an alleged incident of misconduct. *Education Code 21.006(c)*

CONTENTS OF REPORT The report shall include the name or names of any student or minor who is the victim of abuse or unlawful conduct by an educator. The report shall, at a minimum, describe in detail the factual circumstances requiring the report and identify the subject of the report by providing the following available information:

1. Name and any aliases;
2. Certificate number, if any, or social security number;
3. Last known mailing address and home and daytime phone numbers;
4. All available contact information for any alleged victim or victims; and
5. Name or names and any available contact information of any relevant witnesses to the circumstances requiring the report.

Education Code 21.006(c); 19 TAC 249.14(e)

A superintendent shall include the name of a student or minor who is the victim of abuse or unlawful conduct by an educator, but the name of the student or minor is not public information under Government Code Chapter 552. [See GBAA] *Education Code 21.006(h)*

ACCEPTING RESIGNATION Before accepting an employee's resignation that requires filing a report, the superintendent shall inform the educator in writing that a report will be filed and that sanctions against his or her certificate may result as a consequence. The superintendent shall notify the board before filing the report.

**NOTICE TO
EDUCATOR AND
BOARD**

**COMPLETION OF
INVESTIGATION**

A superintendent shall complete an investigation of an educator if there is reasonable cause to believe the educator may have engaged in misconduct described above despite the educator's resignation from district employment before completion of the investigation.

19 TAC 249.14(d)(3)

NOTICE A superintendent shall notify the board and the educator of the filing of a written report with SBEC. *Education Code 21.006(d)*

SANCTIONS FOR FAILURE TO REPORT A superintendent who fails to timely make a required report is subject to sanctions by SBEC. *Education Code 21.006(f); 19 TAC 249.14(e)*

EMPLOYEE STANDARDS OF CONDUCT
REPORTS TO STATE BOARD FOR EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION

DHB
(LEGAL)

IMMUNITY

A superintendent who, in good faith and while acting in an official capacity, files a report with SBEC is immune from civil or criminal liability that might otherwise be incurred or imposed. *Education Code 21.006(e)*

PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL
EVALUATION OF TEACHERS

DNA
(LEGAL)

TEACHER APPRAISAL	<p>The employment policies adopted by the board must require a written evaluation of each teacher at annual or more frequent intervals.</p> <p>A teacher appraisal must be done at least once during each school year. A teacher may be appraised less frequently if the teacher agrees in writing and the teacher's most recent evaluation rated the teacher as at least proficient, or the equivalent, and did not identify any area of deficiency. A teacher who is appraised less frequently than annually must be appraised at least once during each period of five school years.</p> <p><i>Education Code 21.203, .352(c)</i></p>
INTERIM EVALUATIONS AND GUIDANCE	<p>In addition to conducting a complete appraisal as frequently as required by Education Code 21.352(c), a district shall require that appropriate components of the appraisal process, such as classroom observations and walk-throughs, occur more frequently as necessary to ensure that a teacher receives adequate evaluation and guidance. A district shall give priority to conducting appropriate components more frequently for inexperienced teachers or experienced teachers with identified areas of deficiency. <i>Education Code 21.352(c-1)</i></p>
REQUIRED COMPONENTS	<p>The statutorily required components of teacher appraisal are defined as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The implementation of discipline management procedures is the teacher's pedagogical practices that produce student engagement and establish the learning environment.2. The performance of teachers' students is how the individual teacher's students progress academically in response to the teacher's pedagogical practice as measured at the individual teacher level by one or more of the following student growth measures:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Student learning objectives;b. Student portfolios;c. Pre- and post-test results on district-level assessments; ord. Value-added data based on student state assessment results. <p><i>19 TAC 150.1001(f)</i></p>
NOTICE AND USE OF EVALUATIONS	<p>A district shall use a teacher's consecutive appraisals from more than one year, if available, in making employment decisions and</p>

PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL
EVALUATION OF TEACHERS

DNA
(LEGAL)

	<p>developing career recommendations for the teacher. <i>Education Code 21.352(e)</i></p> <p>The district shall notify a teacher of the results of any appraisal of the teacher in a timely manner so that the appraisal may be used as a developmental tool by the district and the teacher to improve the overall performance of the teacher. <i>Education Code 21.352(f)</i></p>
ROLE OF EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES	<p>A teacher who directs extracurricular activities in addition to performing classroom teaching duties shall be appraised only on the basis of classroom teaching performance and not on performance in connection with extracurricular activities. <i>Education Code 21.353</i></p>
ACCESS TO EVALUATIONS	<p>A district shall maintain a written copy of the evaluation of each teacher's performance in the teacher's personnel file.</p> <p>Each teacher is entitled to receive a written copy of the evaluation promptly on its completion. The evaluation and any rebuttal may be given to another school district at which the teacher has applied for employment at the request of that district.</p> <p><i>Education Code 21.352(c)</i></p>
CONFIDENTIALITY	<p>A document evaluating the performance of a teacher is confidential. <i>Education Code 21.355</i></p>
TWO APPRAISAL METHODS	<p>A district shall use one of the following methods to appraise teachers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The teacher appraisal system recommended by the commissioner of education [see STATE METHOD (T-TESS) below]; or2. A local teacher appraisal system [see DISTRICT OPTION and CAMPUS OPTION below]. <p><i>Education Code 21.352(a); 19 TAC 150.1001(a)</i></p>
SELECTION OF APPRAISAL METHOD	<p>A superintendent, with the approval of a board, may select the state appraisal method. Each district or campus wanting to select or develop an alternative teacher appraisal system must follow the requirements set forth below at DISTRICT OPTION or CAMPUS OPTION. <i>19 TAC 150.1001(c)</i></p>
NOTICE TO SERVICE CENTER	<p>A superintendent shall notify the executive director of the district's regional education service center in writing of the district's choice of appraisal system when using an alternative to the state appraisal method and detail the components of that system by the first day of instruction for the school year in which the alternative system is used.</p>

PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL
EVALUATION OF TEACHERS

DNA
(LEGAL)

A district shall submit annually to its service center a summary of the campus-level evaluation scores from the state appraisal method or the district's locally adopted appraisal system, in a manner prescribed by the commissioner.

19 TAC 150.1008

Note: The following provisions apply to teacher appraisal using the state appraisal method.

STATE METHOD
(T-TESS)

The commissioner's recommended teacher appraisal system, the Texas Teacher Evaluation and Support System (T-TESS), was developed in accordance with Education Code 21.351. *19 TAC 150.1001(b), .1002(a)*

ORIENTATION AND
ANNUAL REVIEW

A district shall ensure that all teachers are provided with an orientation to the T-TESS no later than the final day of the first three weeks of school and at least two weeks before the first observation when:

1. The teacher is new to the district;
2. The teacher has never been appraised under the T-TESS; or
3. District policy regarding teacher appraisal has changed since the last time the teacher was provided with an orientation to the T-TESS.

The teacher orientation shall be conducted in a face-to-face setting during a district's first year of T-TESS implementation and include all state and local appraisal policies and the local appraisal calendar. In addition to the orientation, campuses may hold other sessions sufficient in length allowing teachers to actively participate in a discussion of the T-TESS specifics and to have their questions answered.

19 TAC 150.1006

APPRAISERS

The teacher appraisal process requires at least one certified appraiser. An appraiser must be the teacher's supervisor or a person approved by the board.

CAMPUS
ADMINISTRATOR

Only a campus administrator may act as a certified appraiser, except as provided below.

Under the T-TESS, a "campus administrator" includes a principal, an assistant principal, an administrator who holds a comparable administrator/supervisor certificate established by the State Board for Educator Certification, or supervisory staff whose job descrip-

PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL
EVALUATION OF TEACHERS

DNA
(LEGAL)

tion includes the appraisal of teachers and who is not a classroom teacher.

An individual other than a campus administrator may act as a certified appraiser if:

1. The individual has been certified by completing the required training prior to conducting appraisals; and
2. In the case where the certified appraiser is a classroom teacher, the certified appraiser:
 - a. Conducts appraisals at the same school campus at which the certified appraiser teaches if the certified appraiser is the chair of a department or grade level whose job description includes classroom observation responsibilities; or
 - b. Does not conduct appraisals of classroom teachers who teach at the same campus as the certified appraiser if the certified appraiser is not a department or grade-level chair.

TRAINING AND
CERTIFICATION

Before conducting appraisals, an appraiser must be certified by having satisfactorily completed the state-approved T-TESS appraiser training and having passed the T-TESS certification examination, and must have received Instructional Leadership Training (ILT), Instructional Leadership Development (ILD), or Advanced Educational Leadership (AEL) certification. Appraisers without ILT, ILD, or AEL certification before January 1, 2016, may not take ILT or ILD to satisfy the requirement. Periodic recertification and training shall be required.

Education Code 21.351(c); 19 TAC 150.1005

APPRAISAL
CALENDAR

A district shall establish a calendar for teacher appraisals and provide that calendar to teachers within three weeks from the first day of instruction. The appraisal period for each teacher must include all of the days of the teacher's contract.

Observations during the appraisal period must be conducted during the required days of instruction for students during one school year.

The appraisal calendar shall:

1. Exclude observations in the two weeks after the day of completion of the T-TESS orientation in the school years when an orientation is required; and

PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL
EVALUATION OF TEACHERS

DNA
(LEGAL)

2. Indicate a period for end-of-year conferences that ends no later than 15 working days before the last day of instruction for students.

19 TAC 150.1003(d)

A teacher may be given advance notice of the date or time of an appraisal, but advance notice is not required. *Education Code 21.352(d); 19 TAC 150.1003(c)*

ASSESSMENT OF
TEACHER
PERFORMANCE

Each teacher must be appraised each school year, except as provided below at LESS-THAN-ANNUAL APPRAISAL. Whenever possible, an appraisal shall be based on the teacher's performance in fields and teaching assignments for which he or she is certified. *19 TAC 150.1003(a)*

During the appraisal period, the certified appraiser shall evaluate and document teacher performance specifically related to the domain criteria as identified in 19 Administrative Code 150.1002(a) and the performance of teachers' students as defined in 19 Administrative Code 150.1001(f)(2). *19 TAC 150.1003(e)*

LESS-THAN-
ANNUAL
APPRAISAL

A teacher may receive a full appraisal less than annually if the teacher agrees in writing and the teacher's most recent full appraisal resulted in the teacher receiving summative ratings of at least proficient on nine of the sixteen dimensions and did not identify any area of deficiency, defined as a rating of Improvement Needed or its equivalent, on any of the sixteen dimensions identified in 19 Administrative Code 150.1002(a) or the performance of teachers' students, as defined in 19 Administrative Code 150.1001(f)(2). A teacher who receives a full appraisal less than annually must receive a full appraisal at least once during each period of five school years.

District policy may stipulate:

1. Whether the option to receive a full appraisal less frequently than annually is to be made available to teachers;
2. Whether the option to receive a full appraisal less frequently than annually is to be adopted district-wide or is to be campus specific;
3. If the appraisal accompanying a teacher new to a district or campus meets this option, whether the appraisal is to be accepted or whether that teacher is to be appraised by the new campus administrator; and
4. Whether a certified appraiser may place a teacher on the traditional appraisal cycle as a result of performance deficiencies

PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL
EVALUATION OF TEACHERS

DNA
(LEGAL)

documented in accordance with 19 Administrative Code 150.1003(b)(6) and (f) (related to cumulative data regarding teacher performance in addition to formal classroom observations).

A school district may choose annually to review the written agreement to have less frequent full appraisals with the teacher. However, at the conclusion of the school year, the district may modify appraisal options through board policy and may make changes to expectations for appraisals that apply to all teachers regardless of a teacher's participation in the appraisal option in the previous year(s).

In a year in which a teacher does not receive a full appraisal due to meeting the requirements, a teacher shall participate in:

1. The Goal-Setting and Professional Development Plan process;
2. The performance of teachers' students, as defined in 19 Administrative Code 150.1001(f)(2); and
3. A modified end-of-year conference that addresses:
 - a. The progress on the Goal-Setting and Professional Development Plan;
 - b. The performance of teachers' students, as defined in 19 Administrative Code 150.1001(f)(2); and
 - c. The following year's Goal-Setting and Professional Development plan.

19 TAC 150.1003(l)

DOMAINS AND
DIMENSIONS

Each teacher shall be appraised on the following domains and dimensions of the T-TESS rubric that is aligned to the Texas Teacher Standards in 19 Administrative Code Chapter 149 (relating to Commissioner's Rules Concerning Educator Standards):

1. Domain I. Planning, which includes the following dimensions:
 - a. Standards and alignment;
 - b. Data and assessment;
 - c. Knowledge of students; and
 - d. Activities.
2. Domain II. Instruction, which includes the following dimensions:

PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL
EVALUATION OF TEACHERS

DNA
(LEGAL)

- a. Achieving expectations;
 - b. Content knowledge and expertise;
 - c. Communication;
 - d. Differentiation; and
 - e. Monitor and adjust.
3. Domain III. Learning Environment, which includes the following dimensions:
 - a. Classroom environment, routines, and procedures;
 - b. Managing student behavior; and
 - c. Classroom culture.
 4. Domain IV. Professional Practices and Responsibilities, which includes the following dimensions:
 - a. Professional demeanor and ethics;
 - b. Goal setting;
 - c. Professional development; and
 - d. School community involvement.

The evaluation of each of the dimensions above shall consider all data generated in the appraisal process. The data for the appraisal of each dimension shall be gathered from pre-conferences, observations, post-conferences, end-of-year conferences, the Goal-Setting and Professional Development Plan process, and other documented sources.

Each teacher shall be evaluated on the 16 dimensions in Domains I–IV identified above using the following categories:

1. Distinguished;
2. Accomplished;
3. Proficient;
4. Developing; and
5. Improvement needed.

STUDENT
PERFORMANCE

Beginning with the 2017–18 school year, each teacher appraisal shall include the performance of teachers' students, as defined in 19 Administrative Code 150.1001(f)(2) (relating to student growth measures).

PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL
EVALUATION OF TEACHERS

DNA
(LEGAL)

If calculating a single overall summative appraisal score for teachers, the performance of teachers' students, as defined in 19 Administrative Code 150.1001(f)(2), shall count for at least 20 percent of a teacher's summative score.

Each teacher shall be evaluated on the performance of teachers' students using one of the terms from the following categories:

1. Distinguished or well above expectations;
2. Accomplished or above expectations;
3. Proficient or at expectations;
4. Developing or below expectations; or
5. Improvement needed or well below expectations.

19 TAC 150.1002

APPRAISAL
PROCESS

The annual teacher appraisal, or full appraisal, shall include:

1. A completed and appraiser-approved Goal-Setting and Professional Development Plan that shall be:
 - a. Submitted to the teacher's appraiser within the first six weeks from the day of completion of the T-TESS orientation for teachers in their first year of appraisal under the T-TESS or for teachers new to the district; or
 - b. Initially drafted in conjunction with the teacher's end-of-year conference from the previous year, revised as needed based on changes to the context of the teacher's assignment during the current school year, and submitted to the teacher's appraiser within the first six weeks of instruction; and
 - c. Maintained throughout the course of the school year by the teacher to track progress in the attainment of goals and participation in professional development activities detailed in the approved plan;
 - d. Shared with the teacher's appraiser prior to the end-of-year conference; and
 - e. Used after the end-of-year conference in the determination of ratings for the goal setting and professional development dimensions of the T-TESS rubric;
2. For a teacher in the first year of appraisal under the T-TESS or for teachers new to the district, a Goal-Setting and Profes-

PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL
EVALUATION OF TEACHERS

DNA
(LEGAL)

- sional Development Plan conference prior to the teacher submitting the plan to the teacher's appraiser;
3. After a teacher's first year of appraisal under the T-TESS within the district, an observation pre-conference conducted prior to announced observations;
 4. At least one classroom observation of a minimum of 45 minutes, with additional walk-throughs and observations conducted at the discretion of the certified appraiser and in accordance with the Education Code 21.352(c-1). Additional observations and walk-throughs do not require an observation post-conference. Additional observations and walk-throughs do require a written summary if the data gathered during the additional observation or walk-through will impact the teacher's summative appraisal ratings, in which case the written summary shall be shared within ten working days after the completion of the additional observation or walk-through. Title 19 Administrative Code 150.1004 (relating to Teacher Response and Appeals) applies to a written summary of an additional observation or walk-through that will impact the teacher's summative appraisal ratings;
 5. An observation post-conference that:
 - a. Shall be conducted within ten working days after the completion of an observation;
 - b. Is diagnostic and prescriptive in nature;
 - c. Includes a written report of the rating of each dimension observed that is presented to the teacher only after a discussion of the areas for reinforcement and areas for refinement; and
 - d. Can allow for, at the discretion of the appraiser, a revision to an area for reinforcement or refinement based on the post-conference discussion with the teacher;
 6. Cumulative data from written documentation collected regarding job-related teacher performance, in addition to formal classroom observations;
 7. An end-of-year conference that:
 - a. Reviews the appraisal data collected throughout the current school year and previous school years, if available;
 - b. Examines and discusses the evidence related to the teacher's performance on the four dimensions of Domain IV of the T-TESS rubric;

PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL
EVALUATION OF TEACHERS

DNA
(LEGAL)

- c. Examines and discusses evidence related to the performance of teachers' students, as defined in 19 Administrative Code 150.1001(f)(2) (relating to student growth measures), when available; and
 - d. Identifies potential goals and professional development activities for the teacher for the next school year; and
8. A written summative annual appraisal report to be provided to the teacher within ten working days of the conclusion of the end-of-year conference.

19 TAC 150.1003(b)

SHORTER
OBSERVATIONS

By written, mutual consent of the teacher and the certified appraiser, the required 45 minutes of observation may be conducted in shorter time segments. The time segments must aggregate to at least 45 minutes. *19 TAC 150.1003(g)*

CUMULATIVE
DATA

The certified appraiser is responsible for documentation of cumulative data. Any third-party information from a source other than the certified appraiser that the certified appraiser wishes to include as cumulative data shall be verified and documented by the certified appraiser. Any documentation that will influence the teacher's summative annual appraisal report must be shared in writing with the teacher within ten working days of the certified appraiser's knowledge of the occurrence. The principal shall also be notified in writing of the cumulative data when the certified appraiser is not the teacher's principal. *19 TAC 150.1003(f)*

SUMMATIVE REPORT

A written summative annual appraisal report shall be shared with the teacher no later than 15 working days before the last day of instruction for students. The written summative annual appraisal report shall be placed in the teacher's personnel file by the end of the appraisal period. *19 TAC 150.1003(h)*

END-OF-YEAR
CONFERENCE

An end-of-year conference shall be held within a time frame specified on the district calendar, no later than 15 working days before the last day of instruction for students. The end-of-year conference shall focus on the data and evidence gathered throughout the appraisal year; the teacher's efforts as they pertain to Domain IV; the results of the performance of teachers' students, when available, as defined in 19 Administrative Code 150.1001(f)(2); and the potential goals and professional development plans for the following year. The written summative annual appraisal report shall be shared with the teacher within ten working days following the conclusion of the end-of-year conference but no later than 15 working days before the last day of instruction.

PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL
EVALUATION OF TEACHERS

DNA
(LEGAL)

In cases where the certified appraiser is not an administrator on the teacher's campus, either the principal, assistant principal, or another supervisory staff member designated as an administrator on the campus must participate in the end-of-year conference.

19 TAC 150.1003(i), (j)

ADDITIONAL
DOCUMENTATION

Any documentation collected after the end-of-year conference but before the end of the contract term during one school year may be considered as part of the appraisal of a teacher. If the documentation affects the teacher's evaluation in any dimension, another summative report shall be developed to inform the teacher of the changes. *19 TAC 150.1003(k)*

TEACHER RESPONSE
AND REBUTTAL

A teacher may submit a written response or rebuttal at the following times:

1. For Domains I, II, and III, after receiving a written observation summary or any other written documentation related to the ratings of those three domains; or
2. For Domain IV and for the performance of teachers' students, as defined in 19 Administrative Code 150.1001(f)(2), after receiving a written summative annual appraisal report.

Any written response or rebuttal must be submitted within ten working days of receiving a written observation summary, a written summative annual appraisal report, or any other written documentation associated with the teacher's appraisal. A teacher may not submit a written response or rebuttal to a written summative annual appraisal report for the ratings in Domains I, II, and III if those ratings are based entirely on observation summaries or written documentation already received by the teacher earlier in the appraisal year for which the teacher already had the opportunity to submit a written response or rebuttal.

Education Code 21.352(c); 19 TAC 150.1004(a), (b)

REQUEST FOR
SECOND APPRAISAL

A teacher may request a second appraisal by another certified appraiser at the following times:

1. For Domains I, II, and III, after receiving a written observation summary with which the teacher disagrees; or
2. For Domain IV and for the performance of teachers' students, as defined in 19 Administrative Code 150.1001(f)(2), after receiving a written summative annual appraisal report with which the teacher disagrees.

The second appraisal must be requested within ten working days of receiving a written observation summary or a written summative

PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL
EVALUATION OF TEACHERS

DNA
(LEGAL)

annual appraisal report. A teacher may not request a second appraisal by another certified appraiser in response to a written summative annual appraisal report for the ratings of dimensions in Domains I, II, and III if those ratings are based entirely on observation summaries or written documentation already received by the teacher earlier in the appraisal year for which the teacher already had the opportunity to request a second appraisal.

A teacher may be given advance notice of the date or time of a second appraisal, but advance notice is not required.

The second appraiser shall make observations and walk-throughs as necessary to evaluate the dimensions in Domains I–III or shall review the Goal-Setting and Professional Development Plan for evidence of goal attainment and professional development activities, when applicable. Cumulative data may also be used by the second appraiser to evaluate other dimensions.

A district shall adopt written procedures for determining the selection of second appraisers. The procedures shall be disseminated to each teacher at the time of employment and updated annually or as needed.

Education Code 21.352(c); 19 TAC 150.1004(c)–(g)

Note: The following provisions apply to teacher appraisal using a district-developed appraisal method.

DISTRICT OPTION

A district that does not choose to use the T-TESS must develop its own teacher-appraisal system supported by locally adopted policy and procedures and by the processes outlined below.

DEVELOPMENT OF
APPRAISAL SYSTEM

The district-level planning and decision-making committee shall:

1. Develop an appraisal process;
2. Develop evaluation criteria, including discipline management and performance of the teachers' students; and
3. Consult with the campus-planning and decision-making committee on each campus in the district.

APPRAISAL
PROCESS

The appraisal process shall include:

1. At least one appraisal each year, or less frequently if in accordance with Education Code 21.352(c) [see TEACHER APPRAISAL above];

PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL
EVALUATION OF TEACHERS

DNA
(LEGAL)

2. A conference between the teacher and the appraiser that is diagnostic and prescriptive with regard to remediation needed in overall performance by category; and
3. Criteria based on observable, job-related behavior, including:
 - a. Teachers' implementation of discipline management procedures, as defined in 19 Administrative Code 150.1001(f)(1); and
 - b. Beginning with the 2017–18 school year, the performance of the teachers' students as defined in 19 Administrative Code 150.1001(f)(2).

BOARD
ACCEPTANCE

A district-level planning and decision-making committee shall submit the appraisal process and criteria to the superintendent, who shall submit the appraisal process and criteria to the board with a recommendation to accept or reject.

The board may accept or reject, with comments, the appraisal process and performance criteria, but may not modify the process or criteria.

Education Code 21.352(a)(2), (b); 19 TAC 150.1007(a)

Note: The following provisions apply to teacher appraisal using a campus-developed appraisal method.

CAMPUS OPTION

A campus within a district may choose to develop a local appraisal system.

DEVELOPMENT OF
APPRAISAL SYSTEM

The campus planning and decision-making committee shall:

1. Develop an appraisal process;
2. Develop evaluation criteria, including discipline management and performance of the teachers' students; and
3. Submit the process and criteria to the district-level planning and decision-making committee.

APPRAISAL
PROCESS

The appraisal process shall include:

1. At least one appraisal each year, or less frequently if in accordance with Education Code 21.352(c) [see TEACHER APPRAISAL above];
2. A conference between the teacher and the appraiser that is diagnostic and prescriptive with regard to remediation needed in overall performance by category; and

PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL
EVALUATION OF TEACHERS

DNA
(LEGAL)

3. Criteria based on observable, job-related behavior, including:
 - a. Teachers' implementation of discipline management procedures, as defined in 19 Administrative Code 150.1001(f)(1); and
 - b. Beginning with the 2017–18 school year, the performance of the teachers' students as defined in 19 Administrative Code 150.1001(f)(2).

BOARD
ACCEPTANCE

Upon submission of the appraisal process and criteria to the district-level planning and decision-making committee, the committee shall make a recommendation to accept or reject the appraisal process and criteria and transmit that recommendation to the superintendent.

The superintendent shall submit to the board:

1. The recommended campus appraisal process and criteria;
2. The district-level planning and decision-making committee's recommendation; and
3. The superintendent's recommendation.

The board may accept or reject, with comments, an appraisal process and performance criteria, but may not modify the process or criteria.

Education Code 21.352(a)(2), (b); 19 TAC 150.1007(b)

Note: The following provision applies to appraiser training under a local appraisal process (district- or campus-developed).

APPRAISERS

A district that locally develops and adopts its own educator appraisal system should have a clearly defined set of procedures for training appraisers. The district should identify the qualities appraisers must demonstrate and include appropriate proficiency checks to evaluate the performance of all educators performing appraisals under the district's locally adopted appraisal systems. The school district shall be responsible for documenting that appraisers have met training criteria established by the district. 19 TAC 244.3

Note: The standards to be used to inform the training, appraisal, and professional development of teachers are outlined in 19 Administrative Code 149.1001.

PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL
EVALUATION OF CAMPUS ADMINISTRATORS

DNB
(LEGAL)

FREQUENCY

The employment policies adopted by a board must require a written evaluation at annual or more frequent intervals of each principal, supervisor, school counselor, or other full-time, certified professional employee, and nurse. *Education Code 21.203(a)*

District funds may not be used to pay an administrator who has not been appraised in the preceding 15 months. *Education Code 21.354(d)*

PRINCIPAL APPRAISAL

A district shall appraise each principal annually. In appraising principals, a school district shall use either:

1. The appraisal system and school leadership standards and indicators developed or established by the commissioner of education; or
2. An appraisal process and performance criteria developed by the district in consultation with the district-level and campus-level committees [see BQA and BQB] and adopted by the board.

Education Code 21.3541(f), (g); 19 TAC 150.1023(a)

The commissioner's recommended principal appraisal system, the Texas Principal Evaluation and Support System (T-PESS), was developed in accordance with Education Code 21.3541.

The superintendent, with the approval of the board, may select the T-PESS. Each school district wanting to select or develop an alternative principal appraisal system must follow Education Code 21.3541, and 19 Administrative Code 150.1026 (relating to Alternatives to the Commissioner's Recommended Principal Appraisal System).

19 TAC 150.1021(b), (c)

NOTICE TO ESC

The superintendent shall notify the executive director of its regional education service center in writing of the school district's choice of appraisal system when using an alternative to the commissioner's recommended appraisal system and detail the components of that system by the first day of instruction for the school year in which the alternative system is used.

Each school district shall submit annually to its regional education service center a summary of the evaluation scores from the T-PESS or the district's locally adopted appraisal system, in a manner prescribed by the commissioner.

19 TAC 150.1027

PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL
EVALUATION OF CAMPUS ADMINISTRATORS

DNB
(LEGAL)

TEXAS PRINCIPAL
EVALUATION AND
SUPPORT SYSTEM
(T-PESS)

Each principal shall be appraised on the following standards and indicators of the T-PESS rubric that is aligned to the Texas Administrator Standards in 19 Administrative Code, Chapter 149 (relating to Commissioner's Rules Concerning Educator Standards):

1. Standard I. Instructional Leadership, which includes four indicators;
2. Standard II. Human Capital, which includes four indicators;
3. Standard III. Executive Leadership, which includes four indicators;
4. Standard IV. School Culture, which includes five indicators; and
5. Standard V. Strategic Operations, which includes four indicators.

The evaluation of each of the standards and indicators above shall consider all data generated in the appraisal process.

Each principal shall be evaluated on the attainment and progress toward at least one goal, as referenced in 19 Administrative Code 150.1023 (relating to Appraisals, Data Sources, and Conferences). At least one goal shall be focused on the improvement of the principal's practice, as captured in the T-PESS rubric indicators and descriptors.

If calculating a single overall summative appraisal score for principals, the rating for the attainment of goals shall count for:

1. At least 20 percent of a principal's summative score for a principal who has served at least one year in his or her role on the same campus; or
2. At least 30 percent of a principal's summative score for a principal who is in his or her first year as principal on a particular campus.

Each principal shall be evaluated on each of the 21 indicators in Standards I–V identified above and on the attainment of each goal, using the following categories:

1. Distinguished;
2. Accomplished;
3. Proficient;
4. Developing; and
5. Improvement needed.

PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL
EVALUATION OF CAMPUS ADMINISTRATORS

DNB
(LEGAL)

Beginning with the 2017--18 school year, each principal appraisal shall include the campus-level academic growth or progress of the students enrolled at the principal's campus.

If calculating a single overall summative appraisal score for principals, the measure of student growth or progress shall count for:

1. At least 20 percent of a principal's summative score for a principal who has served two or more years in his or her role on the same campus;
2. At least 10 percent of a principal's summative score for a principal who has served one year in his or her role on the same campus; or
3. May not be included in calculating a single overall summative appraisal score for a principal who is in his or her first year as principal on a particular campus.

Each principal shall be evaluated on student growth or progress using one of the terms from the following categories:

1. Distinguished;
2. Accomplished;
3. Proficient;
4. Developing; or
5. Improvement needed.

19 TAC 150.1022

APPRAISAL
PROCEDURES

The annual principal appraisal shall include:

1. At least one appraiser-approved goal that shall be:
 - a. Initially drafted in conjunction with the principal's end-of-year conference from the previous year, as applicable, revised as needed based on changes to the context of the principal's assignment at the beginning of the current school year, and submitted to the principal's appraiser; and
 - b. Maintained throughout the course of the school year by the principal to track progress in the attainment of goals and the actions taken to achieve the goals;
 - c. Shared with the principal's appraiser prior to the end-of-year conference; and

PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL
EVALUATION OF CAMPUS ADMINISTRATORS

DNB
(LEGAL)

- d. Used after the end-of-year conference in the determination of ratings for the attainment of goals;
2. A pre-evaluation conference prior to the principal submitting his or her goals to the principal's appraiser;
3. A mid-year conference to determine and discuss progress toward the attainment of goals;
4. An end-of-year conference that:
 - a. Reviews data collected throughout the current school year and previous school years, if available;
 - b. Examines and discusses the artifacts and evidence related to the principal's performance on the 21 indicators of T-PESS rubric and the attainment of goals;
 - c. Examines and discusses evidence related to student growth or progress measures, as described in 19 Administrative Code 150.1022(f)–(h), when available; and
 - d. Identifies potential goals and professional development activities for the principal for the next school year; and
5. A written summative annual appraisal report to be provided to the principal after the conclusion of the end-of-year conference.

CALENDAR	Each school district shall establish a calendar for the appraisal of principals and provide that calendar to principals prior to the pre-evaluation conference.
APPRAISAL REPORT	The written summative annual appraisal report shall be placed in the principal's personnel file by the end of the appraisal period.
ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION	Any documentation collected after the end-of-year conference but before the end of the contract term during one school year may be considered as part of the appraisal of a principal. If the documentation affects the principal's evaluation in any indicator, the attainment of goals, or a measure of student growth or progress, another summative report shall be developed to inform the principal of the changes prior to the end of the contract term. <i>19 TAC 150.1023(b)–(e)</i>
APPRAISER QUALIFICATIONS	The principal appraisal process requires at least one certified appraiser. Before conducting an appraisal, an appraiser must be certified by having satisfactorily completed the state-approved T-PESS. Periodic recertification and training may be required. <i>19 TAC 150.1024</i>

PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL
EVALUATION OF CAMPUS ADMINISTRATORS

DNB
(LEGAL)

ORIENTATION	<p>A district shall ensure that a principal is provided with an orientation of the T-PESS either prior to or in conjunction with the pre-evaluation conference when:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The principal is new to the district;2. The principal has never been appraised under the T-PESS; or3. District policy regarding principal appraisal has changed since the last time the principal was provided with an orientation to the T-PESS. <p>The principal orientation shall include all state and local appraisal policies and the local appraisal calendar.</p> <p><i>19 TAC 150.1025</i></p>
ALTERNATIVES TO T-PESS	<p>A district that does not choose to use the T-PESS must develop its own principal appraisal system supported by locally adopted policy and procedures; developed in consultation with the district-level and campus-level committees established under Education Code 11.251; and adopted by the board. <i>Education Code 21.3541; 19 TAC 150.1026</i></p> <hr/> <p>Note: The standards, indicators, knowledge, and skills to be used to align with the training, appraisal, and professional development of principals are outlined in 19 Administrative Code 149.2001.</p> <hr/>
APPRAISAL OF CAMPUS ADMINISTRATORS OTHER THAN PRINCIPALS	<p>A district shall appraise each campus administrator, other than a principal, annually using either:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The commissioner's recommended appraisal process and performance criteria; or2. An appraisal process and performance criteria developed by the district in consultation with the district- and campus-level committees and adopted by the board. <p><i>Education Code 21.354(c)</i></p> <p>A district may use the T-PESS to appraise campus administrators other than principals provided the school district makes appropriate modifications to ensure that the T-PESS rubric and components fit the job descriptions of the campus administrators other than principals evaluated with the T-PESS. A district using T-PESS for administrators other than principals shall evaluate administrators on the attainment and progress toward at least one goal, as referenced in 19 Administrative Code 150.1023 (relating to Appraisals, Data Sources, and Conferences). At least one goal shall be fo-</p>

PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL
EVALUATION OF CAMPUS ADMINISTRATORS

DNB
(LEGAL)

cused on the improvement of the administrator's practice, as captured in the T-PESS rubric indicators and descriptors.

Each school district wanting to select or develop a local appraisal system for campus administrators other than principals must use an appraisal process and performance criteria developed in consultation with the district- and campus-level committees established under Education Code 11.251; and adopted by the board.

Education Code 21.354(c)(2); 19 TAC 150.1028, 244.2(c)

APPRAISERS

A district using T-PESS for administrators other than principals or that locally develops and adopts its own educator appraisal system should have a clearly defined set of procedures for training appraisers. The school district should identify the qualities appraisers must demonstrate and include appropriate proficiency checks to evaluate the performance of all educators performing appraisals under the district's adopted appraisal systems. The school district shall be responsible for documenting that appraisers have met training criteria established by the district. *19 TAC 244.2(c), .3*

SCHOOL
COUNSELORS

The commissioner shall develop and periodically update an evaluation form for use by districts in evaluating school counselors. *Education Code 21.356*

CONFIDENTIALITY OF
EVALUATION

A document evaluating the performance of an administrator is confidential. *Education Code 21.355*

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS
SELECTION AND ADOPTION

EFAA
(LEGAL)

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

DEFINITIONS

"Instructional material" is defined as content that conveys the essential knowledge and skills of a subject in the public school curriculum through a medium or a combination of media for conveying information to a student. The term includes a book, supplementary materials, a combination of a book, workbook, and supplementary materials, computer software, magnetic media, DVD, CD-ROM, computer courseware, online services, or an electronic medium, or other means of conveying information to the student or otherwise contributing to the learning process through electronic means, including open-source instructional material. *Education Code 31.002(1)*

"Open-source instructional material" is electronic instructional material that is available for downloading from the Internet at no charge to a student and without requiring the purchase of an unlock code, membership, or other access or use charge, except for a charge to order an optional printed copy of all or part of the instructional material. *Education Code 31.002(1-a)*

"Technological equipment" is hardware, a device, or equipment necessary for instructional use in the classroom, including to gain access to or enhance the use of electronic instructional materials; or professional use by a classroom teacher. *Education Code 31.002(4)*

SBOE INSTRUCTIONAL
MATERIALS LIST

For each subject and grade level, the State Board of Education (SBOE) shall adopt a list of instructional materials.

The list includes each instructional material that meets applicable physical specifications and contains material covering at least half of the elements of the essential knowledge and skills of the subject and grade level. *Education Code 31.023(a)*

A district may requisition instructional materials on the SBOE's list for grades above the grade level in which the student is enrolled. *19 TAC 66.104(b)*

OPEN-SOURCE
INSTRUCTIONAL
MATERIAL

The SBOE shall place open-source instructional material for a secondary-level course submitted for adoption by an eligible institution on the list if it satisfies the requirements described in Education Code 31.0241. *Education Code 31.0241(b)*

COMMISSIONER
INSTRUCTIONAL
MATERIALS LIST

The commissioner of education, with input from the SBOE, shall adopt a list of:

1. Electronic instructional material; and

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS
SELECTION AND ADOPTION

EFAA
(LEGAL)

2. Material that conveys information to the student or otherwise contributes to the learning process, including tools, models, and investigative materials designed for use as part of the foundation curriculum for science in kindergarten through grade 5 and personal financial literacy in kindergarten through grade 8.

Education Code 31.0231(a)

SUPPLEMENTAL
INSTRUCTIONAL
MATERIALS LIST

The SBOE may adopt supplemental instructional materials that are not on the SBOE instructional materials list. Supplemental instructional material contains material covering one or more primary focal points or primary topics of a subject in the required curriculum but is not designed to serve as the sole textbook for a full course. *Education Code 31.035(a)*

LOCAL SELECTION

A board shall select instructional materials in an open meeting as required by the Texas Open Meetings Act, including public notice. *19 TAC 66.104(a)*

NOTICE TO SBOE

Each year, during a period established by the SBOE, a board shall notify the SBOE of instructional materials selected in accordance with Education Code 31.101. *Education Code 31.101(a)*

FOUNDATION
CURRICULUM

For subjects in the foundation curriculum, a board shall notify the SBOE of the instructional materials it selects from the instructional materials list, including the commissioner's instructional materials list. *Education Code 31.101(a)(1)*

ENRICHMENT
CURRICULUM

For a subject in the enrichment curriculum, a board shall notify the SBOE of instructional material it selects from the instructional materials list, including the commissioner's instructional materials list, or that it selected instructional materials that do not appear on the list. *Education Code 31.101(a)(2)*

SUPPLEMENTAL
MATERIALS

A board may select supplemental instructional materials adopted by the SBOE, as set forth at Education Code 31.035 [see CMD]. If a board selects supplemental instructional materials, the district shall certify to TEA that the supplemental instructional materials, in combination with any other instructional materials or supplemental instructional materials used by the district, cover the essential knowledge and skills for the course. *Education Code 31.035(d), (f)*

OPEN-SOURCE
MATERIAL

A district may adopt state-developed open-source instructional material at any time, regardless of the instructional material review and adoption cycle. *Education Code 31.073(c)*

SPECIAL
EDUCATION

Adopted instructional materials shall be supplied to a student in special education classes as appropriate to the level of the student's ability and without regard to the grade for which the instruc-

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS
SELECTION AND ADOPTION

EFAA
(LEGAL)

tional material is adopted or the grade in which the student is enrolled. 19 TAC 66.104(c)

DURATION OF
SELECTION

LISTED
MATERIALS

A district that selects subscription-based instructional material on the SBOE instructional materials list or electronic instructional material on the commissioner's instructional materials list may cancel the subscription and subscribe to new instructional material on the SBOE list or electronic instructional material on the commissioner's list before the end of the state contract period if:

1. The district has used the instructional material for at least one school year; and
2. TEA approves the change based on a written request to TEA by the district that specifies the reasons for changing the instructional material used by the district.

Education Code 31.101(e)

OTHER
MATERIALS

For instructional material that is not on the instructional materials list, a district must use the instructional material for the period of the review and adoption cycle the SBOE has established for the subject and grade level for which the instruction material is used.

Education Code 31.101(d)

CRIMINAL OFFENSE

A board member, administrator, or teacher commits an offense if the person receives any commission or rebate on any instructional materials or technological equipment used in the schools with which the person is associated.

A board member, administrator, or teacher commits an offense if the person accepts a gift, favor, or service that:

1. Is given to the person or the person's school;
2. Might reasonably tend to influence the person in the selection of instructional material or technological equipment; and
3. Could not be lawfully purchased with state instructional materials funds.

"Gift, favor, or service" does not include:

1. Staff development, in-service, or teacher training; or
2. Ancillary materials, such as maps or worksheets, that convey information to the student or otherwise contribute to the learning process.

Education Code 31.152

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS
SELECTION AND ADOPTION

EFAA
(LEGAL)

HUMAN SEXUALITY
MATERIALS

Course materials relating to human sexuality, sexually transmitted diseases, or human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) shall be selected by a board with the advice of the local school health advisory council. *Education Code 28.004(e)* [See EHAA]

SPECIAL PROGRAMS
GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS

EHBB
(LEGAL)

A district shall establish a process for identifying and serving gifted and talented students and shall establish a program for those students in each grade level. A district may establish a shared services arrangement with other districts. *Education Code 29.122*

DEFINITION

"Gifted and talented student" means a child or youth who performs at or shows the potential for performing at a remarkably high level of accomplishment when compared to others of the same age, experience, or environment and who:

1. Exhibits high performance capability in an intellectual, creative, or artistic area;
2. Possesses an unusual capacity for leadership; or
3. Excels in a specific academic field.

Education Code 29.121

IDENTIFICATION

Students shall be identified as gifted/talented in accordance with a written policy that includes:

1. Provisions for ongoing screening and selection of students who perform or show potential for performing at remarkably high levels of accomplishment in the areas defined in Education Code 29.121.
2. Assessment measures collected from multiple sources according to each area defined in the Texas State Plan for the Education of Gifted/Talented Students.
3. Data and procedures designed to ensure that students from all populations in a district have access to assessment and, if identified, to services provided for the gifted/talented program.
4. Provisions for final selection of students to be made by a committee of at least three local district educators who have received training in the nature and needs of gifted students.
5. Provisions regarding furloughs, reassessment, exiting of students from program services, transfer students, and appeals of district decisions regarding program placement.

19 TAC 89.1

LEARNING
OPPORTUNITIES

A district shall provide an array of learning opportunities for gifted/talented students in kindergarten through grade 12 and shall inform parents of the opportunities. Options shall include:

1. Instructional and organizational patterns that enable identified students to work together as a group, to work with other students, and to work independently.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS
GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS

EHBB
(LEGAL)

2. A continuum of learning experiences that leads to the development of advanced-level products and performances.
3. In-school, and when possible, out-of-school options relevant to the student's area of strength that are available during the entire school year.
4. Opportunities to accelerate in areas of strength.

19 TAC 89.3

Note: See DMA(LEGAL) for training requirements for teachers of GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATION.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS
PREKINDERGARTEN

EHBG
(LEGAL)

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

TUITION-FREE

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

A district may not charge tuition for a prekindergarten program offered under these provisions.

EXEMPTION

A district may apply to the commissioner of education ("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.

DEFINITIONS

In this section:

1. "Child" includes a stepchild.
2. "Parent" includes a stepparent.

ELIGIBILITY

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

1. Is unable to speak and comprehend the English language;
2. Is educationally disadvantaged;
3. Is 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. Is 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;
5. Is 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; or
6. Is or ever has been in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services following an adversary hearing under Family Code 262.201.

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

SPECIAL PROGRAMS
PREKINDERGARTEN

EHBG
(LEGAL)

longer on active duty, after the child begins the prekindergarten class.

NOTICE

A 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.

HALF-DAY BASIS

A free prekindergarten class shall be operated on a half-day basis.

TRANSPORTATION

A 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.

Education Code 29.153

TUITION-
SUPPORTED
OR DISTRICT-
FINANCED

A district may offer on a tuition basis or use district funds to provide:

1. An additional half-day of prekindergarten classes to children eligible for free prekindergarten; and
2. Half-day and full-day prekindergarten classes to children not eligible for free prekindergarten.

A 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). A district must submit its proposed tuition rate to the commissioner for approval.

Education Code 29.1531

PROGRAM DESIGN

A 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. *Education Code 29.1532(a)*

DAILY PHYSICAL
ACTIVITY

A district shall require students in full-day prekindergarten to participate in moderate or vigorous daily physical activity for at least 30 minutes throughout the school year, as part of the district's physical education program or through structured activity during a campus's daily recess.

To the extent practicable, a district shall require a student enrolled in prekindergarten on less than a full-day basis to participate in the same type and amount of physical activity as a student enrolled in full-day prekindergarten.

If a district determines, for any particular grade level, that requiring moderate or vigorous daily physical activity is impractical due to

SPECIAL PROGRAMS
PREKINDERGARTEN

EHBG
(LEGAL)

scheduling concerns or other factors, the district may as an alternative require a student in that grade level to participate in moderate or vigorous physical activity for at least 135 minutes during each school week.

A district must provide an exemption for a student who is unable to participate in the required physical activity because of illness or disability.

Education Code 28.002(l)

HIGH-QUALITY
PREKINDERGARTEN
GRANT PROGRAM

From funds appropriated for that purpose, the commissioner shall establish a grant funding program under which funds are awarded to districts to implement a prekindergarten grant program under Education Code Chapter 29, Subchapter E-1 and 19 Administrative Code 102.1003.

A district may participate in and receive funding under the program if the district meets all program standards required under Subchapter E-1. A program is subject to any other requirements imposed by law that apply to a prekindergarten program.

Education Code 29.165

A district that receives funding under this grant shall maintain locally and provide at TEA's request the necessary documentation to ensure fidelity of high-quality prekindergarten program implementation. 19 TAC 102.1003(k)

ELIGIBILITY FOR
FUNDING

All eligible districts may receive grant funding for each qualifying student in average daily attendance in a high-quality prekindergarten program in the district. A school district that receives the funding may use the funding only to improve the quality of the district's prekindergarten programs. Funding for each qualifying student in attendance for the entire instructional period on a school day shall not exceed \$1,500. *Education Code 29.166; 19 TAC 102.1003(a), (j)*

To be eligible to receive grant funding under the program, a district shall:

1. Implement a curriculum for a high-quality prekindergarten grant program that addresses all of the Texas Prekindergarten Guidelines (updated 2015) in the domains identified in 19 Administrative Code 102.1003(c);
2. Measure the progress of each student in meeting the recommended end of prekindergarten year outcomes identified in the Texas Prekindergarten Guidelines, and the preparation of each student for kindergarten using a kindergarten readiness

SPECIAL PROGRAMS
PREKINDERGARTEN

EHBG
(LEGAL)

instrument for reading as described in Education Code 28.006.

3. Develop, implement, and make available on the district or campus website a family engagement plan to assist the district in achieving and maintaining high levels of family involvement and positive family attitudes toward education.
[See FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN below]

19 TAC 102.1003(c), (d), (f)

QUALIFYING
STUDENTS

A district receiving funds under the program must provide educational services to qualifying students. A student qualifies for additional funding if the student is four years of age on September 1 of the year the student begins the program and:

1. Is unable to speak and comprehend the English language;
2. Is educationally disadvantaged;
3. Is a homeless child, as defined by 42 U.S.C. § 11434a, 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 of the child;
4. Is 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;
5. Is 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; or
6. Is or ever has been in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services following an adversary hearing held as provided by Family Code 262.201.

Education Code 29.153(b); 19 TAC 102.1003(b)

CURRICULUM
REQUIREMENTS

A district shall select and implement a curriculum for a prekindergarten grant program that:

1. Includes the prekindergarten guidelines established by TEA;
2. Measures the progress of students in meeting the recommended learning outcomes; and
3. Does not use national curriculum standards developed by the Common Core State Standards Initiative.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS
PREKINDERGARTEN

EHBG
(LEGAL)

The curriculum must address all of the Texas Prekindergarten Guidelines (updated 2015) in the domains identified in 19 Administrative Code 102.1003(c).

In a format prescribed by TEA, a district that receives funding under this grant shall report:

1. The curriculum used in the high-quality prekindergarten program classes as required by 19 Administrative Code 102.1003(c);
2. A description and the results of each prekindergarten instrument used in the high-quality prekindergarten program classes as required by 19 Administrative Code 102.1003(d);
3. A description of each kindergarten readiness instrument used in the district to measure the effectiveness of the district's high-quality prekindergarten program classes as required by 19 Administrative Code 102.1003(d); and
4. The results for at least 95 percent of the district's kindergarten students on the kindergarten readiness instrument.

Education Code 29.167(a); 19 TAC 102.1003(c), (g)

TEACHER
REQUIREMENTS

Each teacher for a prekindergarten program class must be certified under Education Code Chapter 21, Subchapter B and have one of the following additional qualifications:

1. A Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or another early childhood education credential approved by TEA;
2. Certification offered through a training center accredited by Association Montessori Internationale or through the Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education;
3. At least eight years' experience of teaching in a nationally accredited child care program;
4. A graduate or undergraduate degree in early childhood education or early childhood special education;
5. Documented completion of the Texas School Ready Training Program; or
6. Be employed as a prekindergarten teacher in a district that has ensured that:
 - a. Prior to assignment in a prekindergarten class, teachers who provide prekindergarten instruction have completed at least 150 cumulative hours of documented professional development addressing all ten domains in the

SPECIAL PROGRAMS
PREKINDERGARTEN

EHBG
(LEGAL)

Texas Prekindergarten Guidelines that were approved prior to 2015 in addition to other relevant topics related to high-quality prekindergarten over a consecutive five-year period;

- b. Teachers who have not completed training required above prior to assignment in a prekindergarten class complete:
 - (1) The first 30 hours of 150 cumulative hours of documented professional development addressing all ten domains in the Texas Prekindergarten Guidelines (updated 2015) in addition to other relevant topics related to high-quality prekindergarten before the end of the 2016–17 school year; and
 - (2) Complete the additional hours in the subsequent four years in order to continue providing instruction in a high-quality prekindergarten classroom; and
- c. At least half of the hours required above shall include experiential learning, practical application, and direct interaction with specialists in early childhood education or instructional coaches.

A district may allow a teacher employed by the district to receive the training required to be awarded a CDA credential from a regional education service center. Training may not include national curriculum standards developed by the Common Core State Standards Initiative.

A school district must attempt to maintain an average ratio in any prekindergarten program class of not less than one certified teacher or teacher's aide for each 11 students.

Education Code 29.167; 19 TAC 102.1003(e), (i)

FAMILY
ENGAGEMENT
PLAN

A district shall develop and implement a family engagement plan to assist the district in achieving and maintaining high levels of family involvement and positive family attitudes toward education.

An effective family engagement plan creates a foundation for the collaboration of mutual partners, embraces the individuality and uniqueness of families, and promotes a culture of learning that is child centered, age appropriate, and family driven.

The family engagement plan must be based on family engagement strategies established by TEA as set out in 19 Administrative Code 102.1003(f).

Education Code 29.168; 19 TAC 102.1003(f)

SPECIAL PROGRAMS
PREKINDERGARTEN

EHBG
(LEGAL)

PROGRAM
EVALUATION

A school district shall:

1. Select and implement appropriate methods for evaluating the district's program classes by measuring student progress; and
2. Make data from the results of program evaluations available to parents.

A district may administer diagnostic assessments to students in a program class to evaluate student progress but may not administer a state standardized assessment instrument.

An assessment instrument administered to a prekindergarten program class must be selected from a list of appropriate prekindergarten assessment instruments identified by the commissioner.

Education Code 29.169; 19 TAC 102.1003(h)

ELIGIBLE PRIVATE
PROVIDERS

A district participating in the grant program may enter into a contract with an eligible private provider to provide services or equipment for the program.

To be eligible to contract with a district to provide a program or part of a program, a private provider must be licensed by and in good standing with the Department of Family and Protective Services. A private provider is in good standing with the Department of Family and Protective Services if the department has not taken an action against the provider's license during the 24-month period preceding the date of a contract with a school district. The private provider must also:

1. Be accredited by a research-based, nationally recognized, and universally accessible accreditation system approved by the commissioner;
2. Be a Texas Rising Star Program provider with a three-star certification or higher;
3. Be a Texas School Ready! participant;
4. Have an existing partnership with a district to provide a prekindergarten program not provided under Subchapter E-1; or
5. Be accredited by an organization that is recognized by the Texas Private School Accreditation Commission.

A prekindergarten program provided by a private provider under Education Code 29.171 is subject to the requirements of Education Code Chapter 29, Subchapter E-1.

Education Code 29.171

SPECIAL PROGRAMS
PREKINDERGARTEN

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PREKINDERGARTEN
EXPANSION GRANT

A district may use funds from grants administered by the commissioner 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.

A 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.

A district may use funds granted under this program in contracting with another entity, including a private entity.

Education Code 29.155

READY TO READ
GRANT

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.

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

A 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. A 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 a school 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.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS
PREKINDERGARTEN

EHBG
(LEGAL)

On receipt of such an electronic mail message, a district shall contact the applicant to verify information regarding the applicant's eligibility for available child-care and education services. On certifying eligibility, a 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.

A 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, a 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 a district contracts with a private entity to operate a prekindergarten program, the program shall comply at a minimum with the 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)*

ALTERNATIVE METHODS FOR EARNING CREDIT
COLLEGE COURSE WORK/DUAL CREDIT

EHDD
(LEGAL)

NOTICE TO PARENTS

Each school year, a district shall notify the parent of each student enrolled in grade 9 or above of the availability of programs under which a student may earn college credit, including advanced placement programs, dual credit programs, joint high school and college credit programs, and international baccalaureate programs. The notice must include the name and contact information of any public or private entity offering such a program in the district.

A district may provide the notice on the district's Internet website.

Education Code 28.010

Note: For information on dual credit courses available through the Texas Virtual School Network (TxVSN), see EHDE and www.txvsn.org.

COLLEGE CREDIT
PROGRAM

A district shall implement a program under which students may earn the equivalent of at least 12 semester credit hours of college credit in high school. If requested by the district, a public institution of higher education in this state shall assist the district in developing and implementing the program. The college credit may be earned through:

1. International baccalaureate, advanced placement, or dual credit courses;
2. Articulated postsecondary courses provided for local credit or articulated postsecondary advanced technical credit courses provided for state credit; or
3. Any combination of the courses in items 1 and 2.

Annually, a district shall report to TEA:

1. The number of students, including career and technical students, who have participated in the program and earned college credit; and
2. The cumulative number of courses in which participating students have enrolled and college credit hours the students have earned.

The program may provide a student the opportunity to earn credit for a course or activity, including an apprenticeship or training hours:

1. That satisfies a requirement necessary to obtain an industry-recognized credential or certificate or an associate degree, and is approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board; and

ALTERNATIVE METHODS FOR EARNING CREDIT
COLLEGE COURSE WORK/DUAL CREDIT

EHDD
(LEGAL)

2. For which a student may earn credit concurrently toward both the student's high school diploma and postsecondary academic requirements.

A district is not required to pay a student's tuition or other associated costs for taking a course under this section.

Education Code 28.009

COLLEGE-LEVEL
COURSES

A board may adopt a policy that allows a student to be awarded credit toward high school graduation for completing a college-level course. The course must be provided only by an institution of higher education that is accredited by any of the following regional accrediting associations:

1. Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
2. Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools
3. New England Association of Colleges and Schools
4. North Central Association of Colleges and Schools
5. Western Association of Colleges and Schools
6. Northwest Association of Colleges and Schools

To be eligible to enroll and be awarded credit toward state graduation requirements, a student shall have the approval of the high school principal or other school official designated by a district. The course(s) for which credit is awarded shall provide advanced academic instruction beyond or in greater depth than the essential knowledge and skills for the equivalent high school course.

19 TAC 74.25

DUAL CREDIT
PROGRAMS
DEFINITIONS

For purposes of the following provisions, "college" means a public two-year associate degree-granting institution or a public university.

"Dual credit" means the process by which a high school student enrolls in a college course and receives simultaneous academic credit for the course from both the college and high school.

19 TAC 4.83(2), (4)

PARTNERSHIP
AGREEMENTS WITH
PUBLIC COLLEGES

A district may enter into an agreement with a public college to form a dual credit partnership in accordance with 19 Administrative Code Chapter 4, Subchapter D. *Education Code 130.008; 19 TAC Ch. 4, Subch. D*

ALTERNATIVE METHODS FOR EARNING CREDIT
COLLEGE COURSE WORK/DUAL CREDIT

EHDD
(LEGAL)

COMMUNITY COLLEGE JURISDICTION	<p>A school district that operates a high school may enter into an agreement with a community college district, regardless of whether the high school is located within the service area of the community college district, to offer a course as provided by Education Code 130.008. <i>Education Code 130.008(d)</i></p>
STUDENT ELIGIBILITY	<p>A high school student is eligible to enroll in academic dual credit courses and workforce education dual credit courses as permitted by 19 Administrative Code 4.85(b).</p> <p>To be eligible for enrollment in a dual credit course offered by a public college, students must meet all the college's regular prerequisite requirements designated for that course (e.g., minimum score on a specified placement test, minimum grade in a specified previous course, etc.).</p> <p>An institution may impose additional requirements for enrollment in courses for dual credit that do not conflict with this section.</p> <p>An institution is not required, under the provisions of this section, to offer dual credit courses for high school students.</p> <p><i>19 TAC 4.85(b)</i></p>
QUALIFIED INSTRUCTOR	<p>A course offered for joint high school and junior college credit must be taught by a qualified instructor approved or selected by the public junior college. An instructor is qualified if the instructor holds:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. A doctoral or master's degree in the discipline that is the subject of the course;2. A master's degree in another discipline with a concentration that required completion of a minimum of 18 graduate semester hours in the discipline that is the subject of the course; or3. For a course that is offered in an associate degree program and that is not designed for transfer to a baccalaureate degree program:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. A degree described above;b. A baccalaureate degree in the discipline that is the subject of the course; orc. An associate degree and demonstrated competencies in the discipline that is the subject of the course, as determined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. <p>Not later than the 60th day after receipt, a public junior college shall approve or reject an application for approval to teach a course at a high school that is submitted by an instructor employed</p>

ALTERNATIVE METHODS FOR EARNING CREDIT
COLLEGE COURSE WORK/DUAL CREDIT

EHDD
(LEGAL)

by the district with which the junior college entered into an agreement to offer the course.

Education Code 130.008(g), (h)

ATTENDANCE
ACCOUNTING

The time during which a student attends a dual credit course, including a course provided under the college credit program, shall be counted as part of the minimum instructional hours required for a student to be considered a full-time student in average daily attendance. [See FEB] *Education Code 42.005*

The commissioner of education may approve instructional programs provided off campus by an entity other than a district as a program in which participation by a student may be counted for purposes of determining average daily attendance. *Education Code 42.0052(a)*

REPORTING OFF-
CAMPUS
PROGRAMS

A district may adopt a policy that allows a student to participate in an off-campus instructional program. The program must be provided only by an institution of higher education that is accredited by one of the regional accrediting associations specified in 19 Administrative Code 74.25 (relating to High School Credit for College Courses).

To be eligible, a student must:

1. Be in grade 11 or 12;
2. Have demonstrated college readiness as outlined in the requirements for participation in dual credit programs in the Student Attendance Accounting Handbook;
3. Meet any eligibility requirements adopted by the institution of higher education; and
4. Have the approval of the high school principal or other school official designated by the district.

The off-campus program must comply with rules adopted by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board in the Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Part 1, with respect to teacher qualifications.

19 TAC 129.1031

Time that a student participates in an off-campus instructional program approved by the commissioner under Education Code 42.0052(a) shall be counted as part of the minimum number of instructional hours required for a student to be considered a full-time student in average daily attendance. *Education Code 42.005(h)*

ALTERNATIVE METHODS FOR EARNING CREDIT
COLLEGE COURSE WORK/DUAL CREDIT

EHDD
(LEGAL)

PARTNERSHIP
AGREEMENT

The board of a district and the governing board of a college must approve any dual credit partnership between the schools before offering such courses.

The partnership agreement must address:

1. Eligible courses;
2. Student eligibility;
3. Location of class;
4. Student composition of class;
5. Faculty selection, supervision, and evaluation;
6. Course curriculum, instruction, and gathering;
7. Academic policies and student support services;
8. Transcribing of credit; and
9. Funding.

19 TAC 4.84-.85

INSTRUCTIONAL
PARTNERSHIPS WITH
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DISTRICTS

Types of instructional partnerships between a district and a community college district include:

1. Award of High School Credit Only (see HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT-ONLY COURSES, below).
2. Award of Dual Credit (see DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS, above).
3. Tech-Prep Programs (see TECH-PREP PROGRAMS, below).
4. Remedial or Developmental Instruction for High School Graduates (see REMEDIAL PROGRAMS, below).
5. College Preparatory Courses for High School Students (see COLLEGE PREPARATORY COURSES, below)

19 TAC 9.143

AGREEMENT

For any educational partnership between a district and a community college district, an agreement must be approved by the board or designee of both the district and the college district. The partnership agreement must address the following:

1. Student eligibility requirements.
2. Faculty qualifications.
3. Location and student composition of classes.
4. Provision of student learning and support services.

ALTERNATIVE METHODS FOR EARNING CREDIT
COLLEGE COURSE WORK/DUAL CREDIT

EHDD
(LEGAL)

5. Eligible courses.
6. Grading criteria.
7. Transcribing of credit.
8. Funding provisions.

19 TAC 9.144

HIGH SCHOOL
CREDIT-ONLY
COURSES

A district may contract with a community college district for the college district to provide coursework necessary for students to complete high school as described in 19 Administrative Code 9.125. The district and college district shall negotiate an agreed cost for instruction. *19 TAC 9.125, .143(a)*

TECH-PREP
PROGRAMS

A district may partner with a college district to allow for the articulation of high school technical courses taught by the high school to high school students for immediate high school credit and later college credit, to be awarded upon enrollment of the students in the college district in an associate degree or certificate program. *19 TAC 9.143(c)*

REMEDIAL
PROGRAMS

A board may contract, as outlined in 19 Administrative Code 9.125, with the board of the community college district in which a district is located for the college district to provide remedial programs for students enrolled in a district's secondary schools in preparation for graduation from secondary school and entrance into college.

Community colleges may provide instruction to high school students for either remedial course work to prepare students to pass the required State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness End-of-Course (STAAR EOC) assessments or developmental course work to prepare the students to pass an assessment instrument approved by the board under 19 Administrative Code 4.56 (relating to Assessment Instruments).

High school students who have passed all of the STAAR EOC assessments with the high school graduation standard may be permitted to enroll in state-funded developmental courses offered by a community college at the college's discretion if a need for such course work is indicated by student performance on an assessment instrument approved by the board under 19 Administrative Code 4.56 (relating to Assessment Instruments).

The district and college district shall negotiate an agreed cost for instruction. Remedial and developmental courses may not be offered for dual credit.

Education Code 130.090; 19 TAC 9.125, .143(d), .146

ALTERNATIVE METHODS FOR EARNING CREDIT
COLLEGE COURSE WORK/DUAL CREDIT

EHDD
(LEGAL)

COLLEGE PREPARATORY COURSES	College Preparatory Courses are locally developed through a memorandum of understanding created between school districts and community colleges. <i>19 TAC 9.147</i>
CERTAIN ACADEMIES	A district shall grant a student a maximum of two years' credit toward the academic course requirements for high school graduation for courses successfully completed at the Texas Academy of Leadership in the Humanities (at Lamar University—Beaumont), the Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science (at the University of Texas—Brownsville or University of North Texas—Denton), or the Texas Academy of International Studies (at Texas A&M University—Laredo). <i>Education Code 28.024</i>

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
GRADUATION

EIF
(LEGAL)

This introductory page outlines the contents of the graduation policy. See the following sections for statutory provisions on:

SECTION I	High School Diploma	pages 2–5
	1. Individual Graduation Committee (IGC)	
	2. Special Education	
	3. Posthumous Diploma	
	4. Diplomas for Veterans	
SECTION II	Personal Graduation Plan (PGP)	pages 6–7
	1. Junior High or Middle School PGP	
	2. High School PGP	
SECTION III	Early Graduation	page 7
SECTION IV	State Graduation Requirements	pages 8–18
	1. Students Entering Grade 9 in the 2014–15 School Year	
	2. Performance Acknowledgements	
	3. Transition to the Foundation High School Program	
	4. Students Who Entered Grade 9 Before the 2014–15 School Year	
SECTION V	Transfers from Out-of-State or Nonpublic Schools	page 18
SECTION VI	Graduation of Students Receiving Special Education Services	pages 18–22
	1. Definitions	
	2. Summary of Academic Achievement and Evaluation	
SECTION VII	Graduation of Military Dependents	pages 22–23
	1. Course Waiver	
	2. Transfers During Senior Year	
	3. Substitute Passing Standard	
SECTION VIII	Graduation of Student Who Is Homeless or in Conservatorship of DFPS	page 23

SECTION I: HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

A student may graduate and receive a diploma only if the student successfully completes:

1. The curriculum requirements identified by the State Board of Education (SBOE) [see STATE GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS, below] and has performed satisfactorily on applicable state assessments [see EKB]; or
2. An individualized education program (IEP) developed under Education Code 29.005. [See EHBAB]

Education Code 28.025(c)

Note: Education Code 28.0258 related to individual graduation committees expires September 1, 2017.

INDIVIDUAL GRADUATION COMMITTEE

Without complying with the requirements above, a student may receive a diploma if the person is eligible for a diploma as determined by an individual graduation committee (IGC) established under Education Code 28.0258. *Education Code 28.025(c-6)*

For each 11th or 12th grade student who has failed to comply with the end-of-course (EOC) assessment instrument performance requirements under Education Code 39.025 for not more than two courses, the district shall establish an IGC at the end of or after the student's 11th grade year to determine whether the student may qualify to graduate. A student may not qualify to graduate before the student's 12th grade year. A student may graduate by means of an IGC if the student has qualified for an IGC and the IGC convened prior to September 1, 2017.

A district may not establish an initial IGC for eligible students after June 10 or before the start of the next school year. Once the IGC has been established, it is the original IGC for that student.

In order for a student to be included as a graduate in the district's graduation data in the school year in which the student meets the requirements provided by law to graduate under IGC provisions, an IGC must make a decision to award a diploma no later than August 31 immediately following that school year. A student who graduates as a result of an IGC decision after August 31 shall be reported in the subsequent year's graduation data.

If a student leaves a district after an original IGC has been established and before that original IGC awards a high school diploma to the student, any other district that later enrolls the student shall request information from the student's original IGC of record and

shall implement the original IGC recommendations to the extent possible.

The IGC shall be composed of:

1. The principal or principal's designee;
2. For each EOC assessment instrument on which the student failed to perform satisfactorily, the teacher of the course;
3. The department chair or lead teacher supervising the teacher(s) above; and
4. As applicable:
 - a. The student's parent or person standing in parental relation to the student;
 - b. A designated advocate if the parent is unable to serve; or
 - c. The student, at the student's option, if the student is at least 18 years of age or is an emancipated minor.

The superintendent shall establish procedures for convening the committee.

The district shall provide an appropriate translator, if available, for a parent, advocate, or student who is unable to speak English.

In the event that the teacher identified in item 2 above is unavailable, the principal shall designate a teacher certified in the subject of the EOC assessment on which the student failed to perform satisfactorily and who is most familiar with the student's performance in that subject area as an alternate member of the committee.

In the event that the student's parent or person standing in parental relation to the student is unavailable to participate in the IGC, the principal shall designate an advocate with knowledge of the student to serve as an alternate member of the committee.

Education Code 28.0258(a), (c), (c-2); 19 TAC 74.1025(c)-(e), (g), (l)

NOTICE

A district shall ensure a good faith effort is made to timely notify the appropriate person described under item 4 above of the time and place for convening the IGC and the purpose of the committee. The notice must be provided in person or by regular mail or e-mail; clear and easy to understand; and written in English, in Spanish, or, to the extent practicable, in the native language of the appropriate person. *Education Code 28.0258(d)*

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
GRADUATION

EIF
(LEGAL)

CURRICULUM
REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible to graduate and receive a high school diploma from the IGC, a student must successfully complete the curriculum requirements required for high school graduation. [See SECTION IV, below] *Education Code 28.0258(e)*

ADDITIONAL
REQUIREMENTS TO
GRADUATE

A student's IGC shall recommend additional requirements by which the student may qualify to graduate, including additional remediation; and for each EOC assessment instrument on which the student failed to perform satisfactorily:

1. The completion of a project related to the subject area of the course that demonstrates proficiency in the subject area; or
2. The preparation of a portfolio of work samples in the subject area of the course, including work samples from the course that demonstrate proficiency in the subject area.

A student may submit to the IGC coursework previously completed to satisfy a recommended additional requirement.

Education Code 28.0258(f), (g)

In determining whether a student is qualified to graduate, the committee shall consider the criteria at Education Code 28.0258(h) and any other academic information designated for consideration by the board. After considering the criteria, the committee may determine that the student is qualified to graduate. A student may graduate and receive a high school diploma on the basis of the committee's decision only if the student successfully completes all additional requirements recommended by the committee, the student meets applicable curriculum requirements, and the committee's vote is unanimous. The decision of a committee is final and may not be appealed. *Education Code 28.0258(i)*

PEIMS REPORTING

Each district shall report through PEIMS the following:

1. The number of students each school year for which an IGC is established; and
2. The number of students each school year who are awarded a diploma based on the decision of an IGC.

DOCUMENTATION

A district shall maintain documentation to support the decision of the IGC to award or not award a student a high school diploma.

SPECIAL
EDUCATION

A student receiving special education services is not subject to the IGC requirements. As provided in 19 Administrative Code 89.1070 and 19 Administrative Code 101.3023, a student's ARD committee determines whether a student is required to achieve satisfactory performance on an EOC assessment to graduate.

19 TAC 74.1025(i)-(k), (m)

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
GRADUATION

EIF
(LEGAL)

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS	For provisions related to an IGC and English language learners (ELL), see EKB(LEGAL).
SPECIAL EDUCATION	A student receiving special education services who successfully completes the requirements of his or her IEP, including performance on a state assessment required for graduation, shall receive a high school diploma. A student's admission, review, and dismissal (ARD) committee shall determine if the student will be required to meet satisfactory performance on an assessment for purposes of graduation. [See SECTION VI: GRADUATION OF STUDENTS RECEIVING SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES, below, and EKB] 19 TAC 101.3023(a)
POSTHUMOUS DIPLOMA	Beginning with students enrolled in grade 12 during the 2005–06 school year, and on request of the student's parent, a district shall issue a high school diploma posthumously to a student who died while enrolled in the district at grade level 12, provided that the student was academically on track at the time of death to receive a diploma at the end of the school year in which the student died. "School year" includes any summer session following the spring semester.
EXCEPTION	A district is not required to issue a posthumous diploma if the student was convicted of a felony offense under Title 5 or 6, Penal Code, or adjudicated as having engaged in conduct constituting a felony offense under Title 5 or 6, Penal Code. <i>Education Code 28.0254</i>
DIPLOMAS FOR VETERANS	Notwithstanding any other provision of this policy, a district may issue a high school diploma to a person who is an honorably discharged member of the armed forces of the United States; was scheduled to graduate from high school after 1940 and before 1975 or after 1989; and left school after completing the sixth or a higher grade, before graduating from high school, to serve in: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Persian Gulf War, the Iraq War, or the war in Afghanistan; or2. Any other war formally declared by the United States, military engagement authorized by the United States Congress, military engagement authorized by a United Nations Security Council resolution and funded by the United States Congress, or conflict authorized by the president of the United States under the War Powers Resolution of 1973, 50 U.S.C. 1541, et seq. <i>Education Code 28.0251</i>

SECTION II: PERSONAL GRADUATION PLAN

JUNIOR HIGH OR
MIDDLE SCHOOL PGP

A principal of a junior high or middle school shall designate a school counselor, teacher, or other appropriate individual to develop and administer a personal graduation plan (PGP) for each student enrolled in the junior high or middle school who:

1. Does not perform satisfactorily on a state assessment instrument; or
2. Is not likely to receive a high school diploma before the fifth school year following the student's enrollment in grade level 9, as determined by a district.

A PGP must:

1. Identify educational goals for the student;
2. Include diagnostic information, appropriate monitoring and intervention, and other evaluation strategies;
3. Include an intensive instruction program described in Education Code 28.0213 [see EHBC];
4. Address participation of the student's parent or guardian, including consideration of the parent's or guardian's educational expectations for the student; and
5. Provide innovative methods to promote the student's advancement, including flexible scheduling, alternative learning environments, online instruction, and other interventions that are proven to accelerate the learning process and have been scientifically validated to improve learning and cognitive ability.

Education Code 28.0212

STUDENTS
RECEIVING
SPECIAL
EDUCATION
SERVICES

For a student receiving special education services, the student's ARD committee and the district are responsible for developing the student's PGP.

A student's IEP developed under Education Code 29.005 may be used as the student's PGP.

Education Code 28.0212(c); 19 TAC 89.1050(a) [See EHBAB]

HIGH SCHOOL PGP

A principal of a high school shall designate a school counselor or school administrator to review PGP options with each student entering grade 9 together with that student's parent or guardian. The PGP options reviewed must include the distinguished level of achievement and endorsements.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
GRADUATION

EIF
(LEGAL)

Before the conclusion of the school year, the student and the student's parent or guardian must confirm and sign a PGP for the student that identifies a course of study that:

1. Promotes college and workforce readiness and career placement and advancement; and
2. Facilitates the student's transition from secondary to postsecondary education.

A district may not prevent a student and the student's parent or guardian from confirming a PGP that includes pursuit of a distinguished level of achievement or an endorsement.

A student may amend the student's PGP after the initial confirmation of the plan. If a student amends the student's PGP, the school must send written notice to the student's parents regarding the change.

TEA must make available to a district information that explains the advantages of the distinguished level of achievement described by Education Code 28.025(b-15) and each endorsement described by Education Code 28.025(c-1). A district, in turn, shall publish the information from TEA on the Internet website of the district and ensure that the information is available to students in grades nine and above and the parents or legal guardians of those students in the language in which the parents or legal guardians are most proficient.

A district is required to provide this information in the language in which the parents or legal guardians are most proficient only if at least 20 students in a grade level primarily speak that language.

Education Code 28.02121

SECTION III: EARLY GRADUATION

A parent is entitled to request, with the expectation that the request will not be unreasonably denied, that the parent's child be permitted to graduate from high school earlier than the child would normally graduate, if the child completes each course required for graduation. The decision of a board concerning the request is final and may not be appealed. *Education Code 26.003(a)(3)(C), 26.003(b)* [See FMH, FNG]

SECTION IV: STATE GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Note: For current state graduation requirements, including those for students who entered grade 9 before the 2007–08 school year but that are not otherwise referenced in this policy, see Education Code 28.025 and 19 Administrative Code Chapter 74.

**STUDENTS ENTERING
GRADE 9 IN THE 2014–
15 SCHOOL YEAR**

To receive a high school diploma, a student entering grade 9 in the 2014–15 school year and thereafter must complete:

1. Requirements of the foundation high school program under 19 Administrative Code 74.12 [see FOUNDATION HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM, below];
2. Testing requirements for graduation under 19 Administrative Code Chapter 101 [see EKB]; and
3. Demonstrated proficiency, as determined by the district, in delivering clear verbal messages; choosing effective nonverbal behaviors; listening for desired results; applying valid critical-thinking and problem-solving processes; and identifying, analyzing, developing, and evaluating communication skills needed for professional and social success in interpersonal situations, group interactions, and personal and professional presentations.

A student shall enroll in the courses necessary to complete the curriculum requirements for the foundation high school program and the curriculum requirements for at least one endorsement.

Education Code 28.025(c); 19 TAC 74.11(a), (c)

**FOUNDATION HIGH
SCHOOL PROGRAM**

A student must earn at least 22 credits to complete the foundation high school program and must demonstrate proficiency in the following core courses:

1. English language arts—4 credits;
2. Mathematics—3 credits;
3. Science—3 credits;
4. Social Studies—3 credits;
5. Languages other than English—2 credits;
6. Physical Education—1 credit;
7. Fine Arts—1 credit; and

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
GRADUATION

EIF
(LEGAL)

8. Elective courses—5 credits.

19 TAC 74.12

ENDORSEMENTS

A student shall specify in writing an endorsement the student intends to earn upon entering grade 9. A student may earn any of the following endorsements:

1. Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM);
2. Business and industry;
3. Public services;
4. Arts and humanities; and
5. Multidisciplinary studies.

A district must make at least one endorsement available to students. A district that offers only one endorsement curriculum must offer multidisciplinary studies.

To earn an endorsement a student must demonstrate proficiency in the curriculum requirements for the foundation high school program and, in accordance with 19 Administrative Code 74.13(e), earn:

1. A fourth credit in mathematics;
2. An additional credit in science; and
3. Two additional elective credits.

A course completed as part of the four courses needed to satisfy an endorsement requirement may also satisfy a requirement under the foundation high school program, including an elective requirement. The same course may count as part of the set of four courses for more than one endorsement.

A district shall permit a student to enroll in courses under more than one endorsement before the student's junior year and to choose, at any time, to earn an endorsement other than the endorsement the student previously indicated.

A student must earn at least 26 credits to earn an endorsement, but a student is not entitled to remain enrolled to earn more than 26 credits.

A district may define advanced courses and determine a coherent sequence of courses for an endorsement area, provided that prerequisites in 19 Administrative Code Chapters 110–118, 126, 127, and 130 are followed.

Education Code 28.025; 19 TAC 74.13

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
GRADUATION

EIF
(LEGAL)

EXCEPTION	<p>A student may graduate under the foundation high school program without earning an endorsement if, after the student's sophomore year:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The student and the student's parent or person standing in parental relation to the student are advised by a school counselor of the specific benefits of graduating from high school with one or more endorsements; and2. The student's parent or person standing in parental relation to the student files with a school counselor written permission, on a form adopted by TEA, allowing the student to graduate under the foundation high school program without earning an endorsement. <p><i>19 TAC 74.11(d)</i></p>
DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT	<p>A student may earn a distinguished level of achievement by successfully completing the curriculum requirements for the foundation high school program and the curriculum requirements for at least one endorsement, including four credits in science and four credits in mathematics, including Algebra II. <i>19 TAC 74.11(e)</i></p>
PREREQUISITES	<p>A student may not be enrolled in a course that has a required prerequisite unless:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The student has completed the prerequisite course(s);2. The student has demonstrated equivalent knowledge as determined by the district; or3. The student was already enrolled in the course in an out-of-state, an out-of-country, or a Texas nonpublic school and transferred to a Texas public school prior to successfully completing the course. <p>A district may award credit for a course a student completed without having met the prerequisites if the student completed the course in an out-of-state, an out-of-country, or a Texas nonpublic school where there was not a prerequisite.</p> <p><i>19 TAC 74.11(j), (k)</i></p>
COLLEGE COURSES	<p>Courses offered for dual credit at or in conjunction with an institution of higher education that provide advanced academic instruction beyond, or in greater depth than, the essential knowledge and skills for the equivalent high school course required for graduation may satisfy graduation requirements, including requirements for required courses, advanced courses, and courses for elective credit as well as requirements for endorsements. <i>19 TAC 74.11(i)</i></p>

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
GRADUATION

EIF
(LEGAL)

PHYSICAL
EDUCATION
SUBSTITUTIONS

In accordance with local district policy, the required physical education credit may be earned through completion of any TEKS-based course that is not being used to satisfy another specific graduation requirement. [See RESTRICTIONS, below]

OTHER PHYSICAL
ACTIVITY

In accordance with local district policy, credit for any physical education course may be earned through participation in the following activities:

1. Athletics;
2. JROTC; and
3. Appropriate private or commercially sponsored physical activity programs conducted on or off campus. A district must apply to the commissioner of education for approval of such programs, which may be substituted for state graduation credit in physical education. Such approval may be granted under the following conditions:
 - a. Olympic-level participation and/or competition includes a minimum of 15 hours per week of highly intensive, professional, supervised training. The training facility, instructors, and the activities involved in the program must be certified by the superintendent to be of exceptional quality. Students qualifying and participating at this level may be dismissed from school one hour per day. Students dismissed may not miss any class other than physical education.
 - b. Private or commercially sponsored physical activities include those certified by the superintendent to be of high quality and well supervised by appropriately trained instructors. Student participation of at least five hours per week must be required. Students certified to participate at this level may not be dismissed from any part of the regular school day.

In accordance with local district policy, up to one credit for any one of the physical education courses listed in 19 Administrative Code Chapter 74 [see EHAC] may be earned through participation in any of the following activities:

1. Drill team;
2. Marching band; and
3. Cheerleading.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
GRADUATION

EIF
(LEGAL)

RESTRICTIONS	<p>All substitution activities permitted by local district policy must include at least 100 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity per five-day school week.</p> <p>No more than four substitution credits may be earned through any combination of substitutions listed above.</p>
STUDENT WITH DISABILITY OR ILLNESS	<p>A student who is unable to participate in physical activity due to disability or illness may substitute an academic elective credit in English language arts, mathematics, science, social studies or a course that is offered for credit as provided by Education Code 28.002(g-1) for the required physical education credit. A credit allowed to be substituted may not also be used by the student to satisfy a graduation requirement other than completion of the physical education credit. The determination regarding a student's ability to participate in physical activity must be made by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The student's ARD committee if the student receives special education services under Education Code Chapter 29, Subchapter A;2. The committee established for the student under Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Section 794) if the student does not receive special education services under Education Code Chapter 29, Subchapter A but is covered by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; or3. A committee, established by the district, of persons with appropriate knowledge regarding the student if each of the committees described above is inapplicable. This committee must follow the same procedures required of an ARD or a Section 504 committee. <p><i>Education Code 28.025(b-10)–(b-11); 19 TAC 74.12(b)(6)</i></p>
COMMUNITY-BASED FINE ARTS PROGRAMS	<p>In accordance with local district policy, the required fine arts credit may be earned through participation in a community-based fine arts program not provided by the school district in which the student is enrolled.</p> <p>In accordance with local policy, credit may be earned through participation in the community-based fine arts program only if the program meets each of the following requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The district must apply to the commissioner for approval of the community-based fine arts program;2. The board must certify that the program provides instruction in the essential knowledge and skills for fine arts as defined by 19 Administrative Code, Chapter 117, Subchapter C;

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
GRADUATION

EIF
(LEGAL)

3. The district must document student completion of the approved activity;
4. The program must be organized and monitored by appropriately trained instructors;
5. The fine arts program may be provided on or off a school campus and outside the regular school day; and
6. Students may not be dismissed from any part of the regular school day to participate in the community-based fine arts program.

The district shall require that instructors of the community-based fine arts program provide the district, at its request, the information necessary to obtain the criminal history record information required for school personnel in accordance with 19 Administrative Code, Chapter 153, Subchapter DD, if the community-based program is offered on campus.

Education Code 28.025(b-9); 19 TAC 74.12(b)(7)(B), .1030

PERFORMANCE
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

In accordance with the requirements of 19 Administrative Code 74.14, a student may earn a performance acknowledgment on the student's transcript for:

1. Outstanding performance:
 - a. In a dual credit course;
 - b. In bilingualism and biliteracy;
 - c. On a College Board advanced placement test or international baccalaureate examination;
 - d. On an established, valid, reliable, and nationally norm-referenced preliminary college preparation assessment instrument used to measure a student's progress toward readiness for college and the workplace;
 - e. On an established, valid, reliable, and nationally norm-referenced assessment instrument used by colleges and universities as part of their undergraduate admissions process; or
2. Earning a state-recognized or nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certification or license.

Education Code 28.025(c-5); 19 TAC 74.14

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
GRADUATION

EIF
(LEGAL)

TRANSITION TO
FOUNDATION HIGH
SCHOOL PROGRAM

A district shall allow a student who entered grade 9 prior to the 2014–15 school year to complete the curriculum requirements for high school graduation:

1. By satisfying the requirements in place when the student entered grade 9 for the Minimum, Recommended, or Advanced/Distinguished Achievement High School Program [see 19 Administrative Code Chapter 74] if the student was participating in the program before the 2014–15 school year; or
2. Under the foundation high school program by satisfying the requirements adopted by the SBOE, if the student chooses during the 2014–15 school year to take courses under the program.

A student who entered grade 9 prior to the 2014–15 school year may, at any time prior to graduation and upon request, choose to complete the curriculum requirements required for high school graduation under a different program than that selected by the student during the 2014–15 school year.

19 TAC 74.1021

STUDENTS WHO
ENTERED GRADE 9
BEFORE THE 2014–15
SCHOOL YEAR

All credit for graduation must be earned no later than grade 12.
19 TAC 74.61(b), .71(b)

MINIMUM HIGH
SCHOOL PROGRAM

A student entering grade 9 prior to the 2014–15 school year who does not choose to complete the curriculum requirements for high school graduation under the foundation high school program must enroll in the courses necessary to complete the curriculum requirements for the Recommended High School Program or the Advanced/Distinguished Achievement High School Program, unless the student, the student's parent or other person standing in parental relation to the student, and a school counselor or school administrator agree in writing signed by each party that the student should be permitted to take courses under the Minimum High School Program, and the student:

1. Is at least 16 years of age;
2. Has completed two credits required for graduation in each subject of the foundation curriculum under Education Code 28.002(a)(1); or
3. Has failed to be promoted to the tenth grade one or more times as determined by the school district.

STUDENTS WITH
DISABILITIES

If an ARD committee makes decisions that place a student with a disability on a modified curriculum in a subject area, the student will be automatically placed in the Minimum High School Program.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
GRADUATION

EIF
(LEGAL)

APPLICABILITY	<p>A student who was permitted to take courses under the Minimum High School Program prior to the 2009–10 school year may remain in the Minimum High School Program.</p> <p><i>19 TAC 74.61(c), (d), .71(c), (d)</i></p>
REQUIREMENTS	<p>A student must earn at least 22 credits to complete the Minimum High School Program. A student who entered grade 9 in the 2007–08, 2008–09, 2009–10, 2010–11, or 2011–12 school year must demonstrate proficiency in the program requirements listed at 19 Administrative Code 74.62.</p> <p>A student who entered grade 9 in the 2012–13 or 2013–14 school year must demonstrate proficiency in the program requirements listed at 19 Administrative Code 74.72.</p> <p><i>Education Code 28.025; 19 TAC 74.62, .72</i></p>
RECOMMENDED HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM	<p>A student who entered grade 9 in the 2007–08, 2008–09, 2009–10, 2010–11, or 2011–12 school year must earn at least 26 credits to complete the Recommended High School Program. A student must demonstrate proficiency in the program requirements listed at 19 Administrative Code 74.63.</p> <p>A student who entered grade 9 in the 2012–13 or 2013–14 school year must earn at least 26 credits to complete the Recommended High School Program. A student must demonstrate proficiency in the program requirements listed at 19 Administrative Code 74.73.</p> <p><i>Education Code 28.025; 19 TAC 74.63, .73</i></p>
ADVANCED / DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM	<p>A student who entered grade 9 in the 2007–08, 2008–09, 2009–10, 2010–11, or 2011–12 school year must earn at least 26 credits to complete the Advanced/Distinguished Achievement High School Program. A student must demonstrate proficiency in the program requirements listed at 19 Administrative Code 74.64.</p> <p>A student who entered grade 9 in the 2012–13 or 2013–14 school year must earn at least 26 credits to complete the Advanced/Distinguished Achievement High School Program. A student must demonstrate proficiency in the program requirements listed at 19 Administrative Code 74.74.</p> <p><i>Education Code 28.025; 19 TAC 74.64, .74</i></p>
SUBSTITUTIONS	<p>No substitutions are allowed for high school graduation requirements in the Recommended and Advanced/Distinguished Achievement High School Programs, except as provided by State Board rule. 19 TAC 74.63(d), .64(e), .73(d), .74(e)</p>

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
GRADUATION

EIF
(LEGAL)

AP OR IB COURSES	College Board advanced placement and international baccalaureate courses may be substituted for required courses in appropriate areas. These courses may be used as electives in all three high school graduation programs. <i>19 TAC 74.61(k), .71(i)</i>
READING	<p>A district may offer a maximum of 3 credits of reading for state graduation elective credit for identified students if the district:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Adopts policies to identify students in need of additional reading instruction;2. Has procedures that include assessment of individual student needs and ongoing evaluation of each student's progress; and3. Monitors instructional activities to ensure that student needs are addressed. <p>Reading credits may be selected from Reading I, II, or III.</p> <p><i>19 TAC 74.61(h), .71(f)</i></p>
COLLEGE COURSES	A student may comply with the curriculum requirements under the Minimum, Recommended, or Advanced/Distinguished Achievement High School Program for each subject of the foundation curriculum and for languages other than English by successfully completing appropriate courses in the core curriculum of an institution of higher education. <i>Education Code 28.002(b-7); 19 TAC 74.61(l), .71(j)</i>
PHYSICAL EDUCATION SUBSTITUTIONS	In accordance with local district policy, credit for any physical education course may be earned through participation in the following activities:
OTHER PHYSICAL ACTIVITY	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Athletics;2. JROTC; and3. Appropriate private or commercially sponsored physical activity programs conducted on or off campus. A district must apply to the commissioner for approval of such programs, which may be substituted for state graduation credit in physical education. Such approval may be granted under the following conditions:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Olympic-level participation and/or competition includes a minimum of 15 hours per week of highly intensive, professional, supervised training. The training facility, instructors, and the activities involved in the program must be certified by the superintendent to be of exceptional quality. Students qualifying and participating at this level

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
GRADUATION

EIF
(LEGAL)

may be dismissed from school one hour per day. Students dismissed may not miss any class other than physical education.

- b. Private or commercially sponsored physical activities include those certified by the superintendent to be of high quality and well supervised by appropriately trained instructors. Student participation of at least five hours per week must be required. Students certified to participate at this level may not be dismissed from any part of the regular school day.

In accordance with local district policy, up to one credit for any one of the physical education courses listed in 19 Administrative Code Chapter 74 [see EHAC] may be earned through participation in any of the following activities:

1. Drill team;
2. Marching band; and
3. Cheerleading.

RESTRICTIONS

All substitution activities must include at least 100 minutes per five-day school week of moderate to vigorous physical activity.

No more than four substitution credits may be earned through any combination of substitutions listed above.

STUDENT WITH
DISABILITY OR
ILLNESS

A student who is unable to participate in physical activity due to disability or illness may substitute an academic elective credit in English language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies for the required physical education credit. A credit allowed to be substituted may not also be used by the student to satisfy a graduation requirement other than completion of the physical education credit. The determination regarding a student's ability to participate in physical activity must be made by:

1. The student's ARD committee if the student receives special education services under Education Code Chapter 29, Subchapter A;
2. The committee established for the student under Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Section 794) if the student does not receive special education services under Education Code Chapter 29, Subchapter A but is covered by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; or
3. A committee, established by the district, of persons with appropriate knowledge regarding the student if each of the committees described above is inapplicable. This committee

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
GRADUATION

EIF
(LEGAL)

must follow the same procedures required of an ARD or a Section 504 committee.

STUDENT WITH
PHYSICAL
LIMITATIONS

If a student entering grade 9 during the 2007–08 school year or thereafter is unable to comply with all of the requirements for a physical education course due to a physical limitation certified by a licensed medical practitioner, a modification to a physical education course does not prohibit the student from earning a Recommended or Advanced/Distinguished High School Program diploma. A student with a physical limitation must still demonstrate proficiency in the relevant knowledge and skills in a physical education course that do not require physical activity.

Education Code 28.025(b-10)–(b-11); 19 TAC 74.62(b)(7), .63(b)(7), .64(b)(7), .72(b)(6), .73(b)(6), .74(b)(6)

**SECTION V: TRANSFERS FROM OUT-OF-STATE OR
NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Out-of-state or out-of-country transfer students (including foreign exchange students) and transfer students from Texas nonpublic schools are eligible to receive Texas diplomas but shall complete all applicable high school graduation requirements. Any course credits required for graduation that are not completed before enrollment may be satisfied through credit by examination, correspondence courses, distance learning, or completing the course, according to the provisions of 19 Administrative Code 74.26. 19 TAC 74.11(f) [See EHDB, EHDC, EHDE, and EI]

**SECTION VI: GRADUATION OF STUDENTS RECEIVING
SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES**

DEFINITIONS

MODIFIED
CURRICULUM AND
CONTENT

Modified curriculum and modified content refer to any reduction of the amount or complexity of the required knowledge and skills in 19 Administrative Code Chapters 110–118, 126–128, and 130. Substitutions that are specifically authorized in statute or rule must not be considered modified curriculum or modified content.

EMPLOYABILITY
AND SELF-HELP
SKILLS

Employability and self-help skills are those skills directly related to the preparation of students for employment, including general skills necessary to obtain or retain employment.

SUMMARY OF
ACADEMIC
ACHIEVEMENT AND
EVALUATION

All students graduating must be provided with a summary of academic achievement and functional performance as described in 34 C.F.R. 300.305(e)(3). This summary must consider, as appropriate, the views of the parent and student and written recommendations from adult service agencies on how to assist the student in meeting postsecondary goals. An evaluation as required by 34 C.F.R. 300.305(e)(1) (evaluation to determine that the child is no

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
GRADUATION

EIF
(LEGAL)

longer a child with a disability), must be included as part of the summary for a student graduating under 19 Administrative Code 89.1070 (b)(2)(A), (B), or (C) or (g)(4)(A), (B), or (C). Students who participate in graduation ceremonies but who are not graduating under subsections (b)(2)(A), (B), or (C) or (g)(4)(A), (B), or (C) and who will remain in school to complete their education do not have to be evaluated.

STUDENTS
ENTERING GRADE 9
IN OR AFTER THE
2014-15 SCHOOL
YEAR

A student entering grade 9 in the 2014-15 school year and thereafter who receives special education services may graduate and be awarded a regular high school diploma if the student meets one of the following conditions:

1. The student has demonstrated mastery of the required state standards (or district standards if greater) in 19 Administrative Code Chapters 110-118, 126-128, and 130 and satisfactorily completed credit requirements for graduation under the foundation high school program applicable to students in general education as well as satisfactory performance on the required state assessments, unless the student's ARD committee has determined that satisfactory performance on the required state assessments is not necessary for graduation.
2. The student has demonstrated mastery of the required state standards (or district standards if greater) in 19 Administrative Code Chapters 110-118, 126-128, and 130 and satisfactorily completed credit requirements for graduation under the foundation high school program through courses, one or more of which contain modified curriculum that is aligned to the standards applicable to students in general education, as well as satisfactory performance on the required state assessments, unless the student's ARD committee has determined that satisfactory performance on the required state assessments is not necessary for graduation. The student must also successfully complete the student's IEP and meet one of the following conditions:
 - a. Consistent with the IEP, the student has obtained full-time employment, based on the student's abilities and local employment opportunities, in addition to mastering sufficient self-help skills to enable the student to maintain the employment without direct and ongoing educational support of the local school district.
 - b. Consistent with the IEP, the student has demonstrated mastery of specific employability skills and self-help skills that do not require direct ongoing educational support of the local school district.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
GRADUATION

EIF
(LEGAL)

- c. The student has access to services that are not within the legal responsibility of public education or employment or educational options for which the student has been prepared by the academic program.
- d. The student no longer meets age eligibility requirements.

When a student receives a diploma under item 2(a), (b), or (c), above, the ARD committee must determine needed educational services upon the request of the student or parent to resume services, as long as the student meets the age eligibility requirements.

ENDORSEMENTS

A student receiving special education services may earn an endorsement if the student:

1. Satisfactorily completes the requirements for graduation under the foundation high school program as well as the additional credit requirements in mathematics, science, and elective courses with or without modified curriculum;
2. Satisfactorily completes the courses required for the endorsement without any modified curriculum; and
3. Performs satisfactorily on the required state assessments.

A student in grade 11 or 12 receiving special education services during the 2014–15, 2015–16, or 2016–17 school year who has taken each of the state assessments required by 19 Administrative Code Chapter 101, Subchapter CC (relating to Commissioner's Rules Concerning Implementation of the Academic Content Areas Testing Program) or Subchapter DD (relating to Commissioner's Rules Concerning Substitute Assessments for Graduation) but failed to achieve satisfactory performance on no more than two of the assessments is eligible to receive an endorsement if the student has met the requirements of items 1 and 2 above.

In order for a student receiving special education services to use a course to satisfy both a requirement under the foundation high school program and a requirement for an endorsement, the student must satisfactorily complete the course without any modified curriculum.

STUDENTS
ENTERING GRADE 9
BEFORE THE 2014–
15 SCHOOL YEAR

A student receiving special education services who entered grade 9 before the 2014–15 school year may graduate and be awarded a high school diploma under the foundation high school program if the student's ARD committee determines that the student should take courses under that program and the student satisfies the requirements of that program. A student transitioning to the Foundation High School Program may earn an endorsement as set out above [see ENDORSEMENTS, above].

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
GRADUATION

EIF
(LEGAL)

A student receiving special education services in 11th or 12th grade during the 2014–15, 2015–16, or 2016–17 school year who has taken each of the required state assessments but failed to achieve satisfactory performance on no more than two of the assessments may graduate if the student has satisfied all other applicable graduation requirements. [See SPECIAL EDUCATION, above, and EKB]

A student receiving special education services who entered grade 9 before the 2014–15 school year may graduate and be awarded a regular high school diploma if the student meets one of the following conditions:

1. The student has demonstrated mastery of the required state standards (or district standards if greater) in 19 Administrative Code Chapters 110–118, 126–128, and 130 and satisfactorily completed credit requirements for graduation under the Recommend or Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Programs, including satisfactory performance on the required state assessments.
2. The student is in grade 11 or 12 during the 2014–15, 2015–16, or 2016–17 school year and has taken each of the state assessments required by 19 Administrative Code Chapter 101, Subchapter CC (relating to Commissioner's Rules Concerning Implementation of the Academic Content Areas Testing Program) or Subchapter DD (relating to Commissioner's Rules Concerning Substitute Assessments for Graduation) but failed to achieve satisfactory performance on no more than two of the assessments and has met all other applicable graduation requirements in item 1 above.
3. The student has demonstrated mastery of the required state standards (or district standards if greater) in 19 Administrative Code Chapters 110–118, 126–128, and 130 and satisfactorily completed credit requirements under the Minimum High School Program, including participation in state assessments. The student's ARD committee shall determine whether satisfactory performance on the required state assessments is necessary for graduation.
4. The student has demonstrated mastery of the required state standards (or district standards if greater) in 19 Administrative Code Chapters 110–118, 126–128, and 130 through courses, one or more of which contain modified content that is aligned to the standards required under the Minimum High School Program as well as the satisfactorily completed credit requirements under the Minimum High School Program, including participation in required state assessments. The student's

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
GRADUATION

EIF
(LEGAL)

ARD committee shall determine whether satisfactory performance on the required state assessments is necessary for graduation. The student must also successfully complete the student's IEP and meet one of the following conditions:

- a. Consistent with the IEP, the student has obtained full-time employment, based on the student's abilities and local employment opportunities, in addition to mastering sufficient self-help skills to enable the student to maintain the employment without direct and ongoing educational support of the local school district;
- b. Consistent with the IEP, the student has demonstrated mastery of specific employability skills and self-help skills that do not require direct ongoing educational support of the local school district;
- c. The student has access to services that are not within the legal responsibility of public education, or employment or educational options for which the student has been prepared by the academic program; or
- d. The student no longer meets age eligibility requirements.

When a student receives a diploma under item 3(a), (b), or (c), above, the ARD committee must determine needed educational services upon the request of the student or parent to resume services, as long as the student meets the age eligibility requirements.

19 TAC 89.1070(b)-(l)

SECTION VII: GRADUATION OF MILITARY DEPENDENTS

COURSE WAIVER

District officials shall waive specific courses required for graduation if similar coursework has been satisfactorily completed by a military student in another district or shall provide reasonable justification for denial. Should a waiver not be granted to a student who would qualify to graduate from the sending school, the district shall provide an alternative means of acquiring required coursework so that graduation may occur on time.

TRANSFERS DURING
SENIOR YEAR

Should a military student transferring at the beginning or during the student's senior year be ineligible to graduate from the district after all alternatives have been considered, the sending and receiving districts shall ensure the receipt of a diploma from the sending district, if the student meets the graduation requirements of the sending district. In the event that one of the states in question is not a member of this compact, the member state shall use best efforts to facilitate the on-time graduation of the student.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
GRADUATION

EIF
(LEGAL)

SUBSTITUTE PASSING
STANDARD

The commissioner shall adopt a passing standard on one or more national norm-referenced achievement tests for purposes of permitting a qualified military dependent to meet that standard as a substitute for completing a specific course otherwise required for graduation. The passing standard is available only for a student who enrolls in a public school in this state for the first time after completing the ninth grade or who reenrolls in a public school in this state at or above the tenth grade level after an absence of at least two years from the public schools of this state. Each passing standard in effect when a student first enrolls in a Texas public high school remains applicable to the student for the duration of the student's high school enrollment, regardless of any subsequent revision of the standard.

Education Code 162.002 art. VII, A, C [See FDD]

**SECTION VIII: GRADUATION OF STUDENT WHO IS HOME-
LESS OR IN CONSERVATORSHIP OF DFPS**

If an 11th or 12th grade student who is homeless or in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services transfers to a different school district and the student is ineligible to graduate from the district to which the student transfers, the district from which the student transferred shall award a diploma at the student's request, if the student meets the graduation requirements of the district from which the student transferred. "Student who is homeless" has the meaning assigned to the term "homeless children and youths" under 42 U.S.C. Section 11434a. *Education Code 28.025(i)*

ATTENDANCE
ATTENDANCE ACCOUNTING

FEB
(LEGAL)

RECORDS

A district shall maintain records to reflect the average daily attendance for the allocation of Foundation School Program (FSP) funds and other funds allocated by TEA. The district must maintain records and make reports concerning student attendance and participation in special programs as required by the commissioner of education. The superintendent, principals, and teachers are responsible to the board and the state to maintain accurate, current attendance records. 19 TAC 129.21(a), (e)

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 *Student Attendance Accounting Handbook (SAAH)*. 19 TAC 129.1025

A superintendent is responsible for the safekeeping of all attendance records and reports. A superintendent may determine whether the properly certified attendance records or reports for the school year are to be stored in the central office, on the respective school campuses of a district, or at another secure location. Regardless of where such records are filed or stored, they must be readily available for audit by TEA. 19 TAC 129.21(d)

MINIMUM
ENROLLMENT

A student must be enrolled for at least two hours of instruction to be considered in membership for one half day, and for at least four hours of instruction to be considered in membership for one full day.

FULL-DAY
STUDENTS

Students enrolled on a full-day basis may earn one full day of attendance each school day.

HALF-DAY
STUDENTS

Students enrolled on a half-day basis may earn only one 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.

ALTERNATIVE
ATTENDANCE
ACCOUNTING
PROGRAM

Students who are enrolled in and participating in an alternative attendance accounting program approved by the commissioner shall earn attendance according to the statutory and rule provisions applicable to that program.

ATTENDANCE FOR
STATE FUNDING
PURPOSES

Attendance for all grades shall be determined by the absences recorded in the second or fifth instructional hour of the day, unless the board adopts a policy, or delegates to the superintendent the authority to establish procedures for recording absences in an alternative hour, or unless the students for which attendance is being taken are enrolled in and participating in a commissioner-approved alternative attendance accounting program.

ATTENDANCE
ATTENDANCE ACCOUNTING

FEB
(LEGAL)

The established period in which absences are recorded may not be changed during the school year.

Students absent during the daily period selected by a district for taking attendance shall be counted absent for the entire day, unless the students are enrolled in and participating in a commissioner-approved alternative attendance accounting program. Students present at the time attendance is taken shall be counted present for the entire day, unless the students are enrolled in and participating in a commissioner-approved alternative attendance accounting program.

19 TAC 129.21(g)-(h)

A student in a disciplinary alternative education program shall be counted in computing the average daily attendance of students in a district for the student's time in actual attendance in the program.
Education Code 37.008(f)

FUNDING FOR OFF-
CAMPUS PROGRAMS

Funding eligibility for a student participating in an off-campus program will include time instructed in the off-campus program. A campus may choose an alternate attendance-taking time for a group of students that is scheduled to be off-campus during the regular attendance-taking time. The alternate attendance-taking time will be in effect for the period of days or weeks for which the group is scheduled to be off-campus during the regular attendance-taking time (for example, for the semester or for the duration of employment). This alternate attendance-taking time may not be changed once it is selected for a particular group of students. If attendance is taken at an off-campus location, the district must ensure that attendance is taken in accordance with the *SAAH*.

For a district to receive FSP funding for a student participating in an off-campus program, the district must have documentation of an agreement between the district and the college.

19 TAC 129.1031(c), (d) [See EHDD]

EXCEPTIONS

A student not actually on campus when attendance is taken may be considered in attendance for FSP purposes if:

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

ATTENDANCE
ATTENDANCE ACCOUNTING

FEB
(LEGAL)

Achievement Program outlined in 19 Administrative Code Chapter 74.

3. The student is absent for one of the purposes listed at EXCUSED ABSENCES FOR COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE DETERMINATIONS in FEA(LEGAL).
4. The student is in attendance at a dropout recovery education program, including a program operated by a public junior college under Education Code 29.402. [See GNC]
5. The student's absence is permitted by other conditions related to off-campus instruction described in the SAAH.

Education Code 25.087, 29.081(e), (f); 19 TAC 129.21(i)–(k)

DISASTERS

The commissioner shall adjust the average daily attendance of a district all or part of which is located in an area declared a disaster area by the governor under Government Code Chapter 418 if the district experiences a decline in average daily attendance that is reasonably attributable to the impact of the disaster.

The commissioner shall make the adjustment required by this section for the two-year period following the date of the governor's initial proclamation or executive order declaring the state of disaster.

Education Code 42.0051

PARENTAL CONSENT
TO LEAVE CAMPUS

Before a district 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 board shall adopt a policy, or delegate to the superintendent the authority to establish procedures, addressing parental consent for a student to leave campus and the district must distribute the policy or procedures to staff and to all parents of students in the district. 19 TAC 129.21(l)

STUDENT WELFARE
WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES

FFA
(LEGAL)

WELLNESS POLICY	Each district must establish a local school wellness policy for all schools participating in the National School Lunch Program and/or School Breakfast program under the jurisdiction of the district. The local school wellness policy is a written plan that includes methods to promote student wellness, prevent and reduce childhood obesity, and provide assurance that school meals and other food and beverages sold and otherwise made available on the school campus during the school day are consistent with applicable minimum federal standards. 7 C.F.R. 210.30(a)
"SCHOOL DAY"	"School day" means the period from the midnight before, to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. 7 C.F.R. 210.11(a)(5)
"SCHOOL CAMPUS"	"School campus" means all areas of the property under the jurisdiction of the school that are accessible to students during the school day. 7 C.F.R. 210.11(a)(4)
CONTENTS	<p>At a minimum, a local school wellness policy must contain:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Specific goals for nutrition promotion and education, physical activity, and other school-based activities that promote student wellness. In developing these goals, a district must review and consider evidence-based strategies and techniques;2. Standards for all foods and beverages provided, but not sold, to students during the school day on each participating school campus under the jurisdiction of the district;3. Standards and nutrition guidelines for all foods and beverages sold to students during the school day on each participating school campus under the jurisdiction of the district that<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Are consistent with applicable requirements set forth in 7 C.F.R. 210.10 (meal requirements for lunches and after-school snacks) and 220.8 (meal requirements for breakfasts);b. Are consistent with the nutrition standards set forth under 7 C.F.R. 210.11 (competitive food service and standards);c. Permit marketing on the school campus during the school day of only those foods and beverages that meet the nutrition standards under 7 C.F.R. 210.11; andd. Promote student health and reduce childhood obesity;4. Identification of the position of the district or school official(s) responsible for the implementation and oversight of the local

STUDENT WELFARE
WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES

FFA
(LEGAL)

school wellness policy to ensure each school's compliance with the policy;

5. A description of the manner in which parents, students, representatives of the school food authority, teachers of physical education, school health professionals, the school board, school administrators, and the general public are provided an opportunity to participate in the development, implementation, and periodic review and update of the local school wellness policy; and
6. A description of the plan for measuring the implementation of the local school wellness policy, and for reporting local school wellness policy content and implementation issues to the public as required below.

PUBLIC
INVOLVEMENT AND
NOTIFICATION

A district must:

1. Permit parents, students, representatives of the school food authority, teachers of physical education, school health professionals, the school board, school administrators, and the general public to participate in the development, implementation, and periodic review and update of the local school wellness policy.
2. Inform the public about the content and implementation of the local school wellness policy, and make the policy and any updates available to the public annually.
3. Inform the public about progress toward meeting the goals of the local school wellness policy and compliance with the local school wellness policy by making the triennial assessment, as required at item 2 under IMPLEMENTATION ASSESSMENTS AND UPDATES below, available to the public in an accessible and easily understood manner.

IMPLEMENTATION
ASSESSMENTS AND
UPDATES

A district must:

1. Designate one or more district or school officials to ensure that each participating school complies with the local school wellness policy.
2. At least once every three years, assess schools' compliance with the local school wellness policy, and make assessment results available to the public. The assessment must measure the implementation of the local school wellness policy, and include:

STUDENT WELFARE
WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES

FFA
(LEGAL)

- a. The extent to which schools under the jurisdiction of the district are in compliance with the local school wellness policy;
 - b. The extent to which the district's local school wellness policy compares to model local school wellness policies; and
 - c. A description of the progress made in attaining the goals of the local school wellness policy.
3. Make appropriate updates or modifications to the local school wellness policy, based on the triennial assessment.

RECORDKEEPING

A district must retain records to document compliance with the requirements of this policy. These records include, but are not limited to:

1. The written local school wellness policy;
2. Documentation demonstrating compliance with community involvement requirements, including requirements to make the local school wellness policy and triennial assessments available to the public as required at IMPLEMENTATION ASSESSMENTS AND UPDATES above; and
3. Documentation of the triennial assessment of the local school wellness policy for each school under its jurisdiction.

Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, Pub. L. No. 111-296, sec. 204, 124 Stat. 3183 (2010) [42 U.S.C. 1758b]; 7 C.F.R. 210.30(c)-(f)

[See CO for requirements relating to food services management, EHAA for state law requirements relating to health education, and FJ for requirements relating to food and beverage fundraisers.]

CHANGE IN HEALTH
SERVICES

Before a district or a school may expand or change the health-care services available at a school in the district from those that were available on January 1, 1999, the board must:

1. Hold a public hearing at which the board provides an opportunity for public comment and discloses all information on the proposed health-care services, including:
 - a. All health-care services to be provided;
 - b. Whether federal law permits or requires any health-care service provided to be kept confidential from parents;
 - c. Whether a child's medical records will be accessible to the parent;

STUDENT WELFARE
WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES

FFA
(LEGAL)

- d. Information concerning grant funds to be used;
 - e. The titles of persons who will have access to the medical records of a student; and
 - f. The security measures that will be used to protect the privacy of students' medical records.
2. Approve the expansion or change by a record vote.

Education Code 38.012

WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES
PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

FFAA
(LEGAL)

PHYSICAL FITNESS
ASSESSMENT

Annually, a district shall assess the physical fitness of students in grade 3 or higher in a course that satisfies the curriculum requirements for physical education under Education Code 28.002(a)(2)(C), using an assessment instrument adopted by the commissioner of education (currently FitnessGram®). *Education Code 38.101(a), .102(a)*

A district is not required to assess a student for whom, as a result of disability or other condition identified by commissioner rule, the assessment instrument is inappropriate. *Education Code 38.101(b)*

The assessment instrument must be based on factors related to student health, including aerobic capacity; body composition; and muscular strength, endurance, and flexibility, unless a particular factor is inappropriate for that student because of a health classification defined in 19 Administrative Code 74.31 [see EHAA]. *Education Code 38.102(b)(1); 19 TAC 103.1001(b)*

REPORT

A district shall provide the results of individual student performance on the physical fitness assessment to TEA. The results may not contain the names of individual students or teachers or a student's social security number or date of birth.

CONFIDENTIALITY

The results of individual student performance on the physical fitness assessment instrument are confidential and may be released only in accordance with state and federal law.

Education Code 38.103

A district may accept donations made to facilitate implementation of this subchapter. *Education Code 38.105*

VISION AND HEARING
SCREENING

As soon as possible after admission and within a period set by rule, a student required to be screened shall undergo approved screening for vision and hearing disorders and any other special senses and communication disorders specified by the Texas Department of State Health Services (TDSHS). *Health and Safety Code 36.005(a)*

DISTRICT
RESPONSIBILITY

A superintendent shall ensure that each student admitted to a district complies with the screening requirements set by TDSHS or submits an affidavit of exemption (see below). *Health and Safety Code 36.005(c)*

SCREENING
SCHEDULE

ROUTINE
SCREENING

Children enrolled in prekindergarten and kindergarten must be screened each year within 120 days of enrollment. Children enrolled in the first, third, fifth, and seventh grades must receive vision and hearing screening in each of those grade years (can be done at any time during each of those years). Upon written re-

WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES
PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

FFAA
(LEGAL)

quest approved by TDSHS, the screening of vision and hearing may instead occur in prekindergarten; kindergarten; and first, second, fourth, and sixth grades. 25 TAC 37.25(a)(2), (3), (6)

SCREENING ON
ENROLLMENT

Students four years of age and older, who are enrolled in a district for the first time, must be screened for possible vision and hearing problems within 120 calendar days of enrollment. If the student is enrolled within 60 days of the date school closes for the summer, the student must be tested within 120 days of the beginning of the following school year. Students enrolled who turn four years of age after September 1 of that year are exempt from screening until the following September. 25 TAC 37.25(a)(1), (5)

OUTSIDE
SCREENING

Except for students enrolled in prekindergarten, kindergarten, or first grade, a district shall exempt a student from screening if the student's parent, managing conservator, or legal guardian, or the student under Family Code 32.003 submits a record showing that a professional examination was properly conducted during the grade year in question or during the previous year. The record must be submitted during the grade year in which the screening would otherwise be required. 25 TAC 37.25(a)(4)

PROVISIONAL
ADMISSION

A parent, managing conservator, or legal guardian, or the student under Family Code 32.003 may execute an affidavit stating that a person, other than the screener used by a district, shall conduct the screening (or that a licensed professional shall conduct an examination) as soon as is feasible. The district may admit the student on a provisional basis for up to 60 days, or may deny admission until the screening record(s) are provided to the district. 25 TAC 37.25(b)

EXEMPTION —
RELIGIOUS BELIEFS

A student is exempt from screening if it conflicts with the tenets and practices of a recognized church or religious denomination of which the student is an adherent or a member. To qualify for the exemption, the student or minor student's parent, managing conservator, or guardian must submit on or before the day of admission an affidavit stating the objections to screening. *Health and Safety Code 36.005(b)*; 25 TAC 37.25(c)

RECORDS

A superintendent shall maintain on a form prescribed by TDSHS in accordance with TDSHS rules, screening records for each student in attendance, and the records are open for inspection by TDSHS or the local health department. *Health and Safety Code 36.006*; 25 TAC 37.26

TRANSFER OF
RECORDS

A student's screening records may be transferred among districts without the consent of the student or minor student's parent, managing conservator, or guardian. *Health and Safety Code 36.006(c)*; 25 TAC 37.26(b)(4)

WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES
PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

FFAA
(LEGAL)

ANNUAL REPORT	On or before June 30 of each year, a district shall submit to TDSHS a report on the vision and hearing screening status of its aggregate population screened during the reporting year. The district shall report in the manner specified by TDSHS. <i>Health and Safety Code 36.006(d); 25 TAC 37.26(b)(6)</i>
RISK ASSESSMENT FOR TYPE 2 DIABETES	<p>As soon as possible after admission and as required by rule, each student required to be assessed shall undergo approved risk assessment for type 2 diabetes. The risk assessment should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Identify students with acanthosis nigricans; and2. Further assess students identified under paragraph 1 to determine the students':<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Body mass index; andb. Blood pressure. <p>The risk assessment shall be performed at the same time hearing and vision screening or spinal screening is performed.</p> <p><i>Health and Safety Code 95.002(d), .003(a)</i></p>
DISTRICT RESPONSIBILITY	A superintendent shall ensure that each student admitted to a district complies with the risk assessment requirements or submits an affidavit of exemption. <i>Health and Safety Code 95.003(c)</i>
APPLICABILITY	Students who attend public schools located in TEA Regional Education Service Centers 1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 11, 13, 15, 18, 19, and 20 shall be subject to risk assessment. <i>Health and Safety Code 95.002(b)</i>
OUTSIDE SCREENING	The student or minor student's parent, managing conservator, or guardian may substitute a professional examination for the risk assessment. <i>Health and Safety Code 95.003(a)</i>
EXEMPTION — RELIGIOUS BELIEFS	A student is exempt from risk assessment if it conflicts with the tenets and practices of a recognized church or religious denomination of which the student is an adherent or a member. To qualify for the exemption, the student or minor student's parent, managing conservator, or guardian must submit to the superintendent on or before the day of the risk assessment process an affidavit stating the objections to the risk assessment. <i>Health and Safety Code 95.003(b)</i>
RECORDS	A superintendent shall maintain the risk assessment records for each student in attendance and enter the risk assessment information for each student on the surveillance software selected by the University of Texas—Pan American Border Health Office (the Office). The risk assessment records are open for inspection by

WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES
PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

FFAA
(LEGAL)

	the Office or the local health department. <i>Health and Safety Code 95.004(a)</i>
TRANSFER OF RECORDS	A student's risk assessment records may be transferred among schools without the consent of the student, or, if the student is a minor, the student's parent, managing conservator, or guardian. <i>Health and Safety Code 95.004(c)</i>
ANNUAL REPORT	A district shall submit to the Office an annual report on the risk assessment status of the students in attendance during the reporting year and shall include in the report any other required information. <i>Health and Safety Code 95.004(e)</i>
SPINAL SCREENING	Each student required by TDSHS rule to be screened shall undergo approved screening for abnormal spinal curvature. <i>Health and Safety Code 37.002(a)</i>
DISTRICT RESPONSIBILITY	A superintendent shall ensure that each student admitted to a district complies with the screening requirements or submits an affidavit of exemption (see below). <i>Health and Safety Code 37.002(c), 25 TAC 37.144(b)</i>
SCREENING SCHEDULE ROUTINE SCREENING	Students in grades 6 and 9 shall be screened for abnormal spinal curvature before the end of the school year. The screening requirement for students entering grades 6 or 9 may be met if the student has been screened for spinal deformities during the previous year. <i>25 TAC 37.144(b)(1), (2)</i>
SCREENING ON ENROLLMENT	If a student is enrolled within 60 days of the date a school closes for the summer, the student's screening must be conducted within 120 days of the beginning of the following school year. Districts may offer a student enrolling in grades 10, 11, or 12 the opportunity for spinal screening if the student has no record of having been screened previously. <i>25 TAC 37.144(b)(3), (4)</i>
OUTSIDE SCREENING	The screening requirements may also be met by a professional examination as defined in 25 Administrative Code 37.142(7). <i>25 TAC 37.144(b)(1)</i>
PROVISIONAL ADMISSION	A parent, managing conservator, or legal guardian, or the student under Family Code 32.003 may execute an affidavit stating that a person, other than the screener used by a district, shall conduct the screening as soon as is feasible. The district may admit the student on a provisional basis for up to 60 days, or may deny admission until the screening record(s) are provided to the district. The 60-day time period is from November 30 to January 30 of each school year. <i>25 TAC 37.144(c)</i>
EXEMPTION — RELIGIOUS BELIEFS	A student is exempt from screening if it conflicts with the tenets and practices of a recognized church or religious denomination of

WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES
PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

FFAA
(LEGAL)

	<p>which the student is an adherent or a member. To qualify for the exemption, the student's parent, managing conservator, or guardian must submit to the superintendent on or before the day of the screening procedure an affidavit stating the objections to screening. <i>Health and Safety Code 37.002(b); 25 TAC 37.144(d)</i></p>
RECORDS	<p>A district must comply with recordkeeping and reporting requirements set out in 25 Administrative Code 37.145(b).</p>
TRANSFER OF RECORDS	<p>Spinal screening records are transferrable between districts if written consent of the student or minor student's parent, managing conservator, or legal guardian is obtained.</p> <p><i>25 TAC 37.145(b)(3)</i></p>
REPORT OF ABNORMALITY	<p>If the spinal screening indicates that a student may have abnormal spinal curvature, the individual performing the screening shall fill out a report on a form prescribed by TDSHS.</p> <p>The superintendent shall retain one copy of the report and shall mail one copy to the parent, managing conservator, or guardian of the individual screened.</p> <p><i>Education Code 37.003</i></p>
ANNUAL REPORT	<p>On or before June 30 of each year, a district shall submit to TDSHS a report on the spinal screening status of its aggregate population screened during the reporting year. The district shall report in the manner specified by TDSHS. <i>25 TAC 37.145(b)(5)</i></p>
POLICY	<p>As a condition of receiving funds under a program funded in whole or in part by the U.S. Department of Education (DOE), a district shall develop and adopt policies, in consultation with parents, pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 1232h(c)(1), regarding the administration of physical examinations or screenings that a district may administer to the student. <i>20 U.S.C. 1232h(c)(1)(D)</i></p> <p>A district shall provide notice of the policies at least annually, at the beginning of the school year and within a reasonable time after any substantive change in the policies. <i>20 U.S.C. 1232h(c)(2)(A)(i)</i></p> <p>A district need not develop and adopt new policies if TEA or the district had in place, on January 8, 2002, policies covering the requirements of 20 U.S.C. 1232h(c)(1). <i>20 U.S.C. 1232h(c)(3)</i></p>
NOTIFICATION AND OPT-OUT	<p>At least annually at the beginning of the school year, a district shall directly notify the parent of a student of the specific or approximate dates during the school year when any nonemergency, invasive physical examination or screening, described below, is scheduled or expected to be scheduled. The required notification applies to</p>

WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES
PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

FFAA
(LEGAL)

nonemergency, invasive physical examinations or screenings that are:

1. Required as a condition of attendance;
2. Administered and scheduled by the school in advance; and
3. Not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of the student or of other students.

At a minimum, a district shall offer an opportunity for the parent to opt the student out of participation in the examination or screening. *20 U.S.C. 1232h(c)(2)(A)(ii), (C)(iii)*

EXCEPTION

These provisions do not apply to any physical examination or screening that is permitted or required by an applicable state law, including physical examinations or screenings that are permitted without parental notification. *20 U.S.C. 1232h(c)(4)(B)(ii)*

[See EF]

WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES
IMMUNIZATIONS

FFAB
(LEGAL)

IMMUNIZATION
REQUIREMENTS

Each student shall be fully immunized against diphtheria, rubeola (measles), rubella, mumps, tetanus, and poliomyelitis. The Texas Department of State Health Services (TDSHS) 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)*

Students in kindergarten through twelfth grade shall have the following additional vaccines, according to the immunization schedules set forth in TDSHS regulations: pertussis, hepatitis B, hepatitis A, and varicella (chickenpox). TDSHS requires students enrolling in seventh through twelfth grades to have one dose of meningococcal vaccine on or after the student's 11th birthday.

25 TAC 97.63

Note: For immunization requirements, see TDSHS's website at <http://www.dshs.texas.gov/immunize/school/default.shtm#requirements>. For TDSHS's recommended immunization schedule, see http://www.dshs.texas.gov/immunize/Schedule/schedule_child.shtm.

Under Health and Safety Code Chapter 81, Subchapter E, additional vaccinations may be required by TDSHS and/or the local health authority in specific situations under the mechanism of a control order containing control measures. 25 TAC 97.72

IMMUNIZATION
AWARENESS
PROGRAM

A district that maintains an Internet website shall post prominently on the website:

1. A list, in English and Spanish, of:
 - a. The immunizations required by TDSHS for admission to public school;
 - b. Any immunizations or vaccines recommended for public school students by TDSHS. The list must include the influenza vaccine, unless TDSHS requires the influenza vaccine for admission to public school; and
 - c. Health clinics in the district that offer the influenza vaccine, to the extent those clinics are known to the district; and
2. A link to the TDSHS Internet website where a person may obtain information relating to the procedures for claiming an exemption from the immunization requirements. The link must

WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES
IMMUNIZATIONS

FFAB
(LEGAL)

be presented in the same manner as the information provided under paragraph 1.

Education Code 38.019

APPLICABILITY

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

EXCEPTIONS

Immunization is not required for admission to a district:

1. If the student submits to the admitting official:

MEDICAL
REASONS

- a. An affidavit or a certificate signed by a 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 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 state health services.

or

MILITARY DUTY

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.

Education Code 38.001(c), (c-1), (f); Health and Safety Code 161.004(a), (d)(2), .0041; 25 TAC 97.62

WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES
IMMUNIZATIONS

FFAB
(LEGAL)

PROVISIONAL ADMISSION	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.
COMPLETION OF VACCINATIONS	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 vaccine series on schedule and as rapidly as is medically feasible and provide acceptable evidence of vaccination to a district.
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 a district shall exclude the student from school attendance until the required dose is administered.</p> <p><i>Education Code 38.001(e); 25 TAC 97.66(a); Atty. Gen. Op. GA-178 (2004)</i></p>
HOMELESS STUDENT	A student who is homeless, as defined in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, shall be admitted temporarily for 30 days if acceptable evidence of vaccination is not available. The school shall promptly refer the student to an appropriate health provider to obtain the required vaccinations. [See FD and FDC] 25 TAC 97.66(b); 42 U.S.C. 11302
CHILD IN FOSTER CARE	A student who is a "child in foster care" as defined by 45 C.F.R. 1355.20(a) shall be admitted temporarily for 30 days if acceptable evidence of vaccination is not available. The school shall promptly refer the student to an appropriate health provider to obtain the required vaccinations. [See FD] 25 TAC 97.66(c)
TRANSFER STUDENTS	A student can be enrolled provisionally for no more than 30 days if the student transfers from one Texas school to another, and is awaiting the transfer of the immunization record. 25 TAC 97.69(a)
MILITARY DEPENDENTS	<p>A military dependent 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. [See FDD]</p> <p>The collection and exchange of information pertaining to immunizations shall be subject to confidentiality provisions prescribed by federal law.</p> <p><i>Education Code 162.002 art. IV, C; 25 TAC 97.69(b)</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 a 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; immunization records generated from electronic health record systems must include clinic contact information and the provider's signature/stamp;
2. An official immunization record generated from a state or local health authority; 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, hepatitis B, or varicella illnesses must consist of a valid laboratory report that indicates either confirmation of immunity or infection.

A written statement from a parent, legal guardian, managing conservator, school nurse, or physician attesting to a child's positive history of varicella disease (chickenpox) or varicella immunity is acceptable in lieu of a vaccine record for that disease. [See the form on TDSHS's website at <http://www.dshs.texas.gov/immunize/docs/c-9.pdf>]

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 a 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), (a-1)*

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 or other assessment to be completed. The records shall be open for inspection at all reasonable times by TEA, local health departments, or the TDSHS. Immunization records may be maintained in paper and/or electronic form. *Education Code 38.002(a); 25 TAC 97.67*

WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES
IMMUNIZATIONS

FFAB
(LEGAL)

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)*

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. *Education Code 38.002(c); 25 TAC 97.71*

CONSENT TO
IMMUNIZATION

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:

1. A guardian of the child; and
2. A person authorized under the law of another state or a court order to consent for the child.

Family Code 32.101(a)

The district in which the child is enrolled may give consent to the immunization if:

1. The persons listed above are not available; and
2. The district has written authorization to consent from a person listed above.

Family Code 32.101(b)(5)

A district may not consent for the child if it has actual knowledge that a person listed above has:

1. Expressly refused to give consent to the immunization;
2. Been told not to consent for the child; or
3. Withdrawn a prior written authorization for the district to consent.

Family Code 32.101(c)

CONSENT BY CHILD

A child may consent to the child's own immunization for a disease if the child is pregnant or is the parent of a child and has actual custody of that child, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend or authorize the initial dose of an immunization for that disease to be administered before seven years of age.

Consent by a child to immunization is not subject to disaffirmance because of minority. A health-care provider or facility may rely on

WELLNESS AND HEALTH SERVICES
IMMUNIZATIONS

FFAB
(LEGAL)

the written statement of the child containing the grounds on which the child has capacity to consent to the child's immunization.

Family Code 32.1011

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] A district has the responsibility to ensure that the consent, if given, is an informed consent. A district is not required to be present when the immunization is requested if a consent form has been given to the health-care provider.

Family Code 32.101(f), .102

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. *Family Code 32.103*

STUDENT FUNDRAISING

FJ
(LEGAL)

FOOD AND BEVERAGE
FUNDRAISERS

Schools that participate in the National School Lunch Program under 42 U.S.C. Section 1751, et seq., or the School Breakfast Program under 42 U.S.C. Section 1773, may sell food and beverages that do not meet nutritional standards outlined in 7 C.F.R. Parts 210 and 220 as part of a fundraiser, during the school day, for up to six days per school year on each school campus, provided that no specially exempted fundraiser foods or beverages may be sold in competition with school meals in the food service area during the meal service. 4 TAC 26.2 [See CO and FFA]

COMMUNITY RELATIONS
CONDUCT ON SCHOOL PREMISES

GKA
(LEGAL)

APPLICABILITY OF
CRIMINAL LAWS

The criminal laws of the state apply to the areas under the control and jurisdiction of the board. *Education Code 37.101*

TRESPASS

A board or its authorized representative may refuse to allow persons having no legitimate business to enter on property under the board's control and may eject any undesirable person from the property on his or her refusal to leave peaceably on request. Identification may be required of any person on the property. *Education Code 37.105*

An unauthorized person who trespasses on the grounds of a school district commits a Class C misdemeanor. *Education Code 37.107*

VEHICLES ON
SCHOOL PROPERTY

A board may bar or suspend a person from driving or parking a vehicle on any school property as a result of the person's violation of any rule or regulation promulgated by the board or set forth in Education Code Chapter 37, Subchapter D. [See CLC] *Education Code 37.106*

DISRUPTION OF
LAWFUL ASSEMBLY

A person commits a Class B misdemeanor if the person, alone or in concert with others, intentionally engages in disruptive activity on the campus or property of a public school.

Disruptive activity means:

1. Obstructing or restraining the passage of persons in an exit, entrance, or hallway of any building without the authorization of the administration of the school;
2. Seizing control of any building or portion of a building to interfere with any administrative, educational, research, or other authorized activity;
3. Preventing or attempting to prevent by force or violence or the threat of violence any lawful assembly authorized by the school administration so that a person attempting to participate in the assembly is unable to participate due to the use of force or violence or due to a reasonable fear that force or violence is likely to occur;
4. Disrupting by force or violence or the threat of force or violence a lawful assembly in progress; or
5. Obstructing or restraining the passage of any person at an exit or entrance to the campus or property or preventing or attempting to prevent by force or violence or by threats thereof the ingress or egress of any person to or from the property or campus without the authorization of the administration of the school.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS
CONDUCT ON SCHOOL PREMISES

GKA
(LEGAL)

FREE SPEECH

This provision shall not be construed to infringe upon any right of free speech or expression guaranteed by the constitutions of the United States or the state of Texas.

Education Code 37.123

DISRUPTION OF
CLASSES

A person, other than a primary or secondary grade student enrolled in the school, commits a Class C misdemeanor if the person, on school property or on public property within 500 feet of school property, alone or in concert with others, intentionally disrupts the conduct of classes or other school activities. It is an exception to the application of the offense that, at the time the person engaged in the prohibited conduct, the person was younger than 12 years of age.

Disrupting the conduct of classes or other school activities includes:

1. Emitting noise of an intensity that prevents or hinders classroom instruction.
2. Enticing or attempting to entice a student away from a class or other school activity that the student is required to attend.
3. Preventing or attempting to prevent a student from attending a class or other school activity that the student is required to attend.
4. Entering a classroom without the consent of either the principal or the teacher and, through either acts of misconduct or use of loud or profane language, disrupting class activities.

"School property" includes a public school campus or school grounds on which a public school is located, and any grounds or buildings used by a school for an assembly or other school-sponsored activity.

"Public property" includes a street, highway, alley, public park, or sidewalk.

Education Code 37.124

DISRUPTION OF
TRANSPORTATION

A person, other than a primary or secondary grade student, commits a Class C misdemeanor if the person intentionally disrupts, prevents, or interferes with the lawful transportation of students to and from school, or to or from activities sponsored by a school, on a vehicle owned and/or operated by a district. It is an exception to the application of the offense that, at the time the person engaged in the prohibited conduct, the person was younger than 12 years of age. *Education Code 37.126*

COMMUNITY RELATIONS
CONDUCT ON SCHOOL PREMISES

GKA
(LEGAL)

TOBACCO AND E-CIGARETTES	A board shall prohibit smoking or using e-cigarettes or tobacco products at a school-related or school-sanctioned activity on or off school property. School personnel shall enforce these policies on school property. <i>Education Code 38.006</i> [See FNCD for the definition of e-cigarette.]
SMOKING IN BUILDINGS	A district shall not permit smoking within any indoor facility used for provision of routine or regular kindergarten, elementary, or secondary education or library services to children; or regular or routine health care or day care or early childhood development (Head Start) services to children or for the use of employees who provide such services. <i>20 U.S.C. 6083; 20 U.S.C. 7183</i>
CRIMINAL PENALTY	A person commits an offense if the person is in possession of a burning tobacco product, smokes tobacco, or operates an e-cigarette in a facility of a public school.
DEFENSE	It is a defense to prosecution that a district does not have prominently displayed a reasonably sized notice that smoking is prohibited by state law in such place and that an offense is punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500.
FACILITIES FOR EXTINGUISHMENT	A district shall be equipped with facilities for extinguishment of smoking materials. <i>Penal Code 48.01(a)-(c)</i>
ALCOHOL	A board shall prohibit the use of alcoholic beverages at school-related or school-sanctioned activities on or off school property. <i>Education Code 38.007(a)</i> [See FNCF regarding alcohol-free zones.]
INTOXICANTS	A person commits a Class C misdemeanor if the person possesses an intoxicating beverage for consumption, sale, or distribution while: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. On the grounds or in a building of a public school; or2. Entering or inside any enclosure, field, or stadium where any athletic event sponsored or participated in by a public school is being held. <i>Education Code 37.122</i> [See also FNCF]
FIREWORKS	A person may not explode or ignite fireworks within 600 feet of any school unless the person receives authorization in writing from the school. <i>Occupations Code 2154.251(a)(1)</i>

COMMUNITY RELATIONS
CONDUCT ON SCHOOL PREMISES

GKA
(LEGAL)

2. A sign posted on the property that includes the language described above in both English and Spanish, appears in contrasting colors with block letters at least one inch in height, and is displayed in a conspicuous manner clearly visible to the public.

EXCEPTION

It is an exception to Penal Code 30.06 that the property on which the license holder carries a concealed handgun is owned or leased by a district and is not a premises or other place on which the license holder is prohibited from carrying the handgun under Penal Code 46.03 or 46.035.

Penal Code 30.06 [See also FNCG]

UNAUTHORIZED
NOTICE

A district may not provide notice, by a communication described by Penal Code 30.06 or by any sign expressly referring to that law or to a concealed handgun license, that a license holder carrying a handgun under the authority of Government Code Chapter 411 is prohibited from entering or remaining on a premises or other place owned or leased by the district unless license holders are prohibited from carrying a handgun on the premises or other place by Penal Code 46.03 or 46.035. *Gov't Code 411.209*

TRESPASS—OPEN
CARRY OF HANDGUN

A holder of a license to openly carry a handgun commits an offense if the license holder:

1. Openly carries a handgun on property of another without effective consent; and
2. Received notice that entry on the property by a license holder openly carrying a handgun was forbidden.

NOTICE / SIGN—
OPEN CARRY OF
HANDGUN

For purposes of Penal Code 30.07, a person receives notice if the owner of the property or someone with apparent authority to act for the owner provides notice to the person by oral or written communication.

"Written communication means":

1. A card or other document on which is written language identical to the following: "Pursuant to Section 30.07, Penal Code (trespass by license holder with an openly carried handgun), a person licensed under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code (handgun licensing law), may not enter this property with a handgun that is carried openly"; or
2. A sign posted on the property that includes the language described above in both English and Spanish, appears in contrasting colors with block letters at least one inch in height,

COMMUNITY RELATIONS
CONDUCT ON SCHOOL PREMISES

GKA
(LEGAL)

and is displayed in a conspicuous manner clearly visible to the public at each entrance to the property.

An offense under Penal Code 30.07 is a Class C misdemeanor, except that the offense is a Class A misdemeanor if, after entering the property, the license holder was personally given the notice by oral communication that entry or remaining on the property with an openly carried handgun was forbidden and subsequently failed to depart.

EXCEPTION

It is an exception to Penal Code 30.07 that the property on which the license holder openly carries the handgun is owned or leased by a governmental entity and is not a premises or other place on which the license holder is prohibited from carrying the handgun under Penal Code 46.03 or 46.035.

Penal Code 30.07

INTERSCHOLASTIC
EVENTS

A license holder commits a Class A misdemeanor if the license holder intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly carries a handgun, regardless of whether the handgun is concealed or carried in a shoulder or belt holster, on the premises where a high school, collegiate, or professional sporting event or interscholastic event is taking place.

Penal Code 46.035(b)(2) does not apply if the license holder is a participant in the event and a handgun is used in the event.

Penal Code 46.035(b)(2)

BOARD MEETINGS

A license holder commits a Class A misdemeanor if the license holder intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly carries a handgun, regardless of whether the handgun is concealed or carried in a shoulder or belt holster, in the room or rooms where a meeting of the board is held and if the meeting is an open meeting under the Open Meetings Act.

Penal Code 46.035(c) does not apply unless the license holder was given effective notice under Penal Code 30.06 or 30.07 [see NOTICE/SIGN—CONCEALED CARRY OF HANDGUN and NOTICE/SIGN—OPEN CARRY OF HANDGUN, above].

Penal Code 46.035(c), (i)

BOARD
AUTHORIZATION

A license holder does not commit a criminal offense under Penal Code 46.035 [see INTERSCHOLASTIC EVENTS and BOARD MEETINGS, above] if the person is lawfully carrying a handgun pursuant to a board's written regulations and authorization. *Att'y Gen. Op. GA-1051 (2014)* [See CKE(LEGAL), SECTION III]

COMMUNITY RELATIONS
CONDUCT ON SCHOOL PREMISES

GKA
(LEGAL)

DEFENSE TO
PROSECUTION

It is a defense to prosecution under Penal Code 46.035(b) and (c) [see INTERSCHOLASTIC EVENTS and BOARD MEETINGS, above] that the actor, at the time of the offense, was:

1. A judge or justice of a federal court;
2. An active judicial officer;
3. A district attorney, assistant district attorney, criminal district attorney, assistant criminal district attorney, county attorney, or assistant county attorney; or
4. A bailiff designated by an active judicial officer and engaged in escorting the officer.

Penal Code 46.035(h-1)

FEDERAL GUN-FREE
SCHOOL ZONES ACT

It is unlawful for any individual knowingly to possess a firearm at a place that the individual knows, or has reasonable cause to believe, is a school zone.

"School zone" means in, or on the grounds of, a school; or within a distance of 1,000 feet from the grounds of a school.

This prohibition does not apply to the possession of a firearm:

1. On private property not part of school grounds;
2. If the individual possessing the firearm is licensed to do so by the state, and the law of the state requires that, before an individual obtains such a license, the law enforcement authorities of the state verify that the individual is qualified under law to receive the license;
3. That is not loaded and in a locked container, or a locked firearms rack that is on a motor vehicle;
4. By an individual for use in a program approved by a school in the school zone;
5. By an individual in accordance with a contract entered into between a school in the school zone and the individual or an employer of the individual;
6. By a law enforcement officer acting in his or her official capacity; or
7. That is unloaded and is possessed by an individual while traversing school premises for the purpose of gaining access to public or private lands open to hunting, if the entry on school premises is authorized by school authorities.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS
CONDUCT ON SCHOOL PREMISES

GKA
(LEGAL)

It is unlawful for any person, knowingly or with reckless disregard for the safety of another, to discharge or attempt to discharge a firearm at a place that the person knows is a school zone.

This prohibition does not apply to the discharge of a firearm:

1. On private property not part of school grounds;
2. As part of a program approved by a school in the school zone, by an individual who is participating in the program;
3. By an individual in accordance with a contract entered into between a school in a school zone and the individual or an employer of the individual; or
4. By a law enforcement officer acting in his or her official capacity.

18 U.S.C. 921(a)(25); .922(q)