

2010

High School Graduation Requirements-Draft Copy

Harmony School System

COSMOS FOUNDATION INC.



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HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The following graduation requirements apply to students entering Grade 9 in school year 2007-08 and after.

| Discipline | Recommended High School | Distinguished Achievement |
|--------------------|--|---|
| English | <p>Four Credits must consist of:</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 – English IV or AP English Literature and Composition | <p>Four Credits must consist of:</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 – English IV or AP English Literature and Composition |
| Mathematics | <p>Four Credits must consist of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Algebra I – Geometry – Algebra II <p>The additional credit may be selected from either of the following and must be successfully completed prior to Algebra II:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Mathematical Models with Applications – Mathematical Applications in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources (CTE) <p>The fourth credit may be selected from the following after successful completion of Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Precalculus or AP Statistics or AP Calculus AB or AP Calculus BC or AP Computer Science or Independent Study or Engineering Mathematics (CTE) | <p>Four Credits must consist of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Algebra I – Geometry – Algebra II – An additional course for which Algebra II is prerequisite such as Precalculus or AP Statistics or AP Calculus AB or AP Calculus BC or AP Computer Science or Independent Study or Engineering Mathematics (CTE) |

| Discipline | Recommended High School | Distinguished Achievement |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| Science | <p>Four Credits must consist of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – A biology credit (Biology or AP Biology) – A chemistry credit (Chemistry or AP Chemistry) – A physics credit (Physics or AP Physics (B or C) or Principles of Technology I) – The fourth credit must be selected from the following <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Astronomy, Aquatic Science, Environmental Science, Earth and Space Science, AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Physics B or C, and AP Environmental Science <p>The additional credit may be IPC and must be successfully completed prior to chemistry and physics.</p> | <p>Four Credits must consist of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – A biology credit (Biology or AP Biology) – A chemistry credit (Chemistry or AP Chemistry) – A physics credit (Physics or AP Physics (B or C)) – The fourth credit must be selected from the following <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Astronomy, Aquatic Science, Environmental Science, Earth and Space Science, AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Physics B or C, and AP Environmental Science <p>IPC may not be taken to fulfill any of the four credits of science requirements.</p> |
| Social Studies | <p>Three-and one-half credits must consist of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – World Geography or AP Human Geography (one credit) – World History or AP World History (one credit) – US History or AP US History (one credit) – US Government or AP US Government (one-half credit) | <p>Three-and one-half credits must consist of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – World Geography or AP Human Geography (one credit) – World History or AP World History (one credit) – US History or AP US History (one credit) – US Government or AP US Government (one-half credit) |

| Discipline | Recommended High School | Distinguished Achievement |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| Economics | <p>One-half credit must consist of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Economics or AP Macroeconomics or AP Microeconomics | <p>One-half credit must consist of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Economics or AP Macroeconomics or AP Microeconomics |
| Physical Education | <p>One credit must consist of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Foundations of Personal Fitness – Adventure/Outdoor Education – Aerobic Activities – Team or Individual Sports | <p>One credit must consist of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Foundations of Personal Fitness – Adventure/Outdoor Education – Aerobic Activities – Team or Individual Sports |
| Languages Other Than English | <p>Two Credits must consist of any two levels in the same language. An AP course can also be substituted for each level (must also be the same language).</p> | <p>Three Credits must consist of any three levels in the same language. An AP course can also be substituted for each level (must also be the same language).</p> |
| Technology Applications | <p>One credit choose one from the followings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Computer Science – Desktop Publishing – Digital Graphics – Multimedia – Video Technology – Web Mastering – BCIS – AP Computer Science A | <p>One credit choose one from the followings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Computer Science – Desktop Publishing – Digital Graphics – Multimedia – Video Technology – Web Mastering – BCIS – AP Computer Science A |
| Speech | <p>One-half credit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Communication Applications | <p>One-half credit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Communication Applications |

| Discipline | Recommended High School | Distinguished Achievement |
|----------------------|--|---|
| Fine Arts | <p>One credit choose one from the followings:</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 | <p>One credit choose one from the followings:</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 |
| Elective Courses | <p>Four and one-half credits from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – AP Psychology – AP European History – Creative Writing – Debate – Journalism – Multiculturalism – Psychology – Photography – Sociology – Or any other course approved by Harmony School | <p>Three and one-half credits from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – AP Psychology – AP European History – Creative Writing – Debate – Journalism – Multiculturalism – Psychology – Photography – Sociology – Or any other course approved by Harmony School |
| Local Credit Courses | <p>Three credits from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – SAT Prep-Mathematics – Algebra 1 Remediation – SAT Prep-Reading – English 1 Remediation – Or any other course approved by Harmony School | <p>Three credits from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – SAT Prep-Mathematics – Algebra 1 Remediation – SAT Prep-Reading – English 1 Remediation – Or any other course approved by Harmony School |

| | | |
|--------------------------|---|---|
| Advanced Measures | None | A student must receive any combination of four advanced measures. |
| Community Service | 100 hours | 100 hours |
| College Admission | Proof of admission by a college is required | Proof of admission by a college is required |
| State Testing | All students must pass all four sections of the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) Exit level unless they qualify for exemption. | |

Advanced Measures Required for The Distinguished Achievement Program

The Distinguished Achievement Program recognizes students who demonstrate levels of performance equivalent to college students. As a college preparatory school system, Harmony Schools strongly encourage the students to follow the DAP. In order to graduate under DAP, students must complete the requirements described in §74.1 of the Texas Administrative Code and receive any combination of four of the following advanced measures:

1- Original Research Project that is:

judged by a panel of professionals in the field that is the focus of project; or conducted under the direction of mentor(s) and reported to an appropriate audience; and related to the required curriculum set forth in TAC §74.1

*Original research project may not be used for more than **two** of the four advanced measures*

2- Test Data:

A score of three or above on The College Board Advanced Placement examination (*may be used for all **four** advanced measures with no limit*);

A score on the Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test (PSAT) that qualifies a student for recognition as a Commended Scholar or higher by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation; as part of:

The National Hispanic Scholar Program of The College Board; or

The National Achievement Scholarship Program for Outstanding Negro Students of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

The PSAT score may count as only **one** advanced measure regardless of the number of honors received by the student.

3- College courses:

A grade of 3.0 or higher on courses that count for college credit (may be used for all **four** advanced measures).

EXAMPLES:

Case 1: A student who receives a score of three or above in two AP courses, successfully completes a science fair project during high school, and completes a college level course through dual credit program with a grade of 3.0 or higher (2 scores from Test Data from AP Courses, 1 score from Original Research Project, and 1 score from College courses) meets the DAP advanced measures requirements.

Case 2: A student who receives a score of three or above in four AP courses meets the DAP advanced measures requirements.

Case 3: A student who receives a score of three or above in one AP course, successfully completes a science fair project during high school, and completes two college level courses through dual credit program with a grade of 3.0 or higher (1 scores from Test Data from AP Courses, 1 score from Original Research Project, and 2 score from College courses) meets the DAP advanced measures requirements.

Case 4: A student who completes four college level courses through dual credit program with a grade of 3.0 or higher meets the DAP advanced measures requirements.

Case 5: A student who receives a score of three or above in two AP courses, successfully completes two science fair projects during high school (2 scores from Test Data from AP Courses and 2 score from Original Research Project) meets the DAP advanced measures requirements.

| Case | Research Project | AP Test Data (3 or higher) | Commended Scholar on PSAT | College Courses |
|------|------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| 2 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| 5 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 |

Senior Capstone Project

The Senior Capstone Project is offered that allows each senior the opportunity to demonstrate twelve years of educational experience. Reading, writing, speaking, thinking, planning, implementing, self-discipline, problem solving, and organizational skills will be showcased in this four-part process. The components include a formal research paper, a physical project related to some aspect of the research, a reflective paper, and an eight to ten minute oral presentation that synthesizes the first three components and is given before a review board of staff, community members, and peers. Students will maintain a portfolio containing their works-consulted, mentor information, work log, and reflective paper. To be successful, each student must complete and pass each component. This process cannot rely solely upon what the senior already knows, but must demonstrate an aspect of new learning and growth.

Course-by-Credit Summary

| Discipline | RHSP Credits | DAP Credits |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| English | 4.0 | 4.0 |
| Mathematics | 4.0 | 4.0 |
| Science | 4.0 | 4.0 |
| Social Studies | 3.5 | 3.5 |
| Economics | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| Physical Education | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| Languages Other Than English | 2.0 | 3.0 |
| Technology Applications | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| Fine Arts | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| Speech | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| Elective Courses | 4.5 | 3.5 |
| Local Credits | 3.0 | 3.0 |
| TOTAL | 26 | 26 |

List of AP Courses Offered in Harmony Schools *

| AP Course | Equivalence in Graduation Plan |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| AP Art History | Fine Arts |
| AP Biology | Science |
| AP Calculus AB | Mathematics |
| AP Calculus BC | Mathematics |
| AP Chemistry | Science |
| AP Computer Science A | Mathematics or Technology Applications |
| AP English Language and Composition | English Language Arts |
| AP English Literature and Composition | English Language Arts |
| AP Environmental Science | Science |
| AP Human Geography | Social Studies |
| AP Macroeconomics | Economics |
| AP Microeconomics | Economics |
| AP Music Theory | Fine Arts |
| AP Physics B | Science |
| AP Physics C | Science |
| AP Psychology | Elective |
| AP Spanish Language | Languages Other Than English |
| AP Spanish Literature | Languages Other Than English |
| AP Statistics | Mathematics |
| AP Studio Art | Fine Arts |
| AP U.S. Government and Politics | Social Studies |
| AP U.S. History | Social Studies |
| AP World History | Social Studies |

*Please note that the AP course offerings may vary from campus to campus

List of Dual Credit Courses Offered in Harmony Schools *

| Dual Credit Course | Equivalence in Graduation Plan |
|--|--------------------------------|
| English 13001, 1302 | English 3 or English 4 |
| Biology 1301, 1302 | AP Biology |
| US History | AP US History |
| MATH 1314 College Algebra & MATH 2412 (Pre-Calculus) | Precalculus |
| Span 2315 | Spanish III AP |
| Soci 1301 | Sociology |
| PSYC 2301 | Psychology |

*Please note that the AP course offerings may vary from campus to campus

Early High School Graduation Scholarship Program

The Early High School Graduation Scholarship Program is a financial assistance program authorized by the 74th Texas Legislature for students who graduate from high school in fewer than four years.

To be eligible for an award through the Early High School Graduation Scholarship program, a student must:

1. have graduated from high school:
 - a. in not more than **41** consecutive months and successfully completed the recommended or distinguished high school program; or
 - b. in not more than **45** consecutive months, with at least 30 hours of college credit, and successfully completed the recommended or distinguished high school program
2. have attended high school exclusively in one or more Texas public high schools; and
3. be a Texas resident as defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

The amount of credit a student is eligible to receive varies depending on the number of months the student takes to graduate and the number of college credit hours the student has earned while in high school. A student who is eligible under the Early High School Graduation Scholarship program is entitled to a state credit to apply toward tuition or tuition and mandatory fees, as applicable, at a public or private institution of higher education in this state in the following amounts:

1. \$2,000 to apply toward tuition and mandatory fees if:
 - the person successfully completed the recommended or advanced high school program; and
 - graduated from high school in 36 consecutive months or less

An additional \$1,000 to apply toward tuition and mandatory fees if:

- the person graduated with at least 15 hours of college credit.

2. \$500 to apply toward tuition and mandatory fees if:

- the person successfully completed the recommended or distinguished high school program; and
- graduated from high school in more than 36 consecutive months but not more than 41 consecutive months

An additional \$1,000 to apply toward tuition and mandatory fees if:

- the person graduated with at least 30 hours of college credit.

3. \$1,000 to apply toward tuition and mandatory fees if:

- the person successfully completed the recommended or distinguished high school program; and
- graduated from high school in more than 41 consecutive months but not more than 45 consecutive months with at least 30 hours of college credit.

More information can be found at <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/curriculum/>