

# House Bill 5 and High School Graduation Requirements

# House Bill 5

- Work to transition and implement the requirements of House Bill 5 is under way.
- The bill gives the SBOE decision-making authority on a number of issues and the SBOE has not yet had the opportunity to receive a briefing and begin planning next steps.
- There will be opportunities for districts to provide input and feedback once the SBOE begins the rulemaking process.
- The Commissioner must adopt a transition plan to implement the bill and replace the MHSP, RHSP, and DAP with the foundation program **beginning with the 2014-2015 school year.**



## State Graduation Requirements

This site will provide you with information regarding the Texas high school graduation requirements.

### House Bill 5

The Commissioner must adopt a transition plan to implement House Bill (HB) 5 and replace the Minimum High School Program (MHSP), Recommended High School Program (RHSP), and Distinguished Achievement Program (DAP) with the foundation program beginning with the **2014-2015 school year**.

An updated set of [dual credit frequently asked questions \(PDF, 203KB\)](#) is now available.

Information Regarding [Minimum High School Program \(MHSP\)](#)

Information regarding [automatic college admission](#)

### Official State Board of Education Administrative Rules Regarding Graduation Requirements

[Graduation Requirements for Students Entering Grade 9 in 2012-13 and thereafter](#)

[Graduation Requirements for Students Entering Grade 9 in 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, or 2011-12](#)

[Graduation Requirements for Students Entering Grade 9 in 2004-05, 2005-06, or 2006-07](#)

[Graduation Requirements for Students Entering Grade 9 in 2001-02, 2002-03, or 2003-04](#)

[Graduation Requirements for Students Entering Grade 9 in 1998-99, 1999-2000, or 2000-01](#)

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## House Bill 5

This site will provide you with information regarding House Bill 5, 83rd Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2013.

The Commissioner must adopt a transition plan to implement House Bill (HB) 5 and replace the Minimum High School Program (MHSP), Recommended High School Program (RHSP), and Distinguished Achievement Program (DAP) with the foundation program beginning with the **2014-2015 school year**.

[Text of HB 5 \(outside source\)](#)

[General Overview Slides of HB 5 \(PDF, 163KB\)](#)

[Side-by-Side Comparison – Current Graduation Requirements and HB 5 Requirements to be Implemented Beginning in 2014-2015 \(PDF, 37KB\)](#)

Frequently Asked Questions (coming soon)

The State Board of Education (SBOE) is expected to make decisions regarding the new graduation requirements on the following timeline:

- September 17 Public Hearing
- September 18 Discussion of HB 5 Rules
- November First Reading and Filing Authorization
- December Official Public Comment Period
- January Second Reading and Final Adoption

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The following documents were prepared for the August 1 SBOE work session as a resource for discussion purposes only and do not reflect final decisions. [Archived webcast of the SBOE work session](#)

[English Language Arts Discussion Document \(PDF, 768 KB\)](#)

[Mathematics Discussion Document \(PDF, 780KB\)](#)

[Science Discussion Document \(PDF, 563KB\)](#)

[Social Studies Discussion Document \(PDF, 752KB\)](#)

[Fine Arts Discussion Document \(PDF, 728KB\)](#)

[Languages Other Than English \(LOTE\) Discussion Document \(PDF, 839KB\)](#)

[Physical Education Discussion Document \(PDF, 715KB\)](#)

[STEM Endorsement Discussion Document \(PDF, 1186KB\)](#)

[Business and Industry Endorsement Discussion Document \(PDF, 754KB\)](#)

[Public Services Endorsement Discussion Document \(PDF, 742KB\)](#)

[Arts and Humanities Endorsement Discussion Document \(PDF, 735KB\)](#)

[Multidisciplinary Studies Endorsement Discussion Document \(PDF, 729KB\)](#)

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Curriculum Division

[curriculum@tea.state.tx.us](mailto:curriculum@tea.state.tx.us)

1701 North Congress Avenue

Austin, TX 78701-1401

(512) 463-9581

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# HB 5 - Foundation High School Program

## English Language Arts

### Four credits

- English I
- English II
- English III
- Advanced English Course (TBD by SBOE)

## Mathematics

### Three credits

- Algebra I
- Geometry
- Advanced Mathematics Course (TBD by SBOE)

## Science

### Three credits

- Biology
- IPC or Advanced Science Course (TBD by SBOE)
- Advanced Science Course (TBD by SBOE)

## Social Studies

### Three credits

- U.S. History
- U.S. Government (one-half credit)
- Economics (one-half credit)
- World Geography or World History or  
Combined World History/World Geography

# HB 5 – Foundation High School Program

## Considerations:

- Advanced courses must prepare students to enter the workforce successfully or postsecondary education without remediation.
- Students must be permitted to use a course that has been developed locally by a school district in partnership with a public or private IHE and local business, labor, and community leaders to satisfy advanced English, mathematics, or science requirements.
- Speech is currently an SBOE requirement, not a statutory requirement. The SBOE still has the authority to require speech.
- Students will have the option to select up to two advanced science courses for the foundation high school program and up to three advanced science courses to earn an endorsement.



# HB 5 – English Language Arts

## Decisions Points:

- Determine courses that will be eligible to satisfy the advanced English credit requirement.
- Allow AP/IB courses to satisfy the English III requirement, advanced English credit requirement, or either?
- Allow students to combine two half credits to satisfy the advanced English credit requirement?
- Continue to require one-half credit of speech?

## Examples:

- Designate courses from current English language arts course list as advanced courses.
- Direct development of new courses.
- Allow Business English (CTE) course to satisfy the advanced English requirement as currently allowed for the MHSP.

# HB 5 – Mathematics

## Decisions Points:

- Determine courses that will be eligible to satisfy the advanced math credit requirements.
- Determine whether to differentiate between courses that may satisfy a third math credit under the foundation high school program and courses that may satisfy a fourth math credit for the endorsements.
- Allow students to combine two half credits to satisfy the advanced mathematics credit requirements?

## Examples:

- Allow courses with only an Algebra I prerequisite to satisfy the third math credit requirement under the foundation high school program, but not the fourth math credit requirement under the endorsements.
- Allow courses with an Algebra II prerequisite to satisfy either the third or fourth math credit requirement. Identify additional CTE courses to satisfy the advanced mathematics requirement.

# HB 5 – Science

## Decisions Points:

- Determine courses that will be eligible to satisfy the advanced science credit requirements.
- Determine whether to differentiate between courses that may satisfy a second science credit under the foundation high school program and courses that may satisfy a third science credit under the foundation high school program.
- Determine whether to differentiate between courses that may satisfy a third science credit under the foundation high school program and courses that may satisfy a fourth science credit for the endorsements.
- Allow AP/IB courses to satisfy the biology credit, advanced science credit, or either.

## Examples:

- Second science credit options: IPC, chemistry, or physics
- Allow chemistry, physics, and courses that may currently satisfy a science credit requirement to satisfy the third science credit under the foundation high school program.
- Allow chemistry, physics, and courses that may currently satisfy a science credit requirement to satisfy the fourth science credit required to earn an endorsement.
- Identify additional CTE courses to satisfy the advanced science requirements.

# HB 5 – Social Studies

## Decisions Points:

- Allow AP/IB courses to satisfy social studies credit requirements?
- Determine a process for development of combined World History/World Geography course.
- Determine a process for development of one-half credit personal financial literacy elective.

# HB 5 - Foundation High School Program

**Physical Education**      One credit

**Languages Other  
Than English**      Two credits in the same language  
Computer programming language (other exceptions)

**Fine Arts**      One credit

**Electives**      Five credits

# HB 5 – Fine Arts

## Considerations:

- Students will be able to satisfy the fine arts graduation requirement by participating in a community-based program approved by the commissioner of education similar to the option that is currently available for PE.

## Example:

- Identify additional courses to satisfy the fine arts credit requirement?

# HB 5 – LOTE

## Considerations:

- A student who has completed the first LOTE credit but who is unlikely to be able to complete the second credit in the same language must be allowed to substitute credit in another appropriate course, as determined by the SBOE, for the second LOTE credit requirement.
- All students must be allowed to satisfy the two-credit LOTE requirement by substituting two credits in computer programming languages.
- A student who, due to a disability, is unable to complete two LOTE credits in the same language must be allowed to substitute two credits in English language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies or two credits in CTE or technology applications to satisfy the LOTE credit requirements.

## Decision Points:

- Allow AP/IB courses to satisfy LOTE credit requirements?
- Determine a process for development of the computer programming languages courses.
- Establish the standards and the appropriate school personnel for making a determination regarding when a student is permitted to substitute for the second LOTE credit requirement.

# HB 5 - Endorsements

A student may earn an endorsement by successfully completing:

- curriculum requirements for the endorsement (TBD by SBOE)
- four credits in mathematics
- four credits in science
- two additional elective credits



# HB 5 - Endorsements

Each school district must make available to high school students courses that allow a student to complete the curriculum requirements for at least one endorsement.

A school district that offers only one endorsement curriculum must offer the multidisciplinary studies endorsement curriculum.

# HB 5 - STEM

Includes courses directly related to science, including environmental science; technology, including computer science; engineering; and advanced math

## **Considerations:**

- Many STEM fields of study at the postsecondary level require prerequisite knowledge in advanced mathematics, chemistry, and physics.
- Many of the currently approved math courses require Algebra II as a prerequisite.

## **Decisions Points:**

- Number of courses that a student must complete to earn an endorsement
- Require specific courses for the endorsement?
- Course options for the endorsement

# HB 5 - STEM

## **Recommendation:**

- Require Algebra II, chemistry, and physics

## **Examples:**

- Four credits related to the endorsement
  - Coherent sequence of four CTE courses that includes at least two courses in the same cluster and at least one advanced CTE course. The final course in the sequence must be from the STEM Career Cluster.
  - Coherent sequence of four courses in one of the following areas:
    - Computer Science
    - Math credit courses for which Algebra II is a prerequisite
    - Science credit courses beyond biology, chemistry, and physics, including at least two AP or IB credits

# HB 5 - Business and Industry

Includes courses directly related to database management, architecture, information technology, construction, communications, welding , accounting, logistics, finance, automotive technology, marketing, agricultural science, graphic design, and HVAC

## Considerations:

- There is not an exhaustive list of possible coherent sequences of courses.
- Culinary arts and hospitality aligns more appropriately with the business and industry endorsement.
- Not every program of study results in an industry-recognized license or certification.
- Even when a program of study results in an industry-recognized license or certification, the license or certification a student can earn at the secondary level may not be what the student needs for entry into industry (i.e., the postsecondary credential carries the value).
- There are varying levels of certification, i.e. beginning of program, middle of program, end of program.

## Decisions Points:

- Number of courses that a student must complete to earn an endorsement
- Require specific courses for the endorsement?
- Course options for the endorsement

# HB 5 – Business and Industry

## Examples:

- Four credits related to the endorsement
  - Coherent sequence of four CTE courses that includes at least two courses in the same cluster and at least one advanced CTE course. The final course in the sequence must be from one of the following CTE Career Clusters:
    - Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources
    - Architecture and Construction
    - Arts, A/V Technology, & Communications
    - Business Management & Administration
    - Finance
    - Hospitality and Tourism
    - Information Technology
    - Manufacturing
    - Marketing
    - Transportation, Distribution, & Logistics
  - Four English elective credits to include three levels in one of the following areas:
    - Advanced Broadcast Journalism
    - Newspaper
    - Public Speaking

# HB 5 - Public Services

Includes courses directly related to health sciences and occupations, education and training, law enforcement, culinary arts and hospitality

## **Considerations:**

- There is not an exhaustive list of possible coherent sequences of courses.
- Culinary arts and hospitality aligns more appropriately with the business and industry endorsement.
- Political science aligns more appropriately with the public services endorsement.
- Not every program of study results in an industry-recognized license or certification.
- Even when a program of study results in an industry-recognized license or certification, the license or certification a student can earn at the secondary level may not be what the student needs for entry into industry (i.e., the postsecondary credential carries the value).
- There are varying levels of certification, i.e. beginning of program, middle of program, end of program.

# HB 5 – Public Services

## Decisions Points:

- Number of courses that a student must complete to earn an endorsement
- Require specific courses for the endorsement?
- Course options for the endorsement

## Examples:

- Four credits related to the endorsement
  - Coherent sequence of four CTE courses that includes at least two courses in the same cluster and at least one advanced CTE course. The final course in the sequence must be from one of the following CTE Career Clusters:
    - Education and Training
    - Government and Public Administration
    - Health Science
    - Human Services
    - Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Securities
  - Four credits in JROTC

# HB 5 - Arts and Humanities

Includes courses directly related to political science, English literature, world languages, history, cultural studies, and fine arts

## **Considerations:**

- Political science aligns more appropriately with the public services endorsement.
- The current distinguished achievement program (DAP) requires three credits in the same language in a language other than English (LOTE).
- The only currently approved courses that address literature are English I-IV, Literary Genres, and Humanities.
- There are not enough currently approved courses to comprise a coherent sequence of courses in literature or cultural studies.



# HB 5 – Arts and Humanities

## Decisions Points:

- Number of courses that a student must complete to earn an endorsement
- Require specific courses for the endorsement?
- Course options for the endorsement

## Examples:

- Require English IV
- Four credits related to the endorsement
  - Coherent sequence of four credits in one of the following areas:
    - Art
    - AP social studies
    - Dance
    - IB social studies
    - Music
    - The same language in a language other than English (LOTE)
    - Theatre
    - American Sign Language

# HB 5 - Multidisciplinary Studies

Allows a student to select courses from the curriculum of each endorsement area and earn credits in a variety of advanced courses from multiple content areas sufficient to complete the distinguished level of achievement

## **Considerations:**

- Many school districts are likely to only be able to offer the multidisciplinary studies endorsement.
- There is not an existing definition of advanced courses.
- Many colleges and universities require the 4x4 for admission.
- Credits sufficient to achieve the distinguished level of achievement include Algebra II.

# HB 5 – Multidisciplinary Studies

## Decisions Points:

- Number of courses that a student must complete to earn an endorsement
- Require specific courses for the endorsement?
- Course options for the endorsement

## Examples:

- Four credits related to the endorsement
  - Four advanced courses from within one endorsement area that are not in a coherent sequence
  - Two advanced courses from each of two endorsement areas
  - Four credits in each of the four foundation subject areas to include English IV and chemistry and/or physics
  - Four AP or IB courses to include one credit in each of the four foundation subjects

# HB 5 - Distinguished Level of Achievement

A student may earn a distinguished level of achievement by successfully completing:

- four credits in mathematics, which must include Algebra II
- four credits in science
- the remaining curriculum requirements
- the curriculum requirements for at least one endorsement

# HB 5 – Performance Acknowledgment

A student may earn a performance acknowledgment  
(requirements TBD by SBOE):

- for outstanding performance
  - in a dual credit course
  - in bilingualism and biliteracy
  - on an AP test or IB exam
  - on the PSAT, the ACT-Plan, the SAT, or the ACT
- for earning a nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certification or license