

Graduation Credit Requirements for Students Entering Ninth Grade Beginning in 2012-2013

Discipline	Minimum HSP	Recommended HSP	Distinguished Achievement Program*
<p>English Language Arts ♦</p>	<p>Four credits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English I, II, and III • English I and II for Speakers of Other Languages may be substituted for English I and II for students with limited English proficiency who are at the beginning or intermediate levels of English language proficiency. • The fourth credit of English may be selected from one full credit or a combination of two half credits of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ English IV ▪ Research and Technical Writing ▪ Creative Writing ▪ Practical Writing Skills ▪ Literary Genres ▪ Business English (CTE) ▪ Journalism ▪ AP English Language and Composition ▪ AP English Literature and Composition 	<p>Four credits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English I, II, III, and IV • English I and II for Speakers of Other Languages may be substituted for English I and II only for students with limited English proficiency who are at the beginning or intermediate levels of English language proficiency. 	<p>Four credits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English I, II, III, and IV • English I and II for Speakers of Other Languages may be substituted for English I and II only for students with limited English proficiency who are at the beginning or intermediate levels of English language proficiency.
<p>Mathematics ♦</p>	<p>Three credits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Algebra I • Geometry • The final credit may be Algebra II. A student may not combine a half credit of Algebra II with a half credit from another mathematics course to satisfy the final mathematics credit requirement. • The final credit may be selected from one full credit or a combination of two half credits from any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Precalculus ▪ Mathematical Models with Applications ▪ Independent Study in Mathematics ▪ Advanced Quantitative Reasoning (AQR) ▪ AP Statistics ▪ AP Calculus AB ▪ AP Calculus BC ▪ AP Computer Science ▪ IB Mathematical Studies Standard Level ▪ IB Mathematics Standard Level ▪ IB Mathematics Higher Level ▪ IB Further Mathematics Standard Level ▪ Mathematical Applications in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources (CTE) ▪ Engineering Mathematics (CTE) ▪ Statistics and Risk Management (CTE) 	<p>Four credits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Algebra I • Algebra II • Geometry • The additional credit may be Mathematical Models with Applications and must be successfully completed prior to Algebra II. • The fourth credit may be selected from any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Precalculus ▪ Independent Study in Mathematics ▪ Advanced Quantitative Reasoning (AQR) ▪ AP Statistics ▪ AP Calculus AB ▪ AP Calculus BC ▪ AP Computer Science ▪ IB Mathematical Studies Standard Level ▪ IB Mathematics Standard Level ▪ IB Mathematics Higher Level ▪ IB Further Mathematics Standard Level ▪ The additional credit may be selected from the following Algebra I and Geometry and either after successful completion of or concurrently with Algebra II: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Engineering Mathematics (CTE) ▪ Mathematical Applications in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources (CTE) ▪ Statistics and Risk Management (CTE) 	<p>Four credits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Algebra I • Algebra II • Geometry • The fourth credit may be selected from any of the following after successful completion of Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Precalculus ▪ Independent Study in Mathematics ▪ Advanced Quantitative Reasoning (AQR) ▪ AP Statistics ▪ AP Calculus AB ▪ AP Calculus BC ▪ AP Computer Science ▪ IB Mathematical Studies Standard Level ▪ IB Mathematics Standard Level ▪ IB Mathematics Higher Level ▪ IB Further Mathematics Standard Level • The additional credit may be selected from the following Algebra I and Geometry and either after successful completion of or concurrently with Algebra II: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Engineering Mathematics (CTE) ▪ Statistics and Risk Management (CTE)

♦ College Board Advanced Placement, college-level concurrent/dual enrollment, and International Baccalaureate courses may be substituted for requirements in appropriate areas.
 * Distinguished Achievement Program requirements also include student achievement of four advanced measures. See [TAC §74.74\(d\)](#) for more information.

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Discipline ♦	Minimum HSP	Recommended HSP	Distinguished Achievement Program*
Science ♦	<p>Two credits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biology • Integrated Physics and Chemistry (IPC) <p>May substitute a chemistry credit (Chemistry, AP Chemistry, or IB Chemistry) or a physics credit (Physics, Principles of Technology, AP Physics, or IB Physics) for IPC but must use the other of these two courses as the academic elective credit.</p>	<p>Four credits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biology, AP Biology, or IB Biology • Chemistry, AP Chemistry, or IB Chemistry • Physics, Principles of Technology, AP Physics, or IB Physics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The additional credit may be IPC and must be successfully completed prior to chemistry and physics. • The fourth credit may be selected from any of the following laboratory-based courses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Aquatic Science ▪ Astronomy ▪ Earth and Space Science ▪ Environmental Systems ▪ AP Biology ▪ AP Chemistry ▪ AP Physics B ▪ AP Physics C ▪ AP Environmental Science ▪ IB Biology ▪ IB Chemistry ▪ IB Physics ▪ IB Environmental Systems • The additional credit may be selected from the following laboratory-based courses and may be taken after successful completion of biology and chemistry and either after successful completion of biology and chemistry or after successful completion of or concurrently with physics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scientific Research and Design (CTE) ▪ Anatomy and Physiology (CTE) ▪ Engineering Design and Problem Solving (CTE) ▪ Medical Microbiology (CTE) ▪ Pathophysiology (CTE) ▪ Advanced Animal Science (CTE) ▪ Advanced Biotechnology (CTE) ▪ Advanced Plant and Soil Science (CTE) ▪ Food Science (CTE) ▪ Forensic Science (CTE) 	<p>Four credits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biology, AP Biology, or IB Biology • Chemistry, AP Chemistry, or IB Chemistry • Physics, AP Physics, or IB Physics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The fourth credit may be selected from any of the following laboratory-based courses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Aquatic Science ▪ Astronomy ▪ Earth and Space Science ▪ Environmental Systems ▪ AP Biology ▪ AP Chemistry ▪ AP Physics B ▪ AP Physics C ▪ AP Environmental Science ▪ IB Biology ▪ IB Chemistry ▪ IB Physics ▪ IB Environmental Systems • The additional credit may be selected from the following laboratory-based courses and may be taken after successful completion of biology and chemistry and either after successful completion of or concurrently with physics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scientific Research and Design (CTE) ▪ Anatomy and Physiology (CTE) ▪ Engineering Design and Problem Solving (CTE) ▪ Medical Microbiology (CTE) ▪ Pathophysiology (CTE) ▪ Advanced Animal Science (CTE) ▪ Advanced Biotechnology (CTE) ▪ Advanced Plant and Soil Science (CTE) ▪ Food Science (CTE) ▪ Forensic Science (CTE)
Social Studies ♦	<p>Three credits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U.S. History Studies Since 1877 (one credit) • U.S. Government (one-half credit) • Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits (one-half credit) <p>The final credit may be selected from the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ World History Studies (one credit) ▪ World Geography Studies (one credit) 	<p>Four credits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World History Studies (one credit) • World Geography Studies (one credit) • U.S. History Studies Since 1877 (one credit) • U.S. Government (one-half credit) • Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits (one-half credit) 	<p>Four credits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World History Studies (one credit) • World Geography Studies (one credit) • U.S. History Studies Since 1877 (one credit) • U.S. Government (one-half credit) • Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits (one-half credit)

♦ College Board Advanced Placement, college-level concurrent/dual enrollment, and International Baccalaureate courses may be substituted for requirements in appropriate areas.
 ♦ Distinguished Achievement Program requirements also include student achievement of four advanced measures. See TAC §74.74(d) for more information.

Graduation Credit Requirements for Students Entering Ninth Grade Beginning in 2012-2013

Discipline	Minimum HSP	Recommended HSP	Distinguished Achievement Program*
Academic Elective	<p>One credit from any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World History Studies • World Geography Studies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A student may not combine a half credit of either World History Studies or World Geography Studies with a half credit from another academic elective. ▪ Any SBOE-approved science course ▪ If substituting Chemistry or Physics for IPC, a student must use the other of these two courses as academic elective credit. 	None	None
<p>Languages Other Than English ♦</p> <p>Physical Education</p>	<p>None</p> <p>One credit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The required credit may be from any combination of the following one-half to one credit courses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Foundations of Personal Fitness ▪ Adventure/Outdoor Education ▪ Aerobic Activities ▪ Team or Individual Sports • In accordance with local district policy, credit for any of the courses listed above may be earned through participation in the following activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Athletics ▪ JROTC ▪ Appropriate private or commercially-sponsored physical activity programs conducted on or off campus • In accordance with local district policy, up to one credit for any one of the courses listed above may be earned through participation in any of the following activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Drill Team ▪ Marching Band ▪ Cheerleading • All allowed substitution activities must include at least 100 minutes per five-day school week of moderate to vigorous physical activity. • Credit may not be earned for any TEKS-based course more than once. No more than four substitution credits may be earned through any combination of substitutions. • A student who is unable to participate in physical activity due to disability or illness may substitute an academic elective credit (English language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies). 	<p>Two credits: The credits must consist of any two levels in the same language.</p> <p>One credit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The required credit may be from any combination of the following one-half to one credit courses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Foundations of Personal Fitness ▪ Adventure/Outdoor Education ▪ Aerobic Activities ▪ Team or Individual Sports • In accordance with local district policy, credit for any of the courses listed above may be earned through participation in the following activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Athletics ▪ JROTC ▪ Appropriate private or commercially-sponsored physical activity programs conducted on or off campus • In accordance with local district policy, up to one credit for any one of the courses listed above may be earned through participation in any of the following activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Drill Team ▪ Marching Band ▪ Cheerleading • All allowed substitution activities must include at least 100 minutes per five-day school week of moderate to vigorous physical activity. • Credit may not be earned for any TEKS-based course more than once. No more than four substitution credits may be earned through any combination of substitutions. • A student who is unable to participate in physical activity due to disability or illness may substitute an academic elective credit (English language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies). 	<p>Three credits: The credits must consist of any three levels in the same language.</p> <p>One credit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The required credit may be from any combination of the following one-half to one credit courses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Foundations of Personal Fitness ▪ Adventure/Outdoor Education ▪ Aerobic Activities ▪ Team or Individual Sports • In accordance with local district policy, credit for any of the courses listed above may be earned through participation in the following activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Athletics ▪ JROTC ▪ Appropriate private or commercially-sponsored physical activity programs conducted on or off campus • In accordance with local district policy, up to one credit for any one of the courses listed above may be earned through participation in any of the following activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Drill Team ▪ Marching Band ▪ Cheerleading • All allowed substitution activities must include at least 100 minutes per five-day school week of moderate to vigorous physical activity. • Credit may not be earned for any TEKS-based course more than once. No more than four substitution credits may be earned through any combination of substitutions. • A student who is unable to participate in physical activity due to disability or illness may substitute an academic elective credit (English language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies).
Speech	<p>One-half credit from either of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication Applications • Professional Communications (CTE) 	<p>One-half credit from either of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication Applications • Professional Communications (CTE) 	<p>One-half credit from either of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication Applications • Professional Communications (CTE)

♦ College Board Advanced Placement, college-level concurrent/dual enrollment, and International Baccalaureate courses may be substituted for requirements in appropriate areas.
 * Distinguished Achievement Program requirements also include student achievement of four advanced measures. See IAC 87.29.24(d) for more information.

Graduation Credit Requirements for Students Entering Ninth Grade Beginning in 2012-2013

Discipline ♦	Minimum HSP	Recommended HSP	Distinguished Achievement Program*
Fine Arts ♦	<p>One credit for students who entered Grade 9 in 2010-11 or later from any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art, Level I, II, III, or IV • Dance, Level I, II, III, or IV • Music, Level I, II, III, or IV • Theatre, Level I, II, III, or IV • Principles and Elements of Floral Design (CTE) • Digital Art and Animation (Technology Applications) • 3-D Modeling and Animation (Technology Applications) 	<p>One credit from any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art, Level I, II, III, or IV • Dance, Level I, II, III, or IV • Music, Level I, II, III, or IV • Theatre, Level I, II, III, or IV • Principles and Elements of Floral Design (CTE) • Digital Art and Animation (Technology Applications) • 3-D Modeling and Animation (Technology Applications) 	<p>One credit from any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art, Level I, II, III, or IV • Dance, Level I, II, III, or IV • Music, Level I, II, III, or IV • Theatre, Level I, II, III, or IV • Principles and Elements of Floral Design (CTE) • Digital Art and Animation (Technology Applications) • 3-D Modeling and Animation (Technology Applications)
Elective Courses ♦	<p>Six and one-half credits from any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The list of courses approved by the SBOE for Grades 9-12 (relating to Essential Knowledge and Skills) • State-approved innovative courses • JROTC (one to four credits) • Driver Education (one-half credit) <p>A student may not combine a half credit of a course for which there is an end-of-course assessment with another elective credit course to satisfy an elective credit requirement.</p>	<p>Five and one-half credits from any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The list of courses approved by the SBOE for Grades 9-12 (relating to Essential Knowledge and Skills) • State-approved innovative courses • JROTC (one to four credits) • Driver Education (one-half credit) <p>A student may not combine a half credit of a course for which there is an end-of-course assessment with another elective credit course to satisfy an elective credit requirement.</p>	<p>Four and one-half credits from any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The list of courses approved by the SBOE for Grades 9-12 (relating to Essential Knowledge and Skills) • State-approved innovative courses • JROTC (one to four credits) • Driver Education (one-half credit) <p>A student may not combine a half credit of a course for which there is an end-of-course assessment with another elective credit course to satisfy an elective credit requirement.</p>
Total Credits	22	26	26

♦ College Board Advanced Placement, college-level concurrent/dual enrollment, and International Baccalaureate courses may be substituted for requirements in appropriate areas.
 * Distinguished Achievement Program requirements also include student achievement of four advanced measures. See IAC §74.74(d) for more information.

Waskom Independent School District **House Bill 5**

Graduation Plan

Significant changes have been made to graduation requirements under House Bill 5 passed by the Texas Legislature in 2013. The new standards affect students entering ninth grade in the Fall of 2014 replacing the current "4x4" graduation requirements.

Key changes that were made by the legislature include: a foundation high school graduation program, requirement for students to select an endorsement, opportunities for students to earn performance acknowledgements and changes to the STAAR EOC testing program.

Waskom Independence School District encourages students to pursue the **Foundation Graduation Plan plus Endorsements**.

Foundation Graduation Plan plus Endorsements

- 4 English Credits
 - English I, II, III, IV
- 4 Math Credits
 - Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Advanced Math
- 4 Social Studies Credits
 - World Geography, World History, U.S. History, Government and Economics
- 4 Science Credits
 - IPC, Biology, 2 Advanced Sciences
- 2 World Language Credits
 - Two credits of the same foreign language
- 1 Fine Arts Credit
- 1 Physical Education Credits
- 6 State Credits

26 Total Credits

Distinguished Level of Achievement

Algebra II qualifies a student for the distinguished Level of achievement diploma. This can translate to additional opportunities after graduation and qualifies a student for top ten percent automatic eligibility.

Performance Acknowledgment

Students have the option of earning a Performance Acknowledgment, which is noted on the official high school transcript. This is not a graduation requirement, but allows students to obtain an acknowledgment for outstanding performance in different areas including:

- Dual Credit courses
- Bilingual/Bi-literate
- AP Scores
- PSAT, ACT, SAT scores
- Earning a state or nationally recognized certificate or license.

Endorsement Options

To earn an endorsement, students complete a coherent sequence of courses in an area of interest.

STEM

- Math
- Science

Business and Industry

- Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources
- Architecture and Construction
- Arts, A/V Technology and Communications
- Hospitality and Tourism
- Wildlife/Fisheries
- Horticulture

Arts and Humanities

- World Languages
- Fine Arts

Multidisciplinary

- Students are able to gain credits in a variety of content areas

STAAR End-Of-Course Exams

Students must also pass the STAAR End of Course Exam (EOC) for five "Foundation" classes including: English I and II, Algebra I, Biology, and U.S. History

EARLY GRADUATION

A parent is entitled to request, with the expectation that the request will not be unreasonably denied, 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. Education Code 26.003 (a) (3) (C) [See EIF, EIG, FNG (LEGAL)]

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students with disabilities may be permitted to graduate under the provisions of their IEP and with the consent of the ARD committee and their parents.

HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT FOR COLLEGE COURSES

Students who are classified as junior or seniors may be awarded concurrent credit toward high school graduation for completing college-level courses.

The course for which credit is awarded shall provide advanced academic instruction beyond or in greater depth than the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS).