House Bill 5 and High School Graduation Requirements

Foundation High School Program

- HB 5 gives the SBOE decision-making authority in a number of areas related to the new high school graduation requirements.
- The SBOE adopted new rules for the Foundation High School Program on January 31, 2014.
- There have been numerous opportunities for input and feedback throughout the rulemaking process.
- The SBOE is expected to adopt new rules regarding which courses school districts will be required to offer in April 2014.

Foundation High School Program

- The Commissioner has adopted rules to allow fourth year seniors who are unable to complete the requirements of one of the current graduation programs to graduate foundation only in **spring 2014**.

http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/rules/tac/chapter074/ch074bb.html

- The Commissioner has adopted a transition plan to replace the MHSP, RHSP, and DAP with the Foundation High School Program **beginning with the 2014-2015 school year.**

- Students who are in grade 9, 10, or 11 in the 2013-2014 school year must be given a choice to graduate on the MHSP, RHSP, DAP, or Foundation High School Program.

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House Bill 5

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

Proposals approved for first reading and filing authorization in November 2013

The official public comment period **begins on December 20, 2013**.

Proposed Revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 74, Curriculum Requirements, Subchapter B, Graduation Requirements

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The State Board of Education (SBOE) is expected to make decisions regarding the new graduation requirements that will be implemented beginning with the **2014-2015 school year** 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

General Overview Slides of HB 5 with SBOE Decision Points (PDF, 402KB)

The State Board of Education will consider the following draft proposed rules for the Foundation High School Program for first reading and filing authorization at the November 2013 meeting. Proposed rules are based on guidance provided by the SBOE at the September 2013 meeting. The SBOE will consider possible revisions to the proposal at the November 2013 meeting.

Educator Login
(Internet Explorer required)

How Do I...

Become a teacher?
Become my organization's TEA approver for certification issues
Contact my ESC for TEAL/ECOS help?
Enroll my child in school?
Find the 2013 state accountability ratings?
Find AEIS/TAPR Reports
Find approved educator preparation programs?
Find curriculum standards (TEKS)?
Find district-level STAAR results?
Find graduation requirements?
Find information about HB 5 graduation requirements?
Find information about STAAR
Find Preliminary Criminal History Evaluation?
Find released tests?
Find student assessment information?
Find the state testing calendar
Find TEA payments to districts
Find TEAL and ECOS access instructions?

Foundation – Statutory Requirements

Beginning in the 2014-2015 school year, a school district must ensure that each student, on entering ninth grade, indicates in writing an endorsement that the student intends to earn.

A district must permit a student to choose, at any time, to earn an endorsement other than the endorsement the student previously indicated.

Foundation – Statutory Requirements

A student may graduate under the foundation high school program without earning an endorsement if, after the student's sophomore year:

(1) the student and the student 's parent or person standing in parental relation are advised by a school counselor of the specific benefits of graduating from high school with one or more endorsements; and

(2) the student 's parent or person standing in parental relation files with a school counselor written permission, on a form adopted by the agency, allowing the student to graduate under the foundation high school program without earning an endorsement

Foundation – Statutory Requirements

English Language Arts	**Four credits** • English I • English II • English III • Advanced English Course
Mathematics	**Three credits** • Algebra I • Geometry • Advanced Mathematics Course
Science	**Three credits** • Biology • IPC or Advanced Science Course • Advanced Science Course
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 (course not developed yet)

Foundation Advanced Courses
SBOE Rule

English Language Arts	
English IV	Independent Study in Journalism
Independent Study in English	Advanced Broadcast Journalism III
Literary Genres	Advanced Journalism: Newspaper III
Creative Writing	Advanced Journalism: Yearbook III
Research & Technical Writing	AP English Literature and Composition
Humanities	IB Language Studies A1 Higher Level
Public Speaking III	Business English
Oral Interpretation III	Communication Applications (must be combined with another half credit from this list)
Debate III	locally developed ELA course or other activity [pursuant to TEC, §28.002(g-1)]
Independent Study in Speech	College Prep ELA [pursuant to TEC, §28.014]

Foundation Advanced Courses SBOE Rule

Third Mathematics Credit	
* Mathematical Models with Applications	AP Calculus BC
* Mathematical Applications in AFNR	AP Computer Science
* Digital Electronics	IB Mathematical Studies Standard Level (SL)
* Robotics Programming and Design	IB Mathematics SL
Algebra II	IB Mathematics Higher Level (HL)
Precalculus	IB Further Mathematics HL
AQR	Engineering Mathematics
Independent Study in Math	Statistics & Risk Management
Discrete Mathematics for Problem Solving	Discrete Mathematics for Computer Science
AP Statistics	locally developed math course or other activity [pursuant to TEC, §28.002(g-1)]
AP Calculus AB	mathematics course endorsed by an IHE [pursuant to TEC, §28.025(b-5)]
Algebraic Reasoning (in development for implementation in 2015-2016)	Statistics (in development for implementation in 2015-2016)

Foundation Advanced Courses SBOE Rule

Second Science Credit	
Integrated Physics and Chemistry (IPC)	Physics
Chemistry	Principles of Technology
AP Chemistry	AP Physics 1: Algebra-Based
IB Chemistry	IB Physics

Foundation Advanced Courses SBOE Rule

Third Science Credit	
Chemistry	IB Physics
Physics	IB Environmental Systems
Aquatic Science	Advanced Animal Science
Astronomy	Advanced Plant and Soil Science
Earth and Space Science	Anatomy and Physiology
Environmental Systems	Medical Microbiology
AP Biology	Pathophysiology
AP Chemistry	Food Science
AP Physics 1: Algebra-Based	Forensic Science
AP Physics 2: Algebra-Based	Advanced Biotechnology
AP Physics C	Principles of Technology
AP Environmental Science	Scientific Research & Design
IB Biology	Engineering Design & Problem Solving
IB Chemistry	Principles of Engineering
locally developed science course or other activity [pursuant to TEC, §28.002(g-1)]	science course endorsed by an IHE [pursuant to TEC, §28.025(b-5)]

Foundation – Statutory Requirements

Physical Education	**One credit**
Languages Other Than English	**Two credits in the same language or Computer programming language**
Fine Arts	**One credit**
Electives	**Five credits**

Languages Other Than English (LOTE) SBOE Rule

- Any two levels in the same language
- Two credits in computer programming languages selected from Computer Science I, II, and III (allowable through the 2015-2016 school year)

If a student, in completing the first credit of LOTE, demonstrates that the student is unlikely to be able to complete the second credit, the student may substitute another appropriate course as follows:

- Special Topics in Language and Culture
- World History Studies or World Geography Studies for a student who is not required to complete both by the local district
- Computer programming languages
- A different language course

Languages Other Than English (LOTE) SBOE Rule

A student, who due to a disability, is unable to complete two credits in the same language in LOTE, may substitute:

- a combination of two credits from English language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies
- two credits in career and technical education or technology applications

The determination regarding a student's ability to complete the LOTE credit requirements will be made by:

- the student's ARD committee if the student receives special education services under the TEC, Chapter 29, Subchapter A or
- the committee established for the student under Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 United States Code (USC), §794)

Speech Requirement
SBOE Rule

A specific speech course will not be a requirement under the Foundation High School Program.

New Requirement:

To receive a high school diploma, a student must demonstrate proficiency, as determined by the district in which the student is enrolled, in:

- delivering clear verbal messages
- choosing effective nonverbal behaviors
- listening for desired results
- applying valid critical-thinking and problem-solving processes
- identifying, analyzing, developing, and evaluating communication skills needed for professional and social success in interpersonal situations, group interactions, and personal and professional presentations

Endorsements – Statutory Requirements

A student may earn an endorsement by successfully completing:

- curriculum requirements for the endorsement
- four credits in mathematics
- four credits in science
- two additional elective credits

Endorsements – Statutory Requirements

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.

A school district defines advanced courses and determines a coherent sequence of courses for an endorsement area, provided that prerequisites are followed.

A course completed as part of the set of four courses needed to satisfy an endorsement requirement may also satisfy a requirement under the foundation high school program, including an elective requirement.

Endorsement Advanced Courses SBOE Rule

Fourth Mathematics Credit to Earn an Endorsement	
Algebra II	IB Mathematical Studies Standard Level (SL)
Precalculus	IB Mathematics SL
Advanced Quantitative Reasoning	IB Mathematics Higher Level (HL)
Independent Study in Math	IB Further Mathematics HL
Discrete Mathematics for Problem Solving	Engineering Mathematics
AP Statistics	Statistics & Risk Management
AP Calculus AB	Discrete Mathematics for Computer Science
AP Calculus BC	locally developed math course or other activity [pursuant to TEC, §28.002(g-1)]
AP Computer Science	mathematics course endorsed by an IHE [pursuant to TEC, §28.025(b-5)]
* Math Models (for the 2014-2015 school year only)	College Prep Math [pursuant to TEC, §28.014]
Algebraic Reasoning (in development for implementation in 2015-2016)	Statistics (in development for implementation in 2015-2016)

*Note: A course on this list may be taken either before or after one of the following courses: Mathematical Models with Applications, Mathematical Applications in Agriculture Food and Natural Resources, Digital Electronics, Robotics Programming and Design

Endorsement Advanced Courses SBOE Rule

Fourth Science Credit to Earn an Endorsement	
Chemistry	IB Physics
Physics	IB Environmental Systems
Aquatic Science	Advanced Animal Science
Astronomy	Advanced Plant and Soil Science
Earth and Space Science	Anatomy and Physiology
Environmental Systems	Medical Microbiology
AP Biology	Pathophysiology
AP Chemistry	Food Science
AP Physics 1: Algebra-Based	Forensic Science
AP Physics 2: Algebra-Based	Advanced Biotechnology
AP Physics C	Principles of Technology
AP Environmental Science	Scientific Research & Design
IB Biology	Engineering Design & Problem Solving
IB Chemistry	Principles of Engineering
locally developed science course or other activity [pursuant to TEC, §28.002(g-1)]	science course endorsed by an IHE [pursuant to TEC, §28.025(b-5)]

STEM - SBOE Rule

A student may earn a STEM endorsement by completing foundation and general endorsement requirements including Algebra II, chemistry, and physics and:

(A) a coherent sequence of courses for four or more credits in CTE that consists of at least two courses in the same career cluster including at least one advanced CTE course which includes any course that is the third or higher course in a sequence. The courses may be selected from courses in all CTE career clusters or CTE innovative courses approved by the commissioner of education. The final course in the sequence must be selected from the STEM career cluster.

(B) a coherent sequence of four credits in computer science selected from the following:

- Fundamentals of Computer Science
- Computer Science I
- Computer Science II
- Computer Science III
- AP Computer Science
- IB Computer Science, Standard Level
- IB Computer Science, Higher Level
- Discrete Mathematics for Computer Science
- Digital Forensics
- Game Programming and Design
- Mobile Application Development
- Robotics Programming and Design
- Independent Studies of Technology Applications

STEM - SBOE Rule

A student may earn a STEM endorsement by completing foundation and general endorsement requirements including Algebra II, chemistry, and physics and:

(C) A total of five credits in mathematics by successfully completing Algebra I, geometry, Algebra II and two additional mathematics courses for which Algebra II is a prerequisite

(D) A total of five credits in science by successfully completing biology, chemistry, physics, and two additional science courses

(E) In addition to Algebra II, chemistry, and physics, a coherent sequence of three additional credits from no more than two of the areas listed in (A), (B), (C), and (D)

Business & Industry - SBOE Rule

A student may earn a business and industry endorsement by completing foundation and general endorsement requirements and:

(A) a coherent sequence of courses for four or more credits in CTE that consists of at least two courses in the same career cluster including at least one advanced CTE course which includes any course that is the third or higher course in a sequence. The courses may be selected from courses in all CTE career clusters or CTE innovative courses approved by the commissioner of education. The final course in the sequence must be selected from one of the following CTE career clusters:

- Agriculture, Food, & Natural Resources
- Architecture & Construction
- Arts, Audio/Video Technology, & Communications
- Business Management & Administration
- Transportation, Distribution, & Logistics
- Marketing
- Information Technology
- Manufacturing
- Hospitality &Tourism
- Finance

(B) four English elective credits by selecting three levels in one of the following areas:

- advanced broadcast journalism
- advanced journalism: newspaper
- advanced journalism: yearbook
- public speaking
- debate

Business & Industry - SBOE Rule

A student may earn a business and industry endorsement by completing foundation and general endorsement requirements and:

(C) four technology applications credits by selecting from the following:

- Digital Design and Media Production
- Digital Art and Animation
- 3-D Modeling and Animation
- Digital Communications in the 21st Century
- Digital Video and Audio Design
- Web Communications
- Web Design
- Web Game Development
- Independent Study in Evolving/Emerging Technologies

(D) a coherent sequence of four credits from (A), (B), or (C)

Public Services - SBOE Rule

A student may earn a public services endorsement by completing foundation and general endorsement requirements and:

(A) a coherent sequence of courses for four or more credits in CTE that consists of at least two courses in the same career cluster including at least one advanced CTE course which includes any course that is the third or higher course in a sequence. The courses may be selected from courses in all CTE career clusters or CTE innovative courses approved by the commissioner of education. The final course in the sequence must be selected from one of the following CTE career clusters:

- Education & Training
- Government & Public Administration
- Health Science
- Human Services
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections, & Security

(B) four courses in Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC)

Arts & Humanities - SBOE Rule

A student may earn an arts and humanities endorsement by completing foundation and general endorsement requirements and:

(A) A total of five social studies credits

(B) four levels of the same language in a language other than English

(C) two levels of the same language in a language other than English and two levels of a different language in a language other than English

(D) four levels of American sign language

(E) a coherent sequence of four credits by selecting courses from one or two categories or disciplines in fine arts or innovative courses approved by the commissioner

(F) four English elective credits by selecting from the following:

- English IV
- Independent Study in English
- Literary Genres
- Creative Writing
- Research and Technical Writing
- Humanities
- Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition; or
- International Baccalaureate Language Studies A1 Higher Level; or
- Communication Applications

Multidisciplinary Studies – SBOE Rule

A student may earn a multidisciplinary studies endorsement by completing foundation and general endorsement requirements and:

(A) four advanced courses that prepare a student to enter the workforce successfully or postsecondary education without remediation from within one endorsement area or among endorsement areas that are not in a coherent sequence

(B) four credits in each of the four foundation subject areas to include English IV and chemistry and/or physics

(C) four credits in advanced placement, International Baccalaureate, or dual credit selected from English, mathematics, science, social studies, economics, languages other than English, or fine arts

Distinguished Level of Achievement

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

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

A student must earn distinguished level of achievement to be eligible for top 10% automatic admission.

Performance Acknowledgements

A student may earn a performance acknowledgment :

- 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

Performance Acknowledgements - SBOE Rule

A student may earn a performance acknowledgment on the student's diploma and transcript for outstanding performance in a dual credit course by successfully completing:

(1) at least 12 hours of college academic courses, including those taken for dual credit as part of the Texas core curriculum, and advanced technical credit courses, including locally articulated courses, with a grade of the equivalent of 3.0 or higher on a scale of 4.0 or

(2) an associate degree while in high school

Performance Acknowledgements - SBOE Rule

A student may earn a performance acknowledgment in bilingualism and biliteracy by demonstrating proficiency in accordance with local school district grading policy in two or more languages by:

(1) completing all English language arts requirements and maintaining a minimum grade point average (GPA) of the equivalent of 80 on a scale of 100; and

(2) satisfying one of the following:

- completion of a minimum of three credits in the same language in a language other than English with a minimum GPA of the equivalent of 80 on a scale of 100; or
- demonstrated proficiency in the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Level IV or higher in a language other than English with a minimum GPA of the equivalent of 80 on a scale of 100; or
- completion of at least three credits in foundation subject area courses in a language other than English with a minimum GPA of 80 on a scale of 100; or
- demonstrated proficiency in one or more languages other than English through one of the following methods:
  - a score of 3 or higher on a College Board AP exam for a language other than English; or
  - a score of 4 or higher on an IB exam for a higher-level languages other than English course; or
  - performance on a national assessment of language proficiency in a language other than English of at least Intermediate High or its equivalent

Performance Acknowledgements - SBOE Rule

In addition to meeting the requirements to earn a performance acknowledgment in bilingualism and biliteracy, an English language learner must also have:

(A) participated in and met the exit criteria for a bilingual or English as a second language (ESL) program; and

(B) scored at the Advanced High level on the Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS).

Performance Acknowledgements - SBOE Rule

A student may earn a performance acknowledgment on the student's diploma and transcript for outstanding performance on a College Board advanced placement test or International Baccalaureate examination by earning:

(1) a score of 3 or above on a College Board advanced placement examination

(2) a score of 4 or above on an International Baccalaureate examination

Performance Acknowledgements - SBOE Rule

A student may earn a performance acknowledgment on the student's diploma and transcript for outstanding performance on the PSAT®, the ACT-PLAN®, the SAT®, or the ACT® by:

(1) earning a score on the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®) that qualifies the student for recognition as a commended scholar or higher by the College Board and National Merit Scholarship Corporation, as part of the National Hispanic Recognition Program (NHRP) of the College Board or as part of the National Achievement Scholarship Program of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation

(2) achieving the college readiness benchmark score on at least two of the four subject tests on the ACT-PLAN® examination

(3) earning a combined critical reading and mathematics score of at least 1250 on the SAT®; or

(4) earning a composite score on the ACT® examination of 28 (excluding the writing subscore)

Performance Acknowledgements - SBOE Rule

A student may earn a performance acknowledgment on the student's diploma and transcript for earning a nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certification or license with:

(1) performance on an examination or series of examinations sufficient to obtain a nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certification or

(2) performance on an examination sufficient to obtain a government-required credential to practice a profession

Performance Acknowledgements - SBOE Rule

Nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certification shall be defined as an industry validated credential that complies with knowledge and skills standards promulgated by a nationally or internationally recognized business, industry, professional, or government entity representing a particular profession or occupation that is issued by or endorsed by:

- a national or international business, industry, or professional organization
- a state agency or other government entity or
- a state-based industry association

Certifications or licensures for performance acknowledgements shall:

- be age appropriate for high school students
- represent a student's substantial course of study and/or end-of-program knowledge and skills
- include an industry recognized examination or series of examinations, an industry validated skill test, or demonstrated proficiency through documented, supervised field experience and
- represent substantial knowledge and multiple skills needed for successful entry into a high-skill occupation