

## **HISD GRADUATION PLAN OPTIONS**

The state of Texas and Houston Independent School District provides information about high school graduation requirements. Graduation Program options are dependent upon the year the student enters ninth grade. In the Houston Independent School District, students who have completed all academic requirements and have passed all parts of the required state assessments will be permitted to participate in graduation ceremonies. Students with disabilities served in special education who have completed all of their graduation requirements as designated by their IEP and in accordance with state law are eligible to participate in graduation ceremonies. A student must complete the academic course requirements and must pass the applicable state-developed graduation assessment before the student can graduate.

### **Students entering grade 9 2007-2008 to 2009-2010 school year:**

<b>GRADUATION PLAN</b>	<b>NUMBER OF CREDITS REQUIRED</b>
TEA Minimum High School Program	22 credits
District “Core” Minimum High School Program	24 credits
District Recommended High School Program (Advanced)	26 credits
District Distinguished Achievement Program (Advanced)	26 credits

### **Students entering grade 9 in 2010-2011 through 2011-2012 school year: (See last chart below.)**

Students who entered high school before the 2014-2015 school year have the option to graduate under the new Foundation High School Program ([if they opt-in during the 2014-2015 school year](#)) or the existing Minimum High School Program (MHSP), Recommended High School Program (RHSP), or Distinguished Achievement Program (DAP).

<b>GRADUATION PLAN</b>	<b>NUMBER OF CREDITS REQUIRED</b>
TEA Minimum High School Program	22 credits
District “Core” Minimum High School Program	24 credits
District Recommended High School Program (Advanced)	26 credits
District Distinguished Achievement Program (Advanced)	26 credits

### **Students entering grade 9 in 2012-2013 through 2013-2014:**

<b>GRADUATION PLAN</b>	<b>NUMBER OF CREDITS REQUIRED</b>
TEA Texas Minimum High School Program	22 credits
TEA Recommended High School Program (Advanced)	26 credits
TEA Distinguished Achievement Program (Advanced)	26 credits

### **Students entering grade 9 in 2014-2015 and thereafter:**

<b>GRADUATION PLAN</b>	<b>NUMBER OF CREDITS REQUIRED</b>
TEA Foundation High School Program	22 credits
HISD Foundation High School Program	22 credits
HISD Distinguished Level of Achievement	26 credits

## Other Graduation Options for students:

### **ADVANCED VIRTUAL ACADEMY TWILIGHT HIGH SCHOOL**

Advanced Virtual Academy offers an alternative, non-traditional school setting for students who are unable to attend school during the regular day and students who have dropped out or are in danger of dropping out of school. The AVA Virtual Academic centers offer a physical location for students to attend school and complete on-line coursework. Students will be provided with academic support from certified teachers. All on-line courses are self-paced. Students can take advantage of a flexible schedule while engaging in blended learning coupled with online resources and personalized support.

#### **Who Qualifies?**

- ✓ Live within Houston ISD boundaries.
- ✓ TAKS and STAAR 11th/12th grade students
- ✓ Ages 17 to 26 years (Must be 26 before September 1)

#### **How to Enroll?**

A student interested in enrolling in Advanced Virtual Academy, should contact the site coordinator at the school location they plan to attend. Each student goes through an individual intake process to determine eligibility and placement.

Advanced Virtual Academy centers are open **Monday through Thursday from 12p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and Friday 12 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.** Additional hours may be set, as needed, by each individual site.

#### **The Advanced Virtual Academy (AVA) / Twilight Centers are at:**

**Austin High School**  
**Kashmere High School**  
**Sam Houston High School**

**Sharpstown High School**  
**Worthing High School**  
**Yates High School**

### **Adult Online Course for High School Completion**

The HISD Virtual School Department and the HISD Federal and State Compliance Department have developed a program that provides adult students a second chance at earning a high school diploma. Students have access to their courses 24 hours a day, seven days a week and this program is only available to previous Houston ISD students.

#### **Eligibility**

- Prospective students must contact and meet with Cynthia Nemons in the HISD Federal and State Compliance Department. Call Inactive Student Records at 713-556-6744 to make an appointment
- Last school attended must be a Houston ISD high school
- Student must be older than 26 years of age
- Student must not require more than four semester courses to graduate
- Student must complete one course at a time
- All Payments must be made in the form of a cash or Money Order, payable to *HISD – Virtual School Dept.* Tuition is \$160.00 per semester course
- Must have access to a computer with Internet connection

#### **Student Responsibilities**

- Must have basic computer skills (*typing, copy & paste, navigate the Internet, sending and receiving emails, send and receive emails with attachments, etc.*)
- Must logon to the course, complete and submit assignments on a regular basis
- Must complete courses within the required time frame
- Must complete all assignments presented in the online classroom
- Must complete a proctored (supervised) final exam