

SECTION III: HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

In order for a student to graduate from Harmony Public Schools, the student must fulfill:

1. HPS High School Credit Requirement
2. Passing Score on Texas State Assessments (STAAR)
3. Admission by a 4-Year College
4. Minimum 100 Community Service Hours¹

Course-by-Credit Summary

Harmony's High School Program is designed to ensure acceptance, enrollment, and success in 4-year universities, and requires the following course-by-credit plan for all students, regardless of the plan they choose to graduate. Exceptions may apply to students receiving Special Education services.

Table 5: Credit by Examination Windows

Course	Credit
English	4.0
Mathematics	4.0
Science	4.0
Social Studies & Economics	4.0
Physical Education	1.0
Languages other than English	3.0 ²
Fine Arts	1.0
Electives	6.0
Local Credit Courses	6LC ³
TOTAL	26 credits + 6LC

1. Community service requirement is 25 hours per year.
2. May be waived for students in special programs and transfer students with no LOTE credit in 8th grade. Those students may fulfill the requirement with two LOTE credits.
3. This is the maximum number for local credits. Based on assessment data, students may be exempt from a local credit course to receive another state credit course.

Students in 8th grade will begin the process of developing a Personalized Graduation Plan (PGP) for the next 4 years in high school. A Personalized Graduation Plan is a 4-year plan that each student makes to help guide his or her course selection to meet the criteria of the chosen endorsement.

Required Academic Program for HPS High School Graduation

In accordance with House Bill 5, all students are required to choose one endorsement in order to graduate under the State of Texas Foundation High School Plan. "Foundation High School Plan with Endorsements and Distinguished Level of Achievement" is the default plan all Harmony students are expected to follow. In order to earn a high school diploma from any Harmony Public School, each student must fulfill the following core academic requirements:

Table 6: HPS High School Course Plan

<p>CORE DISCIPLINE</p>	<p align="center">HPS High School Course Plan = FHSP + Endorsements + Distinguished Level of Achievement Plan1 26 CREDITS</p>
<p align="center">English (4.0 Credits)</p>	<p><i>Four credits must consist of:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ English I or English I for Speakers of Other Languages ▪ English II or English II for Speakers of Other Languages ▪ English III or AP English Language and Composition or Dual Credit course equivalent* ▪ College Prep English, English IV or AP English Literature and Composition or Dual Credit course equivalent*.
<p align="center">Mathematics (4.0 Credits)</p>	<p><i>Four credits must consist of:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Algebra I ▪ Geometry ▪ Algebra II or Dual Credit course equivalent* ▪ An additional course for which Algebra II is prerequisite such as College Prep Math or Algebraic Reasoning or Pre-calculus or AP Statistics or AP Calculus AB or AP Calculus BC or any Dual Credit course equivalent or AP Computer Science or Statistics and Risk Management (CTE) or Engineering Mathematics (CTE)
<p align="center">Science (4.0 Credits)</p>	<p><i>Four credits must consist of:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A biology credit (Biology or AP Biology or Dual Credit course equivalent*) ▪ A chemistry credit (Chemistry or AP Chemistry Dual Credit course equivalent*) ▪ A physics credit (Physics or AP Physics (I,II or C) Dual Credit course equivalent*) ▪ After successful completion of a biology, a chemistry, and a physics course, the fourth credit may be selected from the following: Anatomy and Physiology (CTE), Forensic Science (CTE), Engineering Design and Problem Solving, Environmental Science, AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Physics I & II or C, or AP Environmental Science or Dual Credit course equivalent*.
<p align="center">Social Studies & Economics (4.0 Credits)</p>	<p><i>Three-and one-half credits must consist of:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ World Geography or AP Human Geography (one credit) or Dual Credit course equivalent* ▪ World History or AP World History (one credit) or Dual Credit course equivalent* ▪ US History or AP US History (one credit) or Dual Credit course equivalent* ▪ US Government or AP US Government (one-half credit) or Dual Credit course equivalent* <p><i>One-half credit must consist of:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Economics or AP Macroeconomics or AP Microeconomics or Dual Credit course equivalent
<p align="center">Physical Education (1.0 Credit)</p>	<p><i>One credit must consist of any combination of the following one-half to one credit courses:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Foundations of Personal Fitness Adventure/Outdoor Education ▪ Aerobic Activities ▪ Team or Individual Sports ▪ Dual Credit course equivalent <p><i>In accordance with local district policy, credit for any of the courses listed above may be earned through participation in the following activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Athletics ▪ JROTC ▪ Appropriate private or commercially-sponsored physical activity programs conducted on or off campus ▪ Credit may not be earned for any TEKS-based course more than once. No more than four substitution credits may be earned through any combination of substitutions. ▪ A student who is unable to participate in physical activity due to disability or illness may substitute an academic elective credit (English language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies).

<p>Languages Other Than English ² (3.0 Credits)</p>	<p><i>Three credits must consist of:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Any three levels in the same language. <p>An AP course or Dual Credit course equivalent can also be substituted for each level (must also be the same language).</p>
<p>Fine Arts (3.0 Credits)</p>	<p><i>One credit from any of the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Art (I,II,III) * Dance (I,II,III) * Music (I,II,III) * Theatre (I,II,III) * AP Music Theory * AP Studio Arts * AP Art History * Dual Credit course equivalent*
<p>Electives + Endorsements (6.0 Credits)</p>	<p><i>Five credits from any of the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The list of courses approved by the SBOE for Grades 9-12 (relating to Essential Knowledge and Skills), including AP and equivalent Dual Credit courses. <p>Credit/Elective choices should be specific to at least one endorsement</p>
<p>Local Credits (6.0 Local Credits)</p>	<p>If not exempt, students take six Local Credits from ELA and Math Lab Courses, designed to prepare students for EOC and College Readiness Assessments. English language learners at the beginner and intermediate level of English language proficiency will take ESL Lab courses.</p>
<p>ENDORSEMENTS</p>	<p><i>Students entering 9th grade must choose and complete curriculum requirements from one of the following endorsements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * STEM * Arts and Humanities * Multidisciplinary Studies * Business and Industry * Public Services
<p>Performance Acknowledgements</p>	<p><i>For outstanding performance</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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
<p>State Assessment Requirements For Graduation</p>	<p><i>Students must satisfactorily pass following STAAR End-of-Course assessments ¹:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * English I * English II * Algebra I * Biology * US History

* Refer to Dual Credit Course Matrix Chart.

¹ May not apply to students exempt by the ARD Committee or IGC. A student is not required to retake a course as a condition of retaking an EOC assessment. Students who are taking any of these five high school courses in middle school will also take the required EOC assessment. Students may not retake an EOC assessment that they have passed. EOC assessment scores are not included in students' course grades.

² May be waived for students in special programs and transfer students with no LOTE credit in 8th grade. Those students may fulfill the requirement with two LOTE credits.

FOUNDATION GRADUATION PROGRAM

(Class of 2018 and Beyond)

Foundation Only [22 Credits]*	Foundation with Endorsements [26 Credits]	Distinguished Level of Achievement [26 Credits]
4 credits English – ELA I, II, III, IV or advanced English course	4 credits English – ELA I, II, III, IV or advanced English course	4 credits English – ELA I, II, III, IV or advanced English course
3 credits Math – Algebra I, Geometry, and one credit advanced math course	4 credits Math – Algebra I, Geometry, and two credits advanced math course	4 credits Math – Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II and one credit advanced math course
3 credits Science – Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and one credit science course	4 credits Science – Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and one credit science course	4 credits Science – Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and one credit science course
3 credits Social Studies - US History, Government, Economics, World Geography or World History	3 credits Social Studies - US History, Government, Economics, World Geography or World History	3 credits Social Studies - US History, Government, Economics, World Geography or World History
2 credits LOTE or Computer Science	2 credits LOTE or Computer Science	2 credits LOTE or Computer Science
1 credit Physical Education	1 credit Physical Education	1 credit Physical Education
1 credit Fine Arts	1 credit Fine Arts	1 credit Fine Arts
5 credits in electives	7 credits in electives	7 credits in electives

* Students may opt to Foundation-only after completing sophomore year with parent and campus approval.

The Distinguished Level of Achievement

The Distinguished Level of Achievement opens a world of educational and employment opportunities for you beyond high school. The Distinguished Level of Achievement will:

- Allow you to compete for Top 10% automatic admissions eligibility at any Texas public university;
- Position you among those first in line for a TEXAS Grant to help pay for university tuition and fees; and
- Ensure you are a more competitive applicant at the most selective colleges and universities

Requirements

The Distinguished Level of Achievement requires more math and more science than the Foundation High School Program. The Distinguished Level of Achievement requires.

- A total of four credits in math, including Algebra II;
- A total of four credits in science; and
- Successful completion of an endorsement in your area of interest.

Endorsements

Students entering 9th Grade must choose from one of the following endorsements.

- STEM (Examples: Engineering, Computer Science)

- Business and Industry (Examples: Business, Finance, Accounting)
- Arts and Humanities (Examples: Literature, Art, Dance, Music)
- Public Services (Examples: Hotel Management, Psychology, Teaching, Health)
- Multidisciplinary Studies (Examples: Business, Sociology, Art)

Note: Availability of endorsements may vary for each campus

To qualify as part of the top ten percent of their graduating class, students must successfully complete Algebra II. Please review the following Endorsement Chart for more information

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math)

Students may earn a STEM endorsement by selecting and completing the requirements from among these 5 options.

Note: Algebra II, Chemistry, and Physics are required for the STEM endorsement regardless of the option the student selects from below.

Option 1: Computer Science

Students take 3 computer science courses.

- * Computer Programming
- * Computer Science AP
- * Advanced Computer Science or Computer Science Problems & Solutions

Option 2: CTE

Students earn four (4) CTE credits by taking at least two (2) courses in the same cluster that lead to a final course in the STEM cluster. At least one (1) of the courses must be an advanced CTE course (3rd year or higher course in a sequence).

Option 3: Math

Students take Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II AND two (2) of the following courses for which Algebra II is a prerequisite.

- * Pre-Calculus
- * Advanced Algebra
- * Calculus AB or BC
- * College Algebra
- * Statistics AP

Option 4: Science

Students take Biology, Chemistry, and Physics, AND two (2) of the following courses.

- * Chemistry AP
- * Astronomy
- * Biology AP
- * Earth & Space Science
- * AP Physics 1
- * AP Physics II
- * AP Physics C
- * Forensic Science
- * Aquatic Science
- * Anatomy & Physiology
- * Environmental Systems
- * Environmental Science AP
- * Engineering Design & Problem Solving

Option 5: Combination

Students take Algebra II, Chemistry, and Physics, an additional math course, an additional science course, AND three (3) additional credits from Option 1 (Computer Science) and/or Option 2 (CTE) in the STEM endorsement.

Business & Industry

Students may earn a Business & Industry endorsement by selecting and completing the requirements from among these 3 options.

Option 1: CTE

Students earn four (4) credits by taking at least two (2) courses in the same cluster in one of the following areas.

- Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources
- Architecture and Construction
- Arts, Audio/Video Technology, and Communication
- Business Management and Administration
- Finance
- Hospitality and Tourism
- Information Technology
- Marketing

with at least one (1) advanced (3rd year or higher course in the sequence)

Option 2: English

Students take four (4) English elective credits that include three levels in one for the following areas.

- Advanced Journalism: Newspaper or Yearbook
- Public Speak
- Debate

Option 3: Technology

Students take four (4) technology credits selected from of the following courses.

- Animation
- Advanced Animation
- Web Technology I
- Digital & Interactive Multimedia
- Computer Programming K
- Business Information Management
- Audio/Video Production

Public Services

Students may earn a Public Services endorsement by selecting and completing the requirements from among these 2 options.

Option 1: CTE

Students earn four (4) credits by taking at least two (2) courses in the same career cluster in one of the following areas.

- Education and Training
- Health Science
- Human Services

With a least one (1) advanced (3rd year or higher course in the sequence).

Option 2: JROTC

Student takes four (4) JROTC courses for 4 credits.

Arts & Humanities

Students may earn an Arts & Humanities endorsement by selecting and completing the requirements from among these 4 options.

Option 1: Social Studies

Students take five (5) social studies courses for 5 credits.

Option 2: Foreign Language

Students take four (4) levels of the same foreign language. **OR** Students take two (2) levels of one foreign language AND two (2) levels of a different foreign language (two levels in each of two different foreign languages for 4 credits).

Option 3: Fine Arts

Students take four (4) courses in the same fine arts area for 4 credits. **OR** Students take two (2) courses in one fine arts area AND two (2) courses in a different fine arts area (two courses in each of two different fine arts areas for 4 credits).

Option 4: English

- English IV
- Humanities
- Literary Genres
- AP English Literature & Comp
- Creative Writing
- Communication Applications
- Research and Technical Writing

Multidisciplinary Studies

Students may earn a Multidisciplinary Studies endorsement by selecting and completing the requirements from among these 3 options.

Option 1: Four by Four (4 X 4)

Students take four (4) courses in each of the four core content areas.

- Four (4) English credits including English IV
- Four (4) math credit
- Four (4) science credits including biology and chemistry and/or physics
- Four (4) social studies credits

With a least one (1) advanced (3rd year or higher course in the sequence).

Option 2: AP or Dual

Students take four (4) Advanced Placement (AP) courses for four (4) credits in English, math, science, social studies, foreign language, or fine arts. **OR** Students take four (4) Dual credit courses for four (4) credits in English, math, science, social studies, foreign language, or fine arts.

Option 3: CTE

Students take four advanced courses for four (4) credits that prepare them to enter the workforce or postsecondary education without remediation from within one endorsement area or among endorsement areas not in a coherent sequence.

LOCAL CREDIT COURSES

Local credit courses are courses in which students participate without receiving state credit towards graduation. Local credits courses are, however, calculated as a part of the GPA and senior class rank. HPS offers additional Math and ELA labs at every grade level to better prepare students for college level courses. Students are placed into an appropriate lab class at any grade level. The labs are designed to prepare students for state EOC

tests, TSI assessment, and the SAT. Please see the local credit courses at each grade level. Based on assessment data (PSAT, SAT, TSI), students may be exempt from a local credit course at any grade level. Additionally, English language learners at the beginner and intermediate level of English language proficiency will take ESL Lab courses instead of EOC lab, SAT ELA or TSI ELA prep courses.

Table 7: Local Credit for Math/ELA Lab Classes.

Grade Level	Credits	Math	ELA
9th Grade	2 credits	1 credit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Algebra I EOC Lab 	1 credit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> English I EOC Lab OR ESL Lab I
10th Grade	2 credits	1 credit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Math TSI Lab I OR Math SAT Lab I 	1 credit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> English II EOC Lab OR ELA SAT Lab I OR ESL Lab II
11th Grade	1 credit	0.5 credit (semester-long) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Math TSI Lab II OR Math SAT Lab II 	0.5 credit (semester-long) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> English TSI Lab I OR English SAT Lab II
12th Grade	1 credit	0.5 credit (semester-long) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Math TSI Lab III, if student did not achieve college ready score 	0.5 credit (semester-long) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> English TSI Lab II, if student did not achieve college ready score

Graduation Options for Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities are provided an individualized educational program with various opportunities to succeed. Annual meetings are held with students with disabilities and their parents in which an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) is developed and an appropriate educational plan is determined. Students receiving special education services follow the curriculum and credit requirements required of all students as determined by their prospective graduation plan. Students with identified special needs will be provided appropriate accommodations in regular classes. Should students need modification of the state standards, they may be served in specialized classes according to their Individual Education Plan (IEP). ARD Committee referral is required for placement in any modified course.

The general considerations for graduation options are as listed below:

Options that are the same for all other students:

- Foundation Program
- Distinguished Achievement Program
- Endorsement Program

There are additional graduation options for students who receive special education services whose disabilities interfere with successful completion of the 3 plans mentioned above. Each special education student's ARD committee will work together to determine which plan listed above is appropriate or whether a modified or alternate plan is needed. Students who have modified curriculum, who take one or more modified or alternate courses, may benefit from the Foundation Program.

Options for those who receive special education services:

- Completion of IEP and access to services employment, or education outside of public education
- Completion of IEP and has full time employment with sufficient self-help skills to maintain employment
- Completion of IEP and has demonstrated mastery of specific employability and self-help skills
- Completion of IEP and has reached age 22

Students are encouraged to purchase meals from the school in advance. Payments may be made to the student's account on a weekly or monthly basis. See the school office for acceptable methods of payment.