

# Leander ISD High School Graduation Requirements

Students entering 9th grade in Fall 2014 or later

During the 83rd Texas Legislature, House Bill 5 was signed into law, which changes high school graduation requirements for students who entered 9th grade in Fall 2014 or later. The bill provides more flexibility for high school students.

Qualification for Automatic Admission (top 10%) to Texas state colleges and universities requires students to complete the Distinguished Level of Achievement or the LISD Distinguished with Honors. Leander ISD students will start on the LISD Distinguished with Honors graduation plan and the multi-disciplinary endorsement area.

Students who entered 9th grade in the Fall of 2012 or 2013 may switch to the New State Foundation Plan. Students who switch will still be required to satisfy the Communication Applications requirements from their previous plan. Students should contact their counselor for more information.

## Foundation + Endorsements

26 CREDITS

**English**..... 4 Credits  
ELA I, II, III, one credit in any authorized English course\*\*

**Math**..... 4 Credits  
Algebra I, Geometry, two credits in any authorized math course\*\*

**Science**.....4 Credits  
Biology; IPC, Chemistry and/or Physics; and two credits in any authorized Science course\*\*

**Social Studies**.....3 Credits  
World Geography or World History; U.S. History; U.S. Government (.5 credit); Economics (.5 credit)

**World Language**.....2 Credits  
See counselor for state approved Level II World Language substitutions

**Physical Education** .....1 Credit  
See counselor for state approved physical education substitutions

**Fine Arts**.....1 Credit

**Professional Communication\***.....1 Credit

**Electives** .....6 Credits

**Credit requirements specific to at least one endorsement.**

## Distinguished Level of Achievement

26 CREDITS

**English**..... 4 Credits  
ELA I, II, III, one credit in any authorized English course\*\*

**Math**..... 4 Credits  
Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, one credit in any authorized math course\*\*

**Science**.....4 Credits  
Biology; IPC, Chemistry and/or Physics; and two credits in any authorized Science course\*\*

**Social Studies**.....3 Credits  
World Geography or World History; U.S. History; U.S. Government (.5 credit); Economics (.5 credit)

**World Language**.....2 Credits  
See counselor for state approved Level II World Language substitutions

**Physical Education** .....1 Credit  
See counselor for state approved physical education substitutions

**Fine Arts**.....1 Credit

**Professional Communication\***.....1 Credit

**Electives** .....6 Credits

**Credit requirements specific to at least one endorsement.**

## LISD Distinguished with Honors

26 CREDITS

**English**..... 4 Credits  
ELA I, II, III, & IV

**Math**..... 4 Credits  
Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, 4th credit of Mathematics must have Algebra II as a minimum prerequisite

**Science**.....4 Credits  
Biology; Chemistry, Physics, one credit in any authorized Science course\*\*

**Social Studies**.....4 Credits  
World Geography, World History; U.S. History; U.S. Government (.5 credit); Economics (.5 credit)

**World Language**.....3 Credits  
Must consist of three credits of the same language.

**Physical Education** .....1 Credit  
See counselor for state approved physical education substitutions

**Fine Arts**.....1 Credit

**Professional Communication\***.....1 Credit

**Electives** .....4 Credits

**Credit requirements specific to at least one endorsement.**

\*All LISD freshmen are required to take Professional Communications or AVID as a year-long state elective. Students entering after the freshman year must replace this requirement with an approved substitution. Approved substitutions are AVID, Debate, Public Speaking, Oral Interpretation or Communication Applications.

\*\* See specific graduation requirement charts options.

Pre-AP/IB, AP, IB or dual credit courses may be substituted for requirements in appropriate areas; check with your counselor for available options.

The Foundation High School Program (22 credits) is available, however, this requires that you see your counselor for discussion of this plan after the completion of the 10th grade year.

## 4...Planning for the Future

# Leander ISD High School Graduation Requirements

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Students must choose an "Endorsement," or area of concentration, upon entering the ninth grade. Each student can choose more than one endorsement area. Achieved endorsements will be noted on high school diplomas. Students can earn an endorsement by successfully completing at least one of the "Program of Study" requirements in the endorsement areas listed below. Please see the specific course requirements for each Program of Study area listed in the course catalog. Courses chosen during high school become the foundation for the future; therefore, careful selection of courses will form a Program of Study related to a chosen post-secondary educational goal.

## Endorsement Areas

STEM	Business/Industry	Public Service	Arts/Humanities	Multidisciplinary
<p><b>Programs of Study</b></p> <p>Advanced Math Advanced Science Computer Science Engineering (PLTW) STEM Studies</p>	<p><b>Programs of Study</b></p> <p>Agriculture - Plant Science* Agriculture - Animal Science Agriculture - Ag Mechanics Agriculture Studies Architecture and Interior Design* Art, Audio/Video and Communications Automotive Technology* Business Management and Administration Construction Technology* Culinary Arts* Electrical Technology* English Electives: Debate Newspaper Oral Interpretation Public Speaking Yearbook Finance Hospitality* Marketing Education</p>	<p><b>Programs of Study</b></p> <p>Biomedical Science (PLTW) Cosmetology* Education/Training Health Science* Human Services JROTC: Air Force JROTC* Navy JROTC*</p>	<p><b>Programs of Study</b></p> <p>Fine Arts: Art Dance Music - Band and Choir Technical Theatre Theatre Languages Other Than English: ASL French Latin Spanish Social Studies</p>	<p><b>Programs of Study</b></p> <p>Four credits in each of the four foundation subject areas to include English IV, and Chemistry and/or Physics</p> <p>Four credits in AP, IB or dual credit selected from English, mathematics, science, social studies, economics, LOTE and Fine Arts.</p>

*\*offered at designated campuses only*

State Assessments Required for Graduation	Performance Acknowledgements	Questions?
English I, II; Algebra I; U.S. History; Biology	Outstanding performance: Dual credit, IB, AP, PSAT, bilingualism/bi-literacy; SAT, ACT or industry certifications	Contact your student's campus or <a href="http://www.leanderisd.org">www.leanderisd.org</a>

# Leander ISD High School Graduation Requirements

Students entering 9th grade in Fall 2012 & 2013

*New State Foundation Plan option available — See Counselor for more information.*

## Recommended High School Plan

26 CREDITS

**English..... 4 Credits**  
English I, II, III, IV

**Mathematics.....4 Credits**  
Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II  
Fourth Credit: See list of approved 4th  
year math courses.

**Science.....4 Credits**  
Biology, Chemistry and Physics  
Fourth Credit: See list of approved 4th year  
science courses.

*Note: IPC will count as a 4th science credit if  
completed prior to Chemistry and Physics*

**Social Studies.....4 Credits**  
World Geography, World History,  
U.S. History, Government/Economics

**Languages Other Than English.....2 Credits**  
Must consist of two credits of the same language.

**Physical Education .....1 Credit**  
See counselor for state approved physical education  
substitutions.

**Health Education .....½ Credit**

**Communication Applications.....½ Credit**

**ACE-SL..... ½ Credit**  
Required of all LISD freshmen. Students entering after  
the freshman year must replace this requirement with a  
state approved elective.

**Fine Arts .....1 Credit**

**Electives (must be state approved).....4½ Credits**

**Advanced Measures ..... NONE**

*Pre-AP/IB, AP, IB or dual credit courses may be substituted for requirements in appropriate areas; check with your  
counselor for available options.*

*A Minimum High School Graduation Plan is available, however, this requires that you see your counselor for discussion  
of this plan.*

## Distinguished Achievement Program

26 CREDITS

**English ..... 4 Credits**  
English I, II, III, IV

**Mathematics .....4 Credits**  
Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II  
The 4th credit of mathematics must have Algebra II  
as a minimum prerequisite. See list of approved 4th  
year math courses.

**Science .....4 Credits**  
Biology, Chemistry and Physics  
Fourth Credit: See list of approved 4th year  
science courses.

**Social Studies..... 4 Credits**  
World Geography, World History,  
U.S. History, Government/Economics

**Languages Other Than English ..... 3 Credits**  
Must consist of three credits of the same language.

**Physical Education ..... 1 Credit**  
See counselor for state approved physical education  
substitutions.

**Health Education ..... ½ Credit**

**Communication Applications..... ½ Credit**

**ACE-SL..... ½ Credit**  
Required of all LISD freshmen. Students entering after  
the freshman year must replace this requirement with a  
state approved elective.

**Fine Arts ..... 1 Credit**

**Electives (must be state approved). .....3½ Credits**

**Advanced Measures ..... FOUR**  
Description of Advanced Measures can be found in the  
Counseling Office and on page 6.

## 4th Year Mathematics Course Options\*

### Recommended:

Advanced Quantitative Reasoning  
Calculus AB Advanced Placement  
Calculus BC Advanced Placement  
Independent Study in Mathematics  
Mathematical Models – *only if taken prior to Algebra II,  
Recommended Graduation Plan only*  
Mathematics HL International Baccalaureate  
Mathematics SL International Baccalaureate  
Pre-Calculus  
Statistics Advanced Placement

*The State Board of Education (SBOE) has approved courses to  
substitute for math credits. Leander ISD offers the following  
approved math substitution courses on the Recommended HSP  
only: AP Computer Science (Technology Applications) and  
Robotics Programming and Design (Technology Applications).  
Please see your counselor for additional information concerning  
substitution options/requirements.*

### Distinguished Achievement Program

Advanced Quantitative Reasoning  
Calculus AB Advanced Placement  
Calculus BC Advanced Placement  
Independent Study in Mathematics  
Mathematics HL International Baccalaureate  
Mathematics SL International Baccalaureate  
Pre-Calculus  
Statistics Advanced Placement

## 4th Year Science Course Options\*

### Recommended & Distinguished Achievement Program:

Anatomy & Physiology  
Biology Advanced Placement  
Biology International Baccalaureate  
Chemistry Advanced Placement  
Chemistry International Baccalaureate  
Earth and Space Science  
Environmental Science Advanced Placement  
Environmental Systems  
Medical Microbiology  
Physics C Advanced Placement  
Physics International Baccalaureate  
Scientific Research & Design

*The State Board of Educations (SBOE) has approved courses  
to substitute for science credits. Leander ISD offers the  
following approved science substitution courses: Advanced  
Animal Science (CTE) and Principles of Engineering  
(CTE). Please see your counselor for additional information  
concerning substitution options/requirements.*

**\*Other credits approved by State Board of Education  
may be added**