

Westside High School – Graduation Requirement/Core Course Selection Overview

Every student is required to successfully complete specific courses, a certain number of credits, and passing scores on state-mandated STAAR/EOC exams to earn a high school diploma. The Texas Education Agency has changed graduation requirements several times in the past few years; however, your graduation requirements will always be based on the year **you entered high school**. Your Dean here at Westside will meet with you to ensure you are on track to graduate on time! The information below is simplified to help students get started on their course preferences. This reference sheet is a summary taken from TEA and HISD graduation requirement information.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR CLASS STUDENTS ENTERING HIGH SCHOOL IN 2014/2015 AND BEYOND			
AREA	Foundation + Endorsements	Distinguished Level of Achievement	Additional Course Offerings
ENGLISH	English I, II, III, IV (Ask your dean about authorized courses that can replace English IV)	English I, II, III, IV (Ask your dean about authorized courses that can replace English IV)	Creative Writing, Debate, Journalism, Broadcast Journalism, Analysis of Visual Media, Media Literacy, Newspaper, Yearbook, Photojournalism
MATH	Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, AND additional authorized Math course IF required by Endorsement Pathway	Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, AND required additional authorized Math course	Pre-Calculus, AQR, Algebraic Reasoning, College Algebra and Finite Mathematics (HCC), AP Statistics, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, Calculus III
SCIENCE	Biology, IPC OR Chemistry OR Physics, AND an additional authorized Science course (NOTE: Some Endorsement Pathways require a 4 th Science course.)	Biology, Chemistry, Physics, AND required additional authorized Science course	IPC, Principals of Technology, Earth & Space Science, Environmental Systems, Aquatic Science, Urban Agriculture, AP Environmental Science, Forensic Science, Pathophysiology, Microbiology
SOCIAL STUDIES	World Geography or AP Human Geography, World History, US History, US Government & Economics	World Geography or AP Human Geography, World History, US History, US Government & Economics	AP Macro Economics, AP European History, AP Psychology
WORLD LANGUAGE	2 credits in one of these: Latin, French, Spanish, American Sign Language	2 credits in one of these: Latin, French, Spanish, American Sign Language	3 rd , 4 th , and 5 th Levels are in available in some languages (Ex.: AP Latin III, AP Chinese, AP French, AP Spanish Language, AP Spanish Literature)
FINE ARTS	1 credit in one of these Art, Theatre, Music, Dance	1 credit in one of these Art, Theatre, Music, Dance	Technical Theatre, Theatre Production, Playwriting, Band, Orchestra, Choir, Pride, Inertia
HEALTH/ PHYSICAL FITNESS	1 credit in PE, Athletics, ROTC, PE Marching Band, PE Drill Team, and/or PE Cheer CoEd Health or Principals of Health Science A&B	1 credit in PE, Athletics, ROTC, PE Marching Band, PE Drill Team, and/or PE Cheer. CoEd Health or Principals of Health Science A&B	Cheerleading, Pride
PATHWAY/ ENDORSEMENT	4 or more credits in same Pathway (Endorsement Pathway Dependent)	4 or more credits in same Pathway (Endorsement Pathway Dependent)	Additional Pathway Courses OR Multiple Pathway Enrollment

AP CAPSTONE DIPLOMA PROGRAM

Students who earn 3+ on both AP Seminar/ AP Research courses and on 4 additional AP Exams will receive the distinguished AP Capstone Diploma!
Visit www.collegeboard.com for info.

MANDATORY! ALL Magnet & CTE Transfer students **MUST** be enrolled in their approved pathway for all 4 years.