



Endorsement Guide Overview

This Endorsement Guide is designed to provide you with information about the new Texas Foundation Endorsement Graduation Plan. The purpose of the State's change to the new graduation plan is to provide students greater flexibility and choice in the selection of courses that will best prepare them for their individual postsecondary goals. Employers and leaders in the Texas workforce have encouraged career-oriented training and certification at the high school level to help meet their growing demands.

Starting in the spring of 2014, all 8th graders are required to choose one of five endorsements as outlined in the state graduation plan. The five endorsement areas are: Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM); Business and Industry; Public Services; Arts and Humanities; and Multidisciplinary Studies. The earned Endorsement will be reflected on the student's official transcript at the completion of his or her high school career.

How are the Endorsements organized?

As you use this guide, you will see recommended Pathways (or coherent sequences of courses) organized by career clusters within each of the Endorsements. A career cluster is a grouping of occupations and broad industries based on commonalities. These career clusters are part of the Achieve Texas College and Career Initiative that is designed to help students (and their parents) make informed education decisions. It is based on the idea that the education of the 21st century should combine rigorous academics with relevant career education. When schools integrate academic and technical education, students can see the "relevance" of what they are learning. The Pathways allow students to study a particular field in depth and help to facilitate a seamless transition from secondary to postsecondary opportunities.

West Rusk County Consolidated Independent School District

House Bill 5 Graduation Plans

Distinguished Level of Achievement Graduation Plan- 26 Credits

Students must fulfill the Graduation requirements of at least 1 of the 5 Endorsements below and successfully complete Algebra II.

Foundation + Endorsement Graduation Plan- 26 Credits

STEM	Business & Industry	Public Service	Arts & Humanities	Multidisciplinary Studies
4 English- Eng I, II, III & one advanced English	4 English- Eng I, II, III & one advanced English	4 English- Eng I, II, III & one advanced English	4 English- Eng I, II, III & one advanced English	4 English- Eng I, II, III & one advanced English
4 Math- Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II & one advanced Math	4 Math- Algebra I, Geometry & two advanced Math	4 Math- Algebra I, Geometry & two advanced Math	4 Math- Algebra I, Geometry & two advanced Math	4 Math- Algebra I, Geometry & two advanced Math
4 Science- Biology, Chemistry, Physics & one advanced Science	4 Science- Biology, IPC or Chemistry or Physics & two advanced science	4 Science- Biology, IPC or Chemistry or Physics & two advanced science	4 Science- Biology, IPC or Chemistry or Physics & two advanced science	4 Science- Biology, IPC or Chemistry or Physics & two advanced science
3 Social Studies- World Geography or World History, US History, Government (.5) & Economics (.5)	3 Social Studies- World Geography or World History, US History, Government (.5) & Economics (.5)	3 Social Studies- World Geography or World History, US History, Government (.5) & Economics (.5)	3 Social Studies- World Geography or World History, US History, Government (.5) & Economics (.5)	3 Social Studies- World Geography or World History, US History, Government (.5) & Economics (.5)
2 Language Other Than English	2 Language Other Than English	2 Language Other Than English	2 Language Other Than English	2 Language Other Than English
1 Physical Education	1 Physical Education	1 Physical Education	1 Physical Education	1 Physical Education
1 Fine Arts	1 Fine Arts	1 Fine Arts	1 Fine Arts	1 Fine Arts
.5 Health	.5 Health	.5 Health	.5 Health	.5 Health
4 Electives in STEM Pathway	4 Electives in Business & Industry Pathway	4 Electives in Public Service Pathway	4 Electives in Arts & Humanities Pathway	4 Electives in Multidisciplinary Pathway
2.5 Additional Electives	2.5 Additional Electives	2.5 Additional Electives	2.5 Additional Electives	2.5 Additional Electives

Foundation Graduation Plan- 22 Credits*

4 English- ELA I-III & one advanced 3 Science- Biology, IPC or Chem./Physics & one advanced 3 Math- Algebra I, Geometry & one advanced 3 Social Studies- World Geo or World History, US History, Government (.5) & Economics (.5)	2 Language Other Than English 1 Physical Education 1 Fine Arts .5 Health 4.5 Electives
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*Students can only declare Foundation Plan after sophomore year.

State Assessment(s) Required for Graduation	Performance Acknowledgements
English I English II Algebra I Biology US History	Outstanding Performance: Dual credit coursework, SAT and ACT Certification: Nationally or international recognized business or industry certification or license

To earn a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Endorsement, the student must select and complete one of the following Pathways (in addition to the other graduation requirements):

Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics

STEM MATHEMATICS

5 Mathematics credits total: 3 credits in Mathematics by successfully completing Algebra II and 2 additional Mathematics course for which Algebra II is a prerequisite

(Math Models does not count for STEM Endorsement)

STEM SCIENCE

5 Science credits total: 3 credits in Science by successfully completing Chemistry and Physics and 2 additional Science courses.

(IPC does not count for STEM Endorsement)

STEM Careers at a Glance

High School Diploma: Climate Change Analyst, Electromechanical Engineering Technologist, or Radio Frequency Identification Device Specialist.

Certificate: Robotics Technician

Associates Degree: City Planning Aide, Nuclear Monitoring Technician, Geospatial Information Scientist and Technologist, or Environmental Science Technician.

Bachelor's Degree: Engineer (mechanical, petroleum, biomedical, chemical, electrical, energy, industrial, Nano systems, nuclear, or robotics), Forensic Science Technician, Marine/Naval Architect, or Meteorologist.

Master's Degree: Natural Science Manager, Archeologist, Geoscientist, Hydrologist, or Mathematician.

Doctoral Degree: Medical Scientist, Biochemist/Biophysicist, or Microbiologist.

To earn a Business & Industry Endorsement, the student must select and complete one of the following Pathways (in addition to the other graduation requirements):

Business & Industry

Animal Science Pathway
Principles of Ag
Livestock Production
Small Animal Management/Equine Science
Wildlife
Other electives in Animal Science pathway to substitute after principle courses (if offered): Horticulture, Advanced Animal Science, Ag Practicum, Vet Tech
Ag Mechanics Pathway
Principles of Ag
Ag Equipment
Ag Facilities
Ag Mechanics
Other electives in Ag Mechanics pathway to substitute after principle courses (if offered): Horticulture, Ag Power, Ag Practicum
Culinary Arts Pathway
Principles of Hospitality and Tourism
Introduction to Culinary
Culinary Arts I
Culinary Arts II
Other electives in Culinary pathway to substitute after principle course (if offered): Fashion Design

To earn a Business & Industry Endorsement, the student must select and complete one of the following Pathways (in addition to the other graduation requirements):

Business & Industry

Audio Visual Techniques Pathway
Principles of AV TECH
Audio Video Production I
Audio Video Production II
Animation
Graphic Design Pathway
Principles of AV TECH
Graphic Design I
Graphic Design II
Animation

Business & Industry Careers at a Glance

High School Diploma: Agricultural Equipment Operator, Earth Driller, Power Plant Operator, Customer Service Representative, General Office Clerk, Bank Teller, Credit Checker, or Industrial Machinery Mechanic

Certificate: Baker, Electrician, Plumber, Chef, Travel Agent, Real Estate Agent, Umpire/Referee, Air Traffic Controller, Aircraft Mechanic, Farm/Ranch Manager or Forest/Conservation Technician.

Associates Degree: Construction Supervisor, Civil Drafter, Legal Secretary, Fashion Designer, Interior Designer, Director/Mortician, Avionics Technician, Electromechanical Technician, or Heavy Equipment Mechanic.

Bachelor's Degree: Architect, Surveyor, Editor, Newscaster, Accountant, Budget Analyst, Human Resource, Commercial Pilot, Statistician, Loan Officer, Economist, Advertising Manager, or Marketing Manager.

Master's Degree: Animal Scientist, Zoologist/Wildlife Biologist, Librarian or Regulatory Affairs Manager.

Doctoral Degree: Business Professor

To earn a Public Services Endorsement, the student must select and complete one of the following Pathways (in addition to the other graduation requirements):

Public Services

Health Science Pathway
Intro to Health Science
Medical Terminology
Health Science Practicum OR Anatomy & Physiology
Possible courses after Anatomy include Medical Microbiology and Pathophysiology (TBD)
Students may also substitute and/or include these courses (taught in the past) for one or more of these courses: Sports Medicine I, Sports Medicine II, Sports Medicine III

Public Services Careers at a Glance

High School Diploma: Teacher Assistant, License Clerk, Municipal Clerk, Nanny, or Animal Control Worker

Certificate: Fitness Trainer & Aerobics Instructor, Pre-school teacher, Hairdresser/Cosmetologist, Social Worker Technician, Personal & Home Care Aide, Court Reporter, Fire Fighter or Private Investigator.

Associates Degree: Environmental Compliance Inspector, Police Detective or Legal Technician/Paralegal

Bachelor's Degree: K-12/Adult Education Teacher, Social/Community Services Manager, Childcare Center Administrator, Farm & Advisor, Public Health Educator, Chief Executive, Parole & Probation Officer or Judge/Magistrate.

Master's Degree: College/University Administrator, Principal, Urban & Regional Planner, Sociologist, or Mental Health Counselor

Doctoral Degree: Clinical Psychologist, Counseling Psychologist or Educational Psychologist.

To earn an Arts and Humanities Endorsement, the student must select and complete one of the following Pathways (in addition to the other graduation requirements):

Arts and Humanities

Traditional Music Pathway
Band I
Band II
Band III
Band IV
Jazz Band Pathway
Jazz Band I
Jazz Band II
Jazz Band III
Jazz Band IV
Art Pathway
Art I
Art II
Art III
Art IV

Arts & Humanities Careers at a Glance

High School Diploma: Actor, Choreographer, Film/Movie Director, Dancer or Musician.

Certificate: TV/Camera Operator or Prepress Technician.

Associates Degree: Broadcast Technician, Sound Engineering Technician, Photography, Desktop Publisher or Library Technician.

Bachelor's Degree: Radio/TV Announcer, Graphic Designer, Music Director, Multimedia Artist/Animator, Commercial and Industrial Designer, FBI Agent, or Technical Writer.

Master's Degree: Curator, Museum Technician and Conservator, Archivist, International Relation Specialist or College/University Faculty Member.

Doctoral Degree: Professor, Lawyer, or Anthropologist.

To earn a Multidisciplinary Studies Endorsement, the student must select and complete one of the following Pathways (in addition to the other graduation requirements):

Multidisciplinary Studies Endorsement

Multidisciplinary Studies Pathway
Mathematics- 4 courses
English- 4 courses
Social Studies- 4 courses
Science- 4 courses
Sampling of at least 4 electives from one of the other endorsement pathways