House Bill 5: Graduation Implications for Students who Receive Special Education Services
General Overview

• HB 5 changed the graduation programs from MHSP, RHSP, and DAP to a Foundation Program with options for:
  – Endorsements;
  – Distinguished Level of Achievement; and/or
  – Performance Acknowledgements.

• This becomes effective with 2014-2015 freshmen but students enrolled in high school prior to 2014-2015 will have the option of transitioning to this graduation program.
Graduation Overview

• 22-credit Foundation Program
  – 17 specified credits + 5 electives

• 26-credit Endorsements
  – 19 specified credits + 7 electives

• 26-credit Distinguished Level of Achievement
  – 19 specified credits, including Algebra II + 7 electives

• For ANY student:
  – Performance Acknowledgements
What is currently happening?

• TEA and SBOE are working to transition and implement the requirements of HB 5

• The bill gives SBOE decision-making authority on a number of issues.

• There will be opportunities to provide input and feedback once SBOE begins the rulemaking process.

• TEA’s Commissioner must adopt a transition plan to implement the bill and replace the existing MHSP, RHSP, and DAP with the Foundation High School Program beginning with the 2014-2015 school year.
Anticipated Timelines

• August 2013:
  – SBOE meeting and work session in regard to necessary decisions
  – Archived files of this work session are available online
    • [http://streaming.aanet.org/ramgen/tea/TEA_WS080113-1.rm](http://streaming.aanet.org/ramgen/tea/TEA_WS080113-1.rm)
Anticipated Timelines

• September 2013
  – SBOE Board Meeting
    • Discussion item regarding necessary decisions
    • Likely public hearing held in conjunction with meeting
    • No action expected to be taken
Anticipated Timelines

• November 2013
  – SBOE Board Meeting
    • TEA hopes to present a proposal for first reading and filing authorization
      – 30 days required public comment period, but possibly extended until January SBOE meeting
    • Possible public hearing
Anticipated Timelines

• January 2013
  – SBOE Board Meeting
    • Earliest possible vote for final adoption of rules
Anticipated Timelines

• Students beginning high school in 2014-2015 must complete the requirements of the new graduation program.

• Students enrolled in high school prior to 2014-2015 will have the choice to complete their current (MHSP, RHSP, or DAP) graduation program or to transition to the new Foundation High School Program.
## Foundation High School Program

Eligible for *general admission* to institutions of higher education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Foundation Curriculum</th>
<th>Enrichment Curriculum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>English Language Arts (4 credits)</strong></td>
<td>Physical Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• English I</td>
<td>• One credit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• English II</td>
<td>• Some exceptions</td>
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<td>• English III</td>
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<td>• <strong>Advanced English Course</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Mathematics (3 credits)</strong></td>
<td>Languages Other Than English</td>
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<td>• Algebra I</td>
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<td>• U.S. History</td>
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<td>• U.S. Government (1/2 credit)</td>
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<td>• Economics (1/2 credit)</td>
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<td>Geography/World History**</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total: 22 credits</strong></td>
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*Course has a required EOC assessment

**Course does not yet exist

*TBD by SBOE
Endorsements

• Upon entering 9th grade, a student must indicate (in writing) an endorsement he/she intends to earn.
• Student must be allowed to choose a different endorsement at any time.
Endorsements – 26 credits

• A student may earn an endorsement by successfully completing:
  – Curriculum requirements for the endorsement *(TBD by SBOE)*
  – 4 credits in mathematics
  – 4 credits in science
  – 2 additional elective credits
• 26 credits total
## Endorsements

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Endorsement</th>
<th>Includes courses directly related to:</th>
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</table>
| STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) | • Science, including environmental science  
• Technology, including computer science  
• Engineering  
• Advanced math                              |
| Business and Industry                      | • Database management  
• Information technology  
• Communications  
• Accounting  
• Finance  
• Marketing  
• Graphic design  
• Architecture  
• Construction  
• Welding  
• Logistics  
• Automotive technology  
• Agricultural science  
• HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning) |
| Public Services                            | • Health sciences and occupations  
• Education and training  
• Law enforcement  
• Culinary arts and hospitality*             |
| Arts and Humanities                        | • Political science*  
• World languages  
• Cultural studies  
• English literature  
• History  
• Fine arts                                    |
| 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. |

* Preliminary conversations indicate these may move to other endorsement areas
## Foundation High School Program with Endorsement(s)

Eligible for *general admission* to institutions of higher education

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<td>Languages Other Than English&lt;br&gt; • Two credits in the same language&lt;br&gt; • Substitution for <em>computer programming languages</em>*&lt;br&gt; • Exceptions exist*</td>
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**Total: 26 credits + completion of at least one endorsement**

*Course has a required EOC assessment

**TBD by SBOE

**Course does not yet exist
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.
Graduation without an Endorsement

• A student can graduate under the Foundation Program without an endorsement if, after his/her sophomore year:
  – The student and the parent are advised by the counselor of the specific benefits of graduating from high school with one or more endorsements; and
  – The student’s parent files with the school counselor written permission (on a TEA developed form) allowing the student to graduate under the Foundation High School Program without an endorsement.
Distinguished Level of Achievement – 26 credits

• A student may earn a distinguished level of achievement by completing:
  – 4 credits in mathematics, **which must include Algebra II**;
  – 4 credits in Science;
  – The remaining curriculum requirements; and
  – The curriculum endorsements for at least one endorsement (TBD by SBOE).
Distinguished Level of Achievement

- Students must earn Distinguished Level of Achievement in order to be eligible for Top 10% Automatic Admission to institutions of higher education.
# Foundation High School Program

**with Distinguished Level of Achievement**

Eligible for *automatic admission* to institutions of higher education

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**Total:** 26 credits + completion of at least one endorsement

- Course has a required EOC assessment
- *TBD by SBOE
- **Course does not yet exist
Performance Acknowledgements

• Any student may earn a performance acknowledgement (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
TEXAS Grant Eligibility

• Effective 2014-2015

• Students graduating under the Foundation High School Program are eligible for Texas GRANT
  – Flexibility in the required additional criteria for eligibility due to advanced technology applications courses
Notes

• Students could graduate under the Foundation High School Program without earning an Endorsement, Distinguished Level of Achievement, or Performance Acknowledgements.

• Reminders:
  – There must be written parental permission on file to allow graduation under the Foundation High School Program without any endorsements.
  – These students are eligible for general admission (not automatic admission) into an institution of higher education.
4\textsuperscript{th} Year HS Students During 2013-2014

- 4\textsuperscript{th} year high school students currently participating in MHSP, RHSP, or DAP can choose to graduate under the Foundation High School Program – in accordance with Commissioner Rules.
PEIMS Reporting

• Effective 2014-2015

• Report the number of students who were:
  – Enrolled in Foundation High School Program
  – Pursuing Distinguished Level of Achievement
  – Enrolled in a program to earn an endorsement

• Information disaggregated by all student groups
90% Attendance

• Effective 2013-2014

• A student cannot receive course credit or a final grade in a course without 90% attendance.

• Applies to K-12
Notes

- Special Education Rules regarding graduation (19 TAC §89.1070) will have to be updated by TEA to align with new graduation requirements.
Personal Graduation Plans: Junior High/Middle School

- Effective 2014-2015

- PGPs must be developed for students who are identified as being at-risk of not completing a high school diploma before the fifth year after entering 9th grade and for students who did not pass a state assessment.
Personal Graduation Plans: Junior High/Middle School

- Principal must designate a counselor, teacher, or other appropriate individual to develop and administer PGPs.

- PGPs must be transmitted electronically through TREx.
Personal Graduation Plans: High School

• Effective 2014-2015

• Universal PGPs must be developed for all high school students.

• PGPs must be transmitted through TREx.
Personal Graduation Plans: High School

• High School Principal must designate a school counselor or school administrator to review PGP options with each student entering 9th grade together with the parent.

• PGP must be signed by student and parent before the end of the school year.

• Students may amend their PGP but written notice of the amendment must be sent to the parents.