

# HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION PLAN

## FOR STUDENTS ENTERING 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE IN FALL 2004 and beyond

**NORTH EAST GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS EXCEED TEXAS STATE MINIMUM GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

<b>NEISD MINIMUM PROGRAM</b>		<b>RECOMMENDED PROGRAM</b>		<b>DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT</b>	
<b>SUBJECT AREA</b>	<b>CREDITS</b>	<b>SUBJECT AREA</b>	<b>CREDITS</b>	<b>SUBJECT AREA</b>	<b>CREDITS</b>
English	4	English	4	English	4
Speech	½	Speech	½	Speech	½
Math	3	Math	3	Math	3
Science	2	Science	3	Science	3
Social Studies	2½	Social Studies	3½	Social Studies	3½
Economics	½	Economics	½	Economics	½
Additional Science or Social Studies	1	Health	½	Health	½
Health	½	Physical Education	1½	Physical Education	1½
Physical Education	1½	Other Language	2	Other Language	3
Other Language	2	Fine Arts	1	Fine Arts	1
Fine Arts	½	Technology Applications	1	Technology Applications	1
Technology Applications	1	Electives	3½	Electives	2½
Electives	5				
<b>TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED</b>	<b>24</b>

**ALL STUDENTS ENROLL IN THE RECOMMENDED OR DISTINGUISHED GRADUATION PLANS UNLESS THE ADMINISTRATOR, COUNSELOR, STUDENT AND PARENT DETERMINE THE STUDENT MAY WAIVE TO THE MINIMUM PLAN.**

**PLUS 4 ADVANCED MEASURES**  
**One Measure Maximum:**  
 NATIONAL RECOGNITION ON PSAT  
**Two Measures Maximum:**  
 ORIGINAL RESEARCH/PROJECT  
**Four Measures Maximum:**  
 PERFORMANCE ON AP EXAMS  
 (Score of "3" or higher)  
 GRADES IN COLLEGE CREDIT COURSES ("B" or above)  
 See your counselor for specific requirements

<b>SUBJECT AREA</b>	<b>NEISD MINIMUM PROGRAM</b>	<b>TEXAS RECOMMENDED AND DAP PROGRAMS</b>
<b>ENGLISH</b>	ENGLISH I, II, III, IV required. Immigrant students with limited English proficiency may substitute ENGLISH I SOL and English II SOL for ENGLISH I and II only.	ENGLISH I, II, III, and IV required. Immigrant students with limited English proficiency may substitute ENGLISH I SOL and English II SOL for ENGLISH I and II only
<b>SPEECH</b>	½ credit required COMMUNICATIONS APPLICATIONS (NO SUBSTITUTES)	½ credit required COMMUNICATIONS APPLICATIONS (NO SUBSTITUTES)
<b>MATHEMATICS</b>	Three credits in grades 9-12 required, must include ALGEBRA I and GEOMETRY	Three credits in grades 9-12 required, MUST INCLUDE ALGEBRA I, II and GEOMETRY
<b>SCIENCE</b>	Two credits required, including BIOLOGY and IPC. A student may substitute CHEMISTRY or PHYSICS for IPC and then must use the other course as an academic elective.	Three credits required, one credit MUST be BIOLOGY, remaining two must be selected in TWO of the following areas, CHEMISTRY, PHYSICS, INTEGRATED PHYSICS AND CHEMISTRY or PRINCIPLES OF TECHNOLOGY.
<b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b>	Two and ½ credits required and MUST consist of WORLD HISTORY or WORLD GEOGRAPHY, US HISTORY and US GOVERNMENT.	Three and ½ credits required and MUST consist of WORLD HISTORY, WORLD GEOGRAPHY, US HISTORY and US GOVERNMENT.
<b>ECONOMICS</b>	½ Credit required, transfer ECONOMICS credit must have an emphasis on the free enterprise system	½ Credit required, transfer ECONOMICS credit must have an emphasis on the free enterprise system
<b>ADDITIONAL SCIENCE OR SOCIAL STUDIES</b>	One credit required, select from either WORLD HISTORY or WORLD GEOGRAPHY or ANY SCIENCE COURSE	NONE REQUIRED
<b>HEALTH</b>	½ credit required; may substitute HEALTH SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY (1 credit) in place of HEALTH	½ credit required; may substitute HEALTH SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY (1 credit) in place of HEALTH
<b>PHYSICAL EDUCATION</b>	On and Off campus substitutions/waivers allowed. Students may earn a total of 2.0 PE Credits for graduation. Waivers: DRILL TEAM, MARCHING BAND (FALL SEMESTER ONLY), CHEERLEADING, ROTC, ATHLETICS, DANCE, APPROVED PRIVATE PROGRAMS, OR CERTAIN CAREER TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION COURSES. See counselor for specific waiver information.	On and Off campus substitutions/waivers allowed. Students may earn a total of 2.0 PE Credits for graduation. Waivers: DRILL TEAM, MARCHING BAND (FALL SEMESTER ONLY), CHEERLEADING, ROTC, ATHLETICS, DANCE, APPROVED PRIVATE PROGRAMS, OR CERTAIN CAREER TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION COURSES. See counselor for specific waiver information.
<b>OTHER LANGUAGE</b>	Two credits of the SAME language required.	RECOMMENDED: Two credits of the SAME language  DAP: Three credits of the SAME language beginning with Level I. (Exploratory and Language & Culture courses DO NOT meet this requirement.
<b>FINE ARTS</b>	½ credit required; selected from courses in the areas of ART, MUSIC, THEATRE ARTS, OR DANCE	One credit required; selected from courses in the areas of ART, MUSIC, THEATRE ARTS, OR DANCE
<b>TECHNOLOGY APPLICATIONS</b>	One credit required selected from designated courses in TECHNOLOGY APPLICATIONS OR CAREER TECHNOLOGY sections of the course catalog.	One credit required selected from designated courses in TECHNOLOGY APPLICATIONS OR CAREER TECHNOLOGY sections of the course catalog.
<b>ELECTIVES</b>	Five credits required; selected from any subject area of the course catalog.	RECOMMENDED: Three and ½ credits required  DAP: Two and ½ credits required

**ACADEMIC RIGOR**

All students are encouraged and have the opportunity to enroll in Pre-AP /AP courses without recommendation. All Honors and GT courses are available for students upon recommendation.

**RECOMMENDED & DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAMS**

All students are enrolled in the Recommended or Distinguished Graduation Plans unless the administrator, counselor, student and parent determine the student may waiver to the Minimum Plan.

Students can meet their general elective options by taking any combination of state-approved high school graduation courses (including up to a half-credit of driver's education) and/or up to four years of Junior ROTC.

**TEXAS SCHOLARS**

Students who complete the state requirements for the *Recommended High School Program* or the *Distinguished Achievement Program* also meet the requirements to be considered a **Texas Scholar**. Students are eligible to apply for the **TEXAS GRANT**. See university Financial Aid Officers for specific requirements.

**MATHEMATICS REQUIREMENT**

Students are required to earn 3 credits of mathematics in grades 9-12. High school courses taken in middle school shall earn credit which shall be reflected in the AAR but shall not count as a required mathematics credit.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT**

In accordance with the State Board of Education's graduation requirements, NEISD allows students to substitute certain physical activities for the 1.5 required credits of physical education. Such substitutions shall be based on the physical activity involved in:

1. MARCHING BAND (fall only) THREE Semesters
2. JROTC THREE Semesters
3. ATHLETICS THREE Semesters
4. DANCE I-V THREE Semesters
5. CAREER TECH ONE course (2or 3 Credits)  
(Work-Based Training) Entire course must be successfully completed

See your course catalog or counselor to determine which Career & Technology courses may be substituted for PE requirements.

**SPECIAL CREDIT OPTIONS**

Alternate scheduling of a course through summer school, night school, correspondence, or credit by exam may be requested through the school counselor.

**STATE TESTING PROGRAMS**

State mandated testing requirements must be met before earning a high school diploma from the State of Texas. Enrollment at some colleges and universities also requires submission of college entrance exam scores.

**NCAA**

Student athletes will be required to file with the NCAA Clearinghouse to determine initial eligibility to participate in college athletics. Not all NEISD courses allowing graduation credit are accepted by NCAA as core courses for college athletic eligibility.

**CAREER CONCENTRATION**

Students plan **ELECTIVES** to reflect their career goals. Course selection should develop a coherent sequence of courses leading toward a selected career path. Career concentration options include:

Business  
Health and Human Services  
Arts and Humanities  
Science and Technology  
Undecided

The student's individual career concentration plan may be flexible enough to allow for adjustments to the career concentration choice.

**PROMOTION POLICY****EFFECTIVE FRESHMEN 2003-04**

FRESHMAN	0-4.5 CREDITS
SOPHOMORE	5.0-10.5 CREDITS
	REQUIRED - 1.0 ENGLISH CREDIT 1.0 MATHEMATICS CREDIT
JUNIOR	11.0-16.5 CREDITS
	REQUIRED 2.0 ENGLISH CREDITS 2.0 MATHEMATICS CREDITS 1.0 SOCIAL STUDIES CREDITS 1.0 SCIENCE CREDIT
SENIOR	17+ CREDITS
	REQUIRED 3.0 ENGLISH CREDITS 2.0 MATHEMATICS CREDITS 2.0 SOCIAL STUDIES CREDITS 2.0 SCIENCE CREDITS

**ALL COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR PROMOTION  
MUST BE EARNED IN GRADES 9-12**

**RANK IN CLASS**

**Official** class standing is reported to students following the sixth and seventh semesters of high school. Class rank is determined using a weighted scale that supports academic achievement and rigor. Only core academic and foreign language courses are considered in determining class rank. **Unofficial** rank is reported at the end of the second and fourth semesters. See your counselor for more details.

**EARLY GRADUATES**

A student who completes all graduation requirements within 36-41 months of entry into ninth grade is eligible to receive an Early Graduate Scholarship to attend a Texas public college or university, provided all high school years were completed in Texas and the student is a Texas resident. Specific rules are governed by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. See your counselor for details.

**HONOR GRADUATES**

Honor Graduates are designated based on the following criteria:

- A. Cumulative grade average as follows:
 

<i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	100
<i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	95-99
<i>Cum Laude</i>	90-94
- B. Completion of the Recommended or Distinguished Achievement Plan
- C. Acquired a minimum of 48 semesters of coursework

**GRADUATION CEREMONY**

To participate in the commencement ceremony students must meet **ALL** graduation requirements, including state exit level exams and required course credits. Summer graduation is available for students completing all requirements during the summer.

**Students are required to follow the graduation plan in effect when they enter 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Graduation plans are subject to change by the Texas Legislature and the NEISD Board of Trustees.**

PLEASE DIRECT SPECIFIC QUESTIONS  
TO YOUR HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR