



**Frisco ISD
Graduation Guide
for the
Class of 2018
& Beyond**

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Introduction

When the 83rd Texas Legislature passed House Bill 5 into law, high school graduation plans changed for all students who enter high school during the 2014-15 school year and thereafter. The bill provides more flexibility for high school students to pursue either higher education or a career. Generally speaking, House Bill 5 established a single graduation plan, the Foundation High School Program (FHSP). Students will also have the opportunity to build on the FHSP by earning Endorsements, Performance Acknowledgements, and a Distinguished Level of Achievement. Students will need to declare their preferred endorsement area, in writing, by the beginning of their 9th grade year. Students in Frisco ISD have always been allowed to choose from a variety of course offerings and will continue to be encouraged to do so. An endorsement is basically an opportunity for students to select a “major” during their high school career. An endorsement can be earned by taking additional courses in Career and Technical Education (CTE) or by taking additional non-CTE courses specified within the endorsement requirements.

The endorsement areas are:

- ☐ Arts & Humanities
- ☐ Business & Industry
- ☐ Multidisciplinary

NOTE: Multi-disciplinary (non-CTE)- Requires English IV, Chemistry and/or Physics

- ☐ Public Service
- ☐ Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM)

NOTE: To earn the STEM endorsement students MUST take Algebra II, Chemistry & Physics in concert with other Foundation Program + Endorsement requirements

FISD offers courses to meet endorsements in all areas. There are specific course requirements in the foundation curriculum based on the Endorsement selected. A comparison of course requirements by endorsement area may be found later in this guide.

A student may elect to graduate without an endorsement under the high school foundation program with school administrator approval at the end of the student's sophomore year. The student and the student's parent or guardian must be advised by the school counselor of the benefits of graduating with one or more endorsement and the student's parent or guardian must file written permission with the high school allowing the student to graduate without an endorsement.

The purpose of this guide is to help parents and students have a greater understanding of the Foundation High School Program (FHSP). This guide contains an overview of graduation requirements for the FHSP; endorsement options in both Non- Career and Technology Education (Non-CTE) and Career and Technical (CTE) pathways; side-by-side core course requirements for each endorsement; helpful hints for selecting an endorsement; sample four year plans in each endorsement (both Non-CTE and CTE); course lists for each endorsement (both Non-CTE and CTE) with grade level and credit values.

It is important to note that the State Board of Education and the Texas Education Agency will release additional clarifications. That information will be incorporated into this guide when available. Therefore contents in this guide are subject to change according to changes from either entity and the most recent information will be posted in this document or on the FISD website.

Graduation Program Options

The default program for all FISD students beginning with the class of 2018 and beyond will be the Distinguished Level of Achievement.

Foundation High School Program (25 credits)

The Foundation High School Program is not available until the end of the sophomore year. Changing to this graduation program will require parent and administrative approval in writing. Parents and students need to understand graduating on this may not meet college or university entrance requirements.

Foundation High School Program + Endorsement (s) (26 credits)

Endorsements are described in this guide including: core course requirements by endorsement, sample four-year graduation plans, and Frisco ISD course offerings by endorsement. The curriculum requirements for earning an endorsement require a student to meet and exceed the Foundation High School Program and successfully completing the following:

- ✓ The curriculum requirements for one or more Endorsement(s) to include a coherent sequence of courses that are content specific to the chosen endorsement
- ✓ Additional coursework to include:
 - A total of four credits in approved mathematics courses
 - A total of four credits in approved science courses

Distinguished Level of Achievement (26 credits)

This is the default graduation program for Frisco ISD students.

In order to be considered for Top Ten Percent Automatic Admission in Texas Public Universities, graduates MUST earn the Distinguished Level of Achievement.

A student may earn a Distinguished Level of Achievement by successfully completing the curriculum requirements that meet and exceed the Foundation High School Program and successfully completing the following:

- ✓ The curriculum requirements for one or more Endorsement(s) to include a coherent sequence of courses that are content specific to the chosen endorsement
- ✓ Additional coursework to include:
 - Four credits in approved mathematics courses, including Algebra II
 - Four credits in approved science courses

The only difference between the Foundation Program + Endorsement and the DLA is the requirement that Algebra II must be one of the four credits in mathematics.

FISD Graduation Program for Class of 2018 & Beyond

The default for Frisco ISD Students is the Distinguished Level of Achievement

Foundation High School Program – 25 Credits

- 4 English Credits
- 3 Math Credits
- 3 Science Credits
- 4 Social Studies Credits
- 2 Foreign Language Credits
- 1 PE Credit
- 1 Fine Arts Credit
- ½ Health Credit
- ½ Speech Credit
- 1 Technology Credit
- 5 Elective Credits

Students must also meet standard on the EOC exams for English I, II, Algebra I, Biology, and US History

Foundation High School Program + Endorsement – 26 Credits

1 Math Credit in addition to the Foundation Program

1 Science Credit in addition to the Foundation Program

At least 4 of the 26 Credits must be in a coherent sequence & content-specific to an Endorsement Area



STEM

Computer
Science
Engineering
Math
Science

Business & Industry

Adv. Journalism
Agriculture
Architecture
Arts, AV Tech, &
Communication
Business Mgmt. &
Admin.
Finance
Hospitality & Tourism
Information Technology
Marketing & Sports
Mgmt.

Arts & Humanities

Art
Band
Choir
LOTE (World
Languages)
Orchestra
Social Studies
Theatre Arts

Public Services

Education
Government &
Public Admin.
Health Science
Law & Public
Safety

Multi-Disciplinary

Core Academics
Multi-Endorsement
Workforce Ready
College Ready

Distinguished Level of Achievement – 26 Credits

1 Math Credit in addition to the Foundation High School Program- Math Sequence MUST include Algebra II

1 Science Credit in addition to the Foundation Program

At least 4 of the 26 Credits must be in a coherent sequence & content-specific to an Endorsement Area

Performance Acknowledgements –Additional Recognition for Meeting Certain Criteria

Advanced Coursework
Bilingualism / Bi-Literacy
Advanced Placement Examination
College Ready Examination
Workforce Readiness

GRADUATION PROGRAM FOR SENIOR CLASS 2018 AND BEYOND

SUBJECT AREA	FOUNDATION HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM (may only be selected at the conclusion of the 10th grade year)	FHSP+ENDORSEMENT OR DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT
ENGLISH	4 Credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> English I English II English III English IV 	4 Credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> English I English II English III English IV
MATH	3 Credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Algebra I Geometry 3rd Credit of Math * (*If Math Models is taken, the class must be successfully completed after taking Algebra I AND prior to taking Algebra II)	4 Credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Algebra I Geometry Algebra II (Required for Distinguished Level of Achievement)*** 4th Credit of Math * (*If Math Models is taken, the class must be successfully completed after taking Algebra I AND prior to taking Algebra II)
SCIENCE	3 Credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biology An additional credit must be selected from the following courses: IPC Chemistry Physics One additional science credit may be selected from the course catalog 	4 Credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biology An additional credit must be selected from the following courses: IPC Chemistry Physics Two additional science credits may be selected from the course catalog**
SOCIAL STUDIES	4 Credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Geography World History U.S. History Economics (.5 credit) US Government (.5 credit) 	4 Credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Geography World History U.S. History Economics (.5 credit) US Government (.5 credit)
FINE ARTS	1 Credit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fine Arts (see course catalog for options) 	1 Credit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fine Arts (see course catalog for options)
SPEECH	.5 Credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professional Communications 	.5 Credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professional Communications
HEALTH	.5 Credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health 	.5 Credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health
TECHNOLOGY APPLICATIONS	1 Credit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technology Applications (see course catalog for options) 	1 Credit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technology Applications (see course catalog for options)
FOREIGN LANGUAGE	2 Credits from the Same Language <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spanish French Chinese American Sign Language 	2 Credits from the Same Language <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spanish French Chinese American Sign Language
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	1 Credit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical Education (see course catalog for options) 	1 Credit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical Education (see course catalog for options)
ADDITIONAL COURSES	5.0 Credits (see course guide for options)	4.0 Credits (see course guide for options)
TOTAL	25 CREDITS	26 CREDITS (4 credits must be in a coherent sequence and content specific to an endorsement area.)

**Multi-disciplinary (non-CTE)- Requires English IV, Chemistry and/or Physics

**STEM- Requires Algebra II, Chemistry and Physics

Performance Acknowledgements

19 TAC Chapter 74, Subchapter B

§74.14. Performance Acknowledgments.

(a) A student may earn a performance acknowledgment on the student's 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.

(b) A student may earn a performance acknowledgment on the student's transcript for outstanding performance in bilingualism and biliteracy as follows.

(1) A student may earn a performance acknowledgment by demonstrating proficiency in accordance with local school district grading policy in two or more languages by:

(A) 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

(B) satisfying one of the following:

- (i) 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
- (ii) 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
- (iii) 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
- (iv) demonstrated proficiency in one or more languages other than English through one of the following methods:
 - (I) a score of 3 or higher on a College Board Advanced Placement examination for a language other than English; or
 - (II) a score of 4 or higher on an International Baccalaureate examination for a higher-level languages other than English course; or
 - (III) performance on a national assessment of language proficiency in a language other than English of at least Intermediate High or its equivalent.

(2) In addition to meeting the requirements of paragraph (1) of this subsection, 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).

(c) A student may earn a performance acknowledgment on the student's 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; or
- (2) a score of 4 or above on an International Baccalaureate examination.

(d) A student may earn a performance acknowledgment on the student's transcript for outstanding performance on an established, valid, reliable, and nationally norm-referenced preliminary college preparation assessment instrument used to measure a student's progress toward readiness for college and the workplace or on an established valid, reliable, and nationally norm-referenced assessment instrument used by colleges and universities as part of their undergraduate admissions process 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 Aspire™ examination;
 - (3) earning scores of at least 410 on the evidence-based reading section and 520 on the mathematics section of the SAT®; or
 - (4) earning a composite score on the ACT® examination of 28 (excluding the writing subscore).
- (e) A student may earn a performance acknowledgment on the student's transcript for earning a state-recognized or nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certification or license as follows.
- (1) A student may earn a performance acknowledgment with:
 - (A) performance on an examination or series of examinations sufficient to obtain a nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certification; or
 - (B) performance on an examination sufficient to obtain a government-required credential to practice a profession.
 - (2) 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) a national or international business, industry, or professional organization;
 - (B) a state agency or other government entity; or
 - (C) a state-based industry association.
 - (3) Certifications or licensures for performance acknowledgements shall:
 - (A) be age appropriate for high school students;
 - (B) represent a student's substantial course of study and/or end-of-program knowledge and skills;
 - (C) include an industry-recognized examination or series of examinations, an industry-validated skill test, or demonstrated proficiency through documented, supervised field experience; and
 - (D) represent substantial knowledge and multiple skills needed for successful entry into a high-skill occupation.

Statutory Authority: The provisions of this §74.14 issued under the Texas Education Code, §§7.102, 28.002, and 28.025.
Source: The provisions of this §74.14 adopted to be effective July 8, 2014, 39 TexReg 5149; amended to be effective August 22, 2016, 41 TexReg 5040.

For additional information, email rules@tea.texas.gov.

Endorsement Overview

Students may earn an endorsement in the following areas:

- ☐ Arts & Humanities
- ☐ Business & Industry
- ☐ Multidisciplinary

NOTE: Multi-disciplinary (non-CTE)- Requires English IV, Chemistry and/or Physics

- ☐ Public Service
- ☐ Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM)

NOTE: To earn the STEM endorsement students MUST take Algebra II, Chemistry & Physics in concert with other Foundation High School Program + Endorsement requirements

Most endorsements offer both a Career and Technical Education (CTE) Pathway and a Non-CTE Pathway. Please note that core course requirements differ based on the endorsement selected.

A student may earn an endorsement by successfully completing:

- ✓ Foundation High School Program requirements
- ✓ Curriculum requirements for the endorsement (generally, four credits that are in a coherent sequence and content-specific to the endorsement area)
- ✓ Four credits in mathematics
- ✓ Four credits in science

Students should select courses leading towards an endorsement based on areas of interest, student strengths, or possible career paths.

Selecting an Endorsement

Introduction

The Foundation High School Program offers students the choice of an endorsement, or targeted area of study. This is similar to a student selecting a major in college. HB 5 requires that all students, upon entering 9th grade, indicate in writing the endorsement he or she intends to earn.

Selecting an endorsement may seem like a daunting task for eighth grade students. However, Frisco ISD has several resources in place which will help clarify and simplify this task. Two of those resources are the Career Planner (the four year planning document) and Naviance. Both of these programs are Internet based career exploration and planning tools that can assist students in selecting an endorsement. Students and parents will confirm the endorsement with high school counselors and annually review and update their Personal Graduation Plan. Although students are required to select an endorsement during the 9th grade registration process, they are also allowed numerous opportunities to change their endorsement throughout their high school career.

Naviance – Family Connection College & Career Exploration Tool

Each FISSD high school student has a Naviance account. Students complete “Explore Careers” and “Cluster Finder” activities throughout their middle and high school careers. The primary tool is called “Family Connection” This tool helps students and families connect what students do in the classroom to their life goals, including finding colleges and careers based on their personal skills and areas of interests. Family Connection is another tool that Frisco ISD makes available for students and parents as they search for the ideal college. Whether it's matching the college to a student's career interests, or comparing admissions rates at a student's top college choices, Family Connection's college planning tools allow students and families to make informed decisions about their options by comparing colleges and universities, exploring scholarship opportunities, tracking college applications, and accessing a variety of other college research materials. Family Connection has a mobile app that lets students do college research and plan college visits from their smart phones! Visit the iTunes app store to get Naviance Student.

Selecting an Endorsement

Once students have identified possible career clusters or careers, they can begin to explore possible endorsements they may wish to pursue. This can be done in several ways.

- ✓ If a student has already decided on an endorsement, they can use the course lists by endorsement in the back of this guide to explore possible course options.
- ✓ If a student is unsure, determine which endorsement matches the clusters identified as a good match.
- ✓ If a particular course appeals to you, use the endorsement matrix towards the end of this guide to determine the endorsement and other available courses in that endorsement.

Before deciding on an endorsement, please read the course description in the High School Course Catalog and compare the choices to graduation plans listed in the High School Academic Guide to the Course Catalog to gather additional information, paying special attention to course prerequisites and grade restrictions. Review the information in the Parent/Student Guide regarding the endorsement(s) you identify as a possibility. Before you begin to select your courses, you will need to decide if you will follow a CTE or Non-CTE pathway. You are now ready to create your four-year plan. See next page for more information.

Students are free to change their programs and change their endorsements. Students should not feel that they are “tracked” into a specific career, but rather this is a time to explore their career interests. Remember that to receive the full endorsement they will need to follow the programs listed.

If selecting a CTE Pathway, you must select:

1. a coherent sequence of courses for four or more credits in CTE that consists of at least two courses in the same career cluster/pathway and
2. at least one advanced CTE course not necessarily from the same pathway

Five Endorsements

ARTS & HUMANITIES ENDORSEMENT

Introduction

The humanities offer students an opportunity to study ancient and modern literature, history, language and culture. These courses allow students an opportunity to explore and understand how other cultures live. Students interested in the performing arts of music and theatre, as well as the visual arts, may find this endorsement suitable for them.

Possible Careers

Possible career paths and interest areas for students pursuing an Arts and Humanities endorsement include courses related to: Political Science, World Languages, Cultural Studies, English Literature, History, and Fine Arts.

Available Pathways

An Arts and Humanities endorsement is only available through a Non-Career and Technical Education pathway. To satisfy the Non-CTE path in the endorsement, students must select:

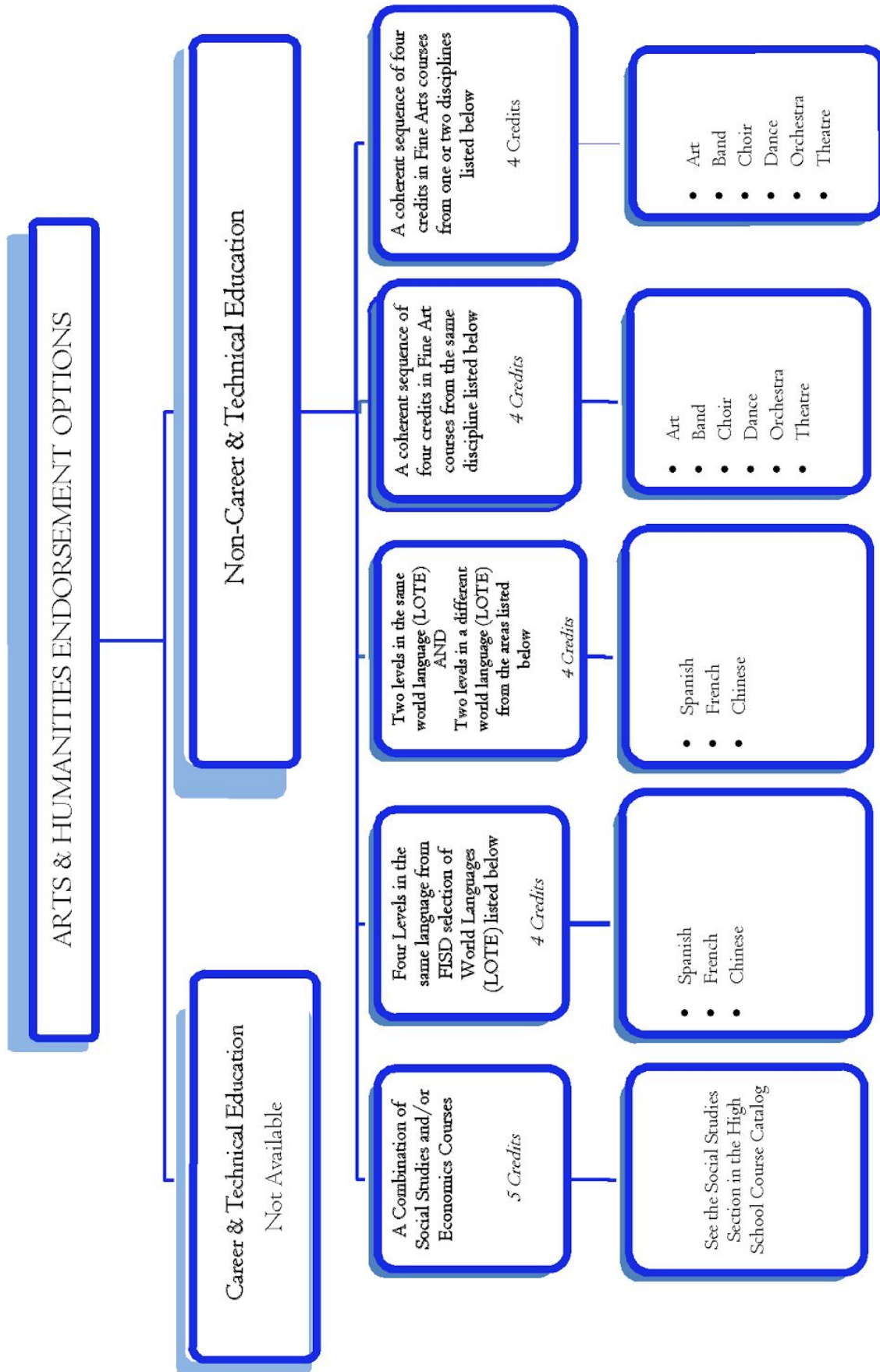
- Five total credits in Social studies and/or economics:
OR
- Four levels of the same Language Other than English (LOTE)
OR
- Two levels in one LOTE **AND** two levels in a different LOTE;
OR
- A coherent sequence of four credits from one or two disciplines in Fine Arts.

FISD offers a variety of social studies courses, a variety of different LOTE language courses and a large number of Fine Arts course in both the Visual and Performing Arts. Please refer to the Academic Guide and the Course Catalog for more details of course descriptions and offerings. These guides are located at:

<http://www.friscoisd.org/ly/parentsStudents/HighSchoolCourseAcademicCatalogs.htm>

One example of how a student could satisfy the Arts & Humanities Endorsement is as follows: Choir I and II and Theatre I and II (4.0 credits total). Students could also satisfy this requirement by completing Choir I-IV or Theatre I-IV.

SEE THE FISD ENDORSEMENT MATRIX AT THE END OF THIS MANUAL FOR SAMPLE COURSE SUGGESTIONS FOR THIS ENDORSEMENT



BUSINESS & INDUSTRY ENDORSEMENT

Introduction

The Business and Industry Endorsement incorporates a large number of career paths and student interests. FISD offers many courses, which fall within this particular endorsement. Refer to the Frisco ISD Course Catalog for further details on course descriptions.

Possible Careers

Possible career paths and interest areas for the Business & Industry Endorsement may include: Database Management; Information Technology, Communications, Accounting, Finance, Marketing, Graphic Design, Architecture, Construction, Welding, Logistics, Automotive Technology, and Agricultural Science. For more information on these and other related careers, please explore career pathways Family Connection.

Available Pathways

Both CTE and Non-CTE pathways are available within the Business & Industry Endorsement.

NON-CAREER & TECHNICAL (CTE) EDUCATION PATH COURSES

To satisfy the Non-CTE path in the Business and Industry Endorsement, students must select four “elective” credits in English Language Arts (ELA). Within those four credits, students must select at least three levels in Advanced Broadcast Journalism, Debate, Newspaper, or Yearbook.

English Language Arts Elective courses available in FISD include courses in the following disciplines: Yearbook, Newspaper, Journalism, Debate, and Broadcast Journalism.

One example of how a student could satisfy the Non-CTE path for Business & Industry is as follows: Journalism, Yearbook I, Yearbook II, and Yearbook III. Each course is 1.0 credit each.

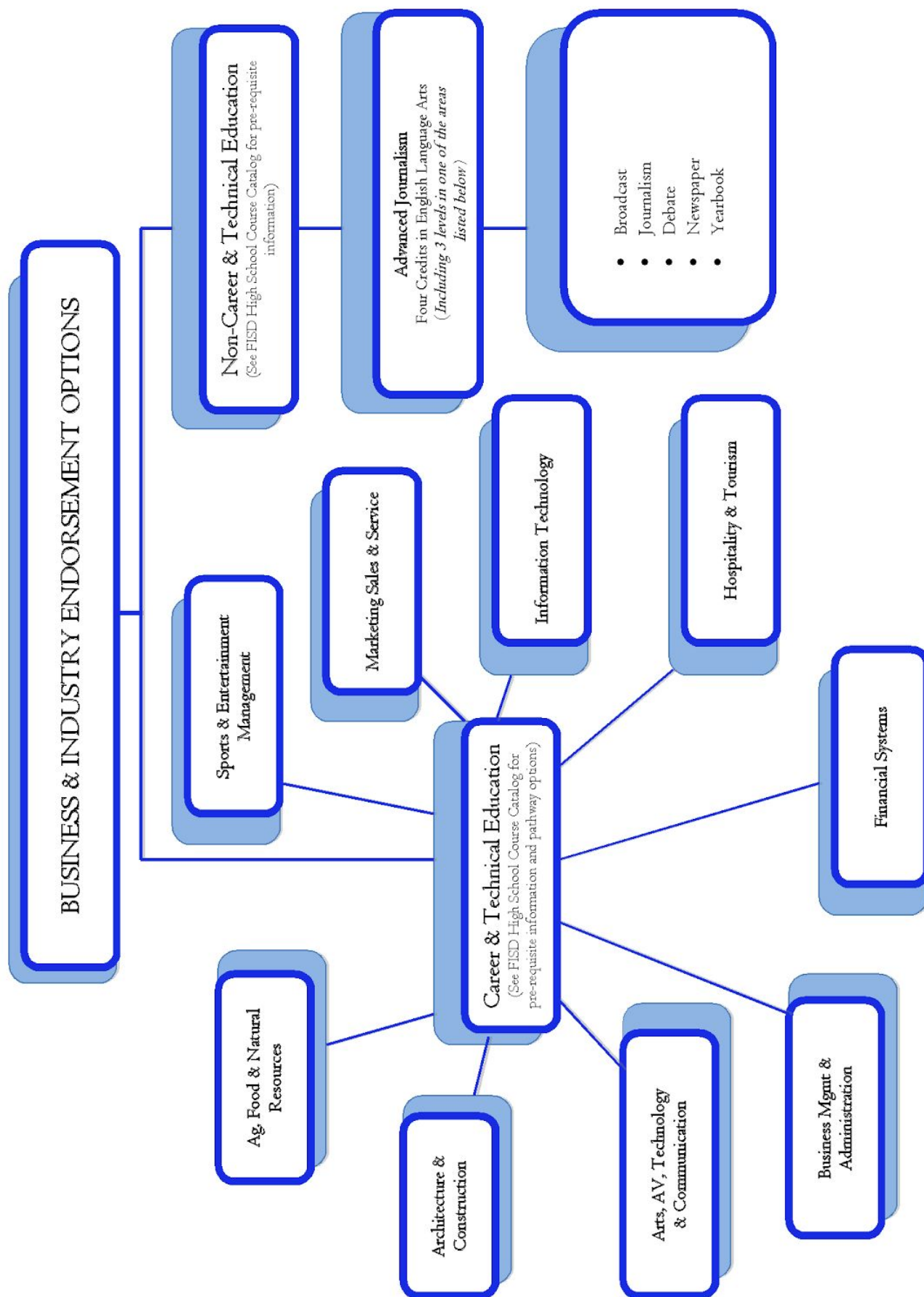
CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) PATH COURSES

To satisfy the CTE path in the Business and Industry Endorsement, students must select a coherent sequence of four credits in CTE that consists of at least two courses in the same cluster, including at least one “advanced” CTE course. The final course in the sequence must be obtained from one of the following clusters:

- Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources
- Architecture and Construction
- Arts, A/V Technology and Communication
- Business Management and Administration
- Financial Systems
- Hospitality and Tourism
- Information Technology
- Marketing, Sales and Services
- Sports & Entertainment Management

Please refer to the Academic Guide and the Course Catalog for more details of course descriptions and offerings. These guides are located at: <http://www.friscoisd.org/ly/parentsStudents/HighSchoolCourseAcademicCatalogs.htm>

SEE THE FISD ENDORSEMENT MATRIX AT THE END OF THIS MANUAL FOR SAMPLE COURSE SUGGESTIONS FOR THIS ENDORSEMENT



MULTIDISCIPLINARY ENDORSEMENT OVERVIEW

Introduction

The Multidisciplinary Endorsement allows students to select courses from each of the endorsement areas. Students can satisfy this endorsement by taking advanced CTE courses which prepare the student to successfully enter post-secondary education or the workforce. This endorsement can also be earned if students successfully complete advanced courses in multiple content areas sufficient to complete the Foundation High School Program with a Distinguished Level of Achievement (DLA).

Possible Careers

All career pathways identified in all cluster and endorsement areas would fall into the multidisciplinary endorsement area.

Available Pathways

Both CTE and Non-CTE pathways are available within the Multidisciplinary Endorsement.

NON-CAREER & TECHNICAL (CTE) EDUCATION PATH COURSES

To satisfy the Non-CTE path in the Multidisciplinary Endorsement, students must select **four credits** in:

- Each of the four foundation subject areas to include English IV and Chemistry and/or Physics

OR

- Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate or Dual Credit courses from the areas listed below:

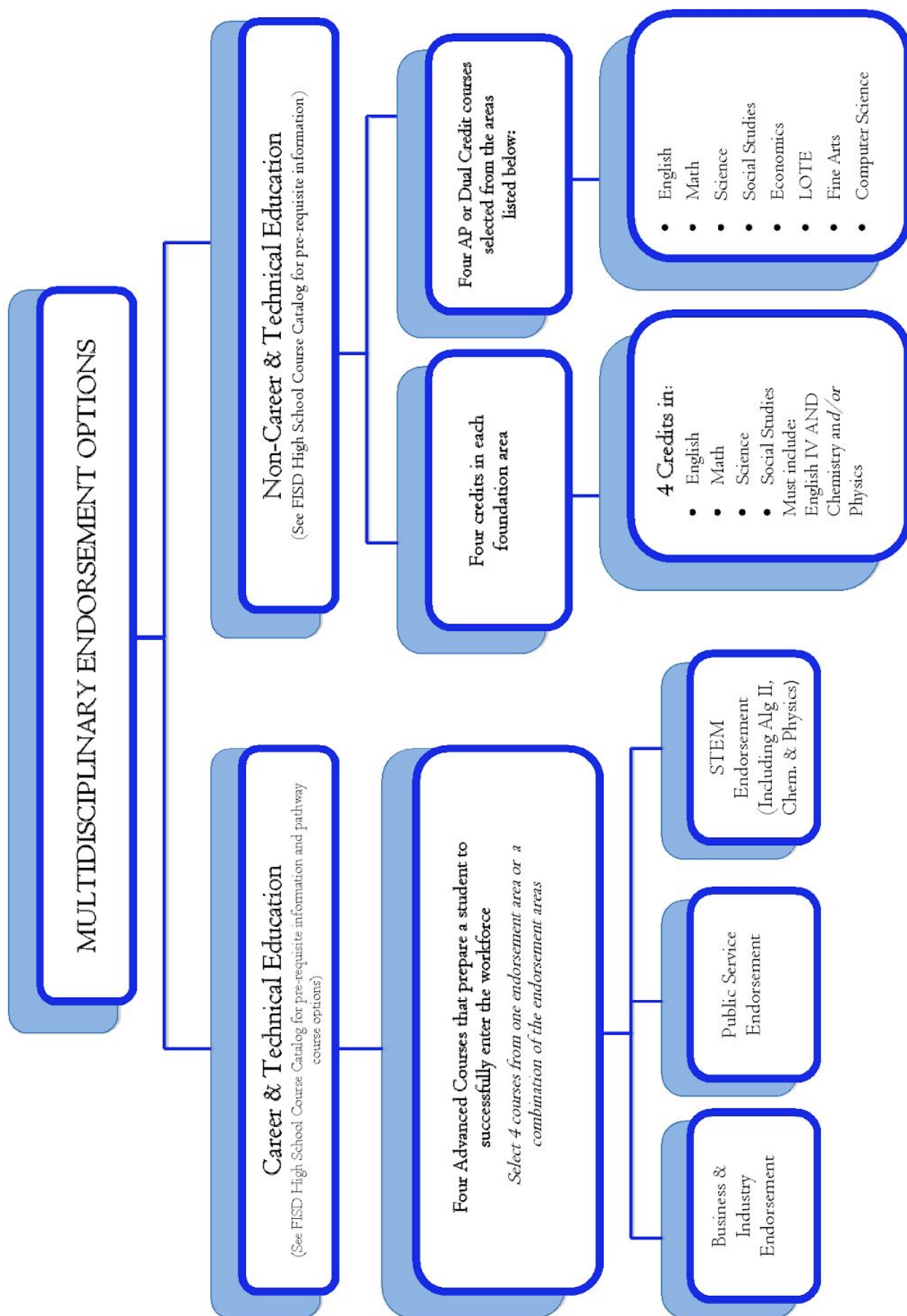
- | | |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ■ English | ■ Economics |
| ■ Math | ■ Languages Other Than English (LOTE) |
| ■ Science | ■ Fine Arts |
| ■ Social Studies | |

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) PATH COURSES

To satisfy the CTE path in the Multidisciplinary Endorsement, students must select four “advanced” CTE courses from one or multiple endorsement areas. The courses should allow the student to successfully continue post-secondary education or to successfully enter the workforce through an industry licensure or some other similar method.

Please refer to the Academic Guide and the Course Catalog for more details of course descriptions and offerings. These guides are located at: <http://www.friscoisd.org/ly/parentsStudents/HighSchoolCourseAcademicCatalogs.htm>

SEE THE FISD ENDORSEMENT MATRIX AT THE END OF THIS MANUAL FOR SAMPLE COURSE SUGGESTIONS FOR THIS ENDORSEMENT



PUBLIC SERVICES ENDORSEMENT OVERVIEW

Introduction

Students pursuing an endorsement in Public Services will enroll in courses directly related to health science, human services, education, legal studies, or law enforcement. For more information on these and other related careers, please explore the Frisco ISD Course Catalog for further details on course descriptions. Students interested in a career with the military may also choose to pursue this endorsement.

Possible Careers

Human services and Health Science careers include careers as a nurse, physician's assistant, hair stylist, hospital administrator, nutritionist, clergy, counselor, etc. Law Enforcement and Public Safety include careers such as mediator, law clerk, paralegal, detective, security guard, criminal investigator, bailiff, and fish and game warden. Within the education area, students may be interested in career fields such as teacher, athletic trainer, principal, college professor, school psychologist, diagnostician, or counselor. Public services incorporate careers in health sciences, human services, law enforcement and public safety, and education.

Available Pathways

CTE pathways are available within the Public Services Endorsement.

NON-CAREER & TECHNICAL (CTE) EDUCATION PATH COURSES

As of the time of publishing, FISD does not offer any options in this category.

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) PATH COURSES

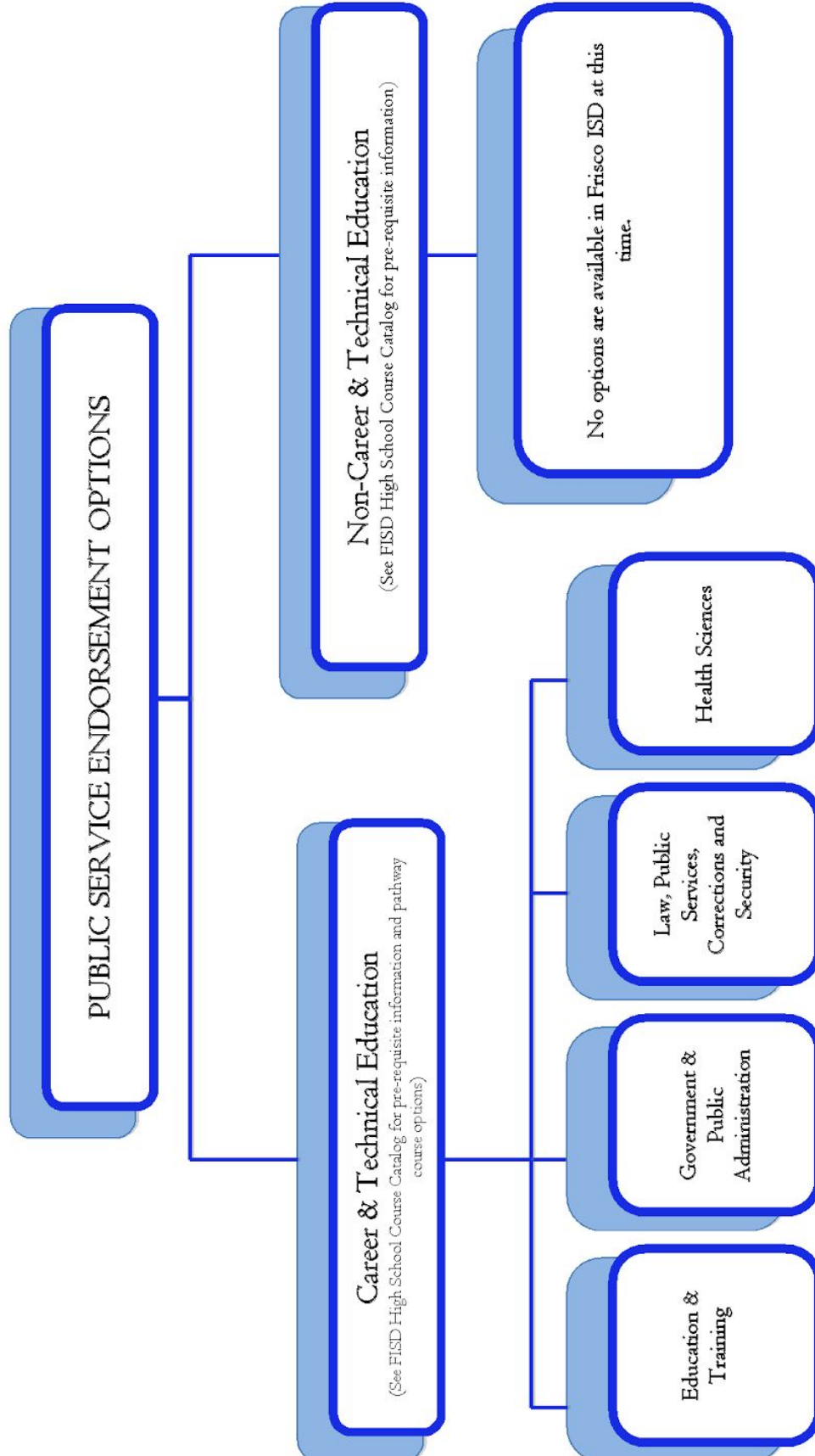
To satisfy the CTE path in the Public Services Endorsement, students must select a coherent sequence of four credits in CTE that consists of at least two courses in the same cluster, including at least one "advanced" CTE course. The final course in the sequence must be obtained from one of the following clusters:

- Education & Training
- Government & Public Administration
- Law, Public Safety, Security & Corrections
- Health Sciences

One example of how a student could satisfy the CTE path for the Public Services Endorsement is as follows: professional communications (.5 credit); medical terminology (.5 credit); health science (1.0 credit); and practicum in health science (2 credits).

Please refer to the Academic Guide and the Course Catalog for more details of course descriptions and offerings. These guides are located at: <http://www.friscoisd.org/ly/parentsStudents/HighSchoolCourseAcademicCatalogs.htm>

SEE THE FISD ENDORSEMENT MATRIX AT THE END OF THIS MANUAL FOR SAMPLE COURSE SUGGESTIONS FOR THIS ENDORSEMENT



STEM ENDORSEMENT OVERVIEW

Students who choose this endorsement MUST complete:

- Algebra II
- Chemistry
- Physics

Introduction

Students pursuing a STEM endorsement would complete courses directly related to: Environmental Science, Technology, Engineering, Advanced Mathematics, and Computer Science. For more information on these and other related careers, please explore career pathways in Family Connection. In addition, refer to the Course Catalog on course descriptions.

Possible Careers

The STEM endorsement may be the right pathway for a student interested in careers such as a biochemist, bioengineer, civil engineer, electrical engineer, medical scientist, mechanical engineer, chemical engineer, environmental engineer, avionics technician, physicist, robotic engineer, and biomedical engineers. There are more careers in the STEM field, please use your student's Family Connection account to search for possible careers.

Available Pathways

Both CTE and Non-CTE pathways are available within the STEM endorsement.

NON-CAREER & TECHNICAL (CTE) EDUCATION PATH COURSES

To satisfy the Non-CTE path in the STEM Endorsement, students must select a number of credits from one of the following options:

- Four Credits in a coherent sequence of Computer Science and/or Technology Applications Courses
- Five Credits in Math – Algebra I and Geometry, Algebra II and two additional credits in Mathematics courses for which Algebra 2 is a prerequisite - for a total of 5 credits in math.
- Five Credits in Science – Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and two additional credits in Science (cannot include Integrated Physics/Chemistry (IPC)) - for a total of 5 credits in science.
- Five Credits in a “flexible” pathway – Algebra II, Chemistry, Physics, and three additional credits from no more than two of the categories listed in this pathway (CTE Engineering, computer science, math, or science).

One example of how a student could satisfy the Non-CTE path for STEM is as follows: Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, Precalculus, & AP Statistics.

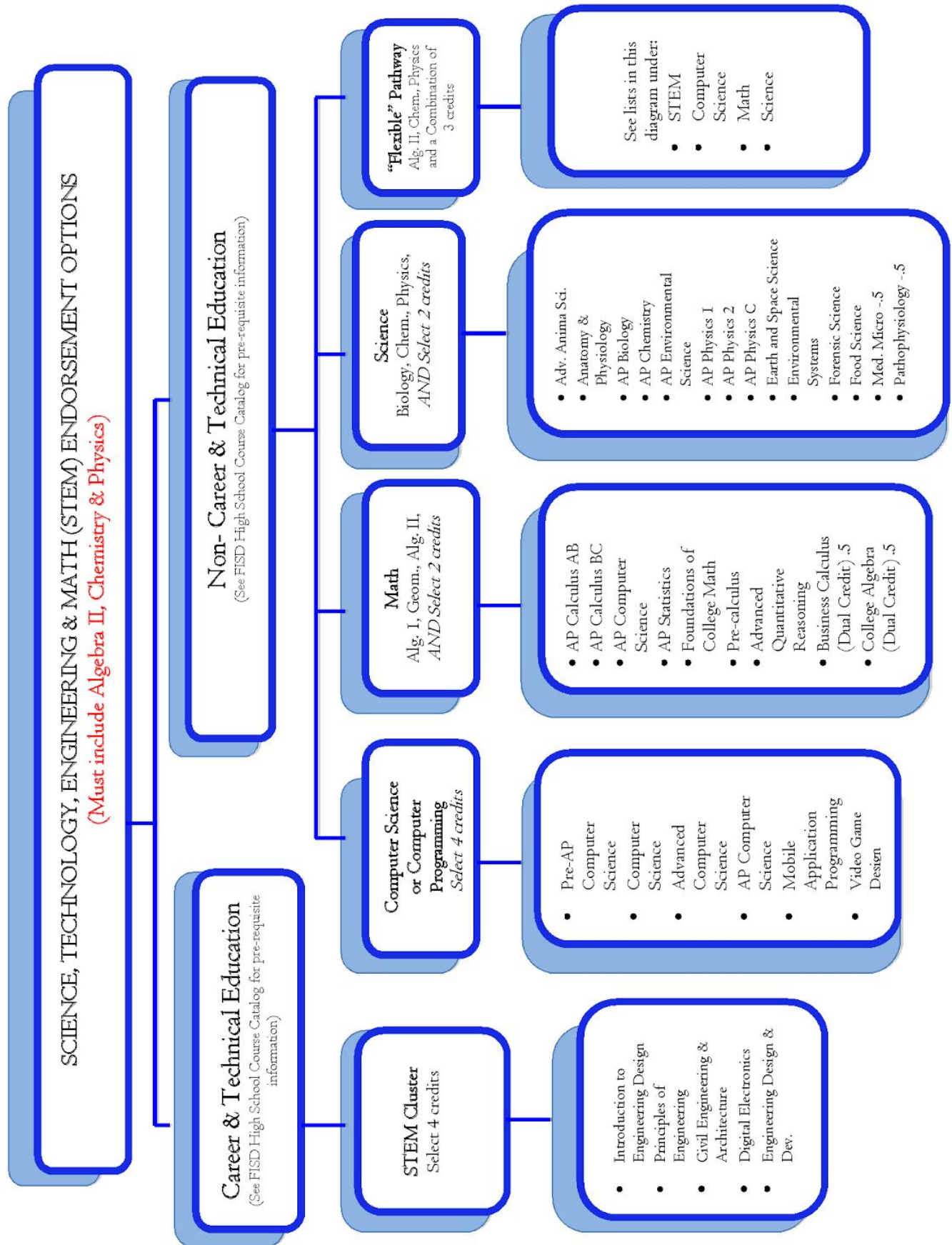
CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) PATH COURSES

To satisfy the CTE path in the STEM Endorsement, students must select a coherent sequence of four credits in CTE that consists of at least two courses in the same cluster, including at least one “advanced” CTE course. The final course in the sequence must be obtained from one of the following clusters:

- Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math

Please refer to the Academic Guide and the Course Catalog for more details of course descriptions and offerings. These guides are located at: <http://www.friscoisd.org/ly/parentsStudents/HighSchoolCourseAcademicCatalogs.htm>

SEE THE FISD ENDORSEMENT MATRIX AT THE END OF THIS MANUAL FOR SAMPLE COURSE SUGGESTIONS FOR THIS ENDORSEMENT





FISD ENDORSEMENT PATHWAYS*

2017-18

1 st Course in Sequence	2 nd Course in Sequence	3 rd Course in Sequence	4 th Course in Sequence
ARTS & HUMANITIES ENDORSEMENT -Unless noted, this endorsement can be earned with 4 credits in a coherent sequence. Please view the FISD Course Catalog for prerequisites and other specifics.			
Fine Arts - Art			
<input type="checkbox"/> Art 1 <input type="checkbox"/> PAP Art 1 (Class of 2018 & Beyond) <input type="checkbox"/> Digital Art & Animation - Fine Arts Credit	<input type="checkbox"/> Art 2 <input type="checkbox"/> AP Art – Drawing <input type="checkbox"/> Art 2 – Ceramics	<input type="checkbox"/> Art 3 <input type="checkbox"/> AP Art – 2D or 3D <input type="checkbox"/> AP Art – Drawing	<input type="checkbox"/> Art 4 <input type="checkbox"/> AP Art – 3D <input type="checkbox"/> AP Art History
Fine Arts - Dance			
<input type="checkbox"/> Dance 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Dance 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Dance 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Dance 4
Language			
<input type="checkbox"/> Spanish 1 <input type="checkbox"/> French 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese 1 <input type="checkbox"/> ASL 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Spanish 2 or PAP Spanish 2 <input type="checkbox"/> French 2 or PAP French 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese 2 <input type="checkbox"/> ASL 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Spanish 3 or PAP Spanish 3 <input type="checkbox"/> French 3 or PAP French 3 <input type="checkbox"/> PAP Chinese 3	<input type="checkbox"/> AP Spanish 4 <input type="checkbox"/> AP French 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese 4
Fine Arts - Music			
<input type="checkbox"/> Band 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Orchestra 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Choir 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Band 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Orchestra 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Choir 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Band 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Orchestra 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Choir 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Band 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Orchestra 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Choir 4
Social Studies – Students must earn 3 total credits in Social Studies			
<input type="checkbox"/> World Geography <input type="checkbox"/> AP Human Geography	<input type="checkbox"/> World History OR AP World History <input type="checkbox"/> GT Humanities II / AP World History <input type="checkbox"/> AP Seminar	<input type="checkbox"/> US History or AP US History <input type="checkbox"/> Psychology (1/2) or AP Psychology (1/2) or Sociology (1/2) <input type="checkbox"/> AP European History <input type="checkbox"/> AP Seminar	<input type="checkbox"/> US Government (1/2) or AP US Government (1/2) <input type="checkbox"/> Economics (1/2) or AP Economics (1/2) <input type="checkbox"/> Dual Credit US Govt. (1/2) & Dual Credit Economics (1/2) <input type="checkbox"/> AP Seminar
Fine Arts - Theatre			
<input type="checkbox"/> Theatre Arts 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Tech Theater 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Theatre Arts 2 / Theatre Production 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Tech Theater 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Theatre Arts 3 / Theatre Production 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Tech Theater 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Theatre Arts 4 / Theatre Production 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Tech Theater 4
BUSINESS & INDUSTRY ENDORSEMENT -Unless noted, this endorsement can be earned with 4 credits in a coherent sequence. Please view the FISD Course Catalog for prerequisites and other specifics.			
Advanced Journalism			
<input type="checkbox"/> Journalism or Photojournalism <input type="checkbox"/> Broadcast 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Debate 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Yearbook 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Broadcast 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Debate 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Yearbook 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Broadcast 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Debate 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Yearbook 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Video Technology <input type="checkbox"/> Adv Public Speaking
Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources – Animal Science OR Veterinary Assistant			
<input type="checkbox"/> Survey of Agriculture, Food & Natural Res (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife, Fisheries, & Eco Mgmt (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Equine Science (1/2) <input type="checkbox"/> Small Animal Management (1/2) <input type="checkbox"/> Livestock Production (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Veterinary Medical Applications (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Adv Animal Science (1) (Science Credit) <input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Practicum in Vet Med Apps (2) Internship
Agriculture, Food & Natural Resource - Floral Design OR Horticulture & Landscape Design			
<input type="checkbox"/> Survey of Agriculture, Food & Natural Res (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Floral Design (1) (Fine Arts Credit) <input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Horticulture Science (1) <input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Landscape Design and Mgt (1/2)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Floral Design (1) <input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Greenhouse Operation & Production (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Adv Plant & Soil Science (1) (Science Credit)



FISD ENDORSEMENT PATHWAYS*

1 st Course in Sequence	2 nd Course in Sequence	3 rd Course in Sequence	4 th Course in Sequence
Agriculture, Food & Natural Resource - Ag Mechanics			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Mechanics & Metal Technologies (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Survey of Ag, Food & Natural Res (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Ag Structures Design & Fabrication (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Survey of Ag, Food & Natural Res (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Ag Equipment Design & Fabrication (1) <input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Introduction to Welding (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Practicum in Ag Structures & Equipment (2)
BUSINESS & INDUSTRY ENDORSEMENT – Unless noted, this endorsement can be earned with 4 credits in a coherent sequence. Please view the FISD Course Catalog for prerequisites and other specifics.			
Architecture & Construction			
<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Architecture & Construction I (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Architecture & Construction II (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Interior Design I (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Architectural Design I (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Interior Design II (2)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Architectural Design II (2) Internship
Arts, AV Technology & Communication – Audio & Video Production			
<input type="checkbox"/> TV Broadcast I	<input type="checkbox"/> TV Broadcast II	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Audio/Video Production I (2)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Audio/Video Production II (2)
Arts, AV Technology & Communication – Graphic Design & Illustration			
<input type="checkbox"/> Digital Media (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Graphic Design & Illustration I (2) <input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Web Technologies (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Graphic Design & Illustration II (2)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Pract in Graphic Design & Illustration (2) Internship
Arts, AV Technology & Communication – Animation			
<input type="checkbox"/> 3D Modeling & Animation (1) (Fine Arts Credit)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Animation I (2)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Animation II (2)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Practicum in Animation (2)
Arts, AV Technology & Communication – Fashion Design			
<input type="checkbox"/> Survey of Business, Marketing & Finance (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Fashion Design I (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Fashion Marketing (1/2)	<input type="checkbox"/> Fashion Design II (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Practicum in Marketing (3) Internship
Business Management & Administration			
<input type="checkbox"/> Business Information Management I (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Survey of Business, Marketing & Finance (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Business Information Management II (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Entrepreneurship (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Business Law (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Global Business (1/2)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Practicum in Marketing (3) Internship
Financial Systems			
<input type="checkbox"/> Survey of Business, Marketing & Finance (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Accounting I (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Banking & Financial Services (1/2) <input type="checkbox"/> Dollars & Sense (1/2)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Accounting II (1) <input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Money Matters (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Securities & Investments (1)
Hospitality & Tourism			
<input type="checkbox"/> Survey of Hospitality & Tourism (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to Culinary Arts (1) <input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Hotel Management (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Travel & Tourism Management (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Culinary Arts (2) <input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Hospitality Services (2)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Advanced Culinary Arts (2) Articulated Credit <input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Baking & Pastry (1) Dual Credit <input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Practicum in Hospitality Services (2) Internship <input type="checkbox"/> Food Science (1) (science credit)
Information Technology			
<input type="checkbox"/> Computer Maintenance (1) Articulated Credit <input type="checkbox"/> Survey of Information Technology (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Networking (1) Articulated Credit	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Internet Working I (CISCO 1 & 2) Articulated Credit	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Internet Working II (CISCO 3 & 4) Dual Credit



FISD ENDORSEMENT PATHWAYS*

1 st Course in Sequence	2 nd Course in Sequence	3 rd Course in Sequence	4 th Course in Sequence
Marketing, Sales, & Service			
<input type="checkbox"/> Survey of Business, Marketing & Finance (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Fashion Marketing (1/2) <input type="checkbox"/> Digital Media (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sports & Entertainment Marketing (1/2) <input type="checkbox"/> CTEC - Social Media Marketing (1/2) <input type="checkbox"/> CTEC - Advertising (1/2)	<input type="checkbox"/> Entrepreneurship (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC - Practicum in Marketing (3) Internship
Sports & Entertainment Management			
<input type="checkbox"/> Survey of Business, Marketing & Finance (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Survey of Hospitality & Tourism (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Digital Media (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC - Advertising (1/2)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC - Social Media Marketing (1/2) <input type="checkbox"/> Sports & Entertainment Marketing (1/2)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC - Sports Management (2) Internship
Transportation, Distribution & Logistics			
<input type="checkbox"/> Geometry	<input type="checkbox"/> Algebra II	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC-Foundational Concepts of Aviation Studies (Fall) (5) Dual Credit <input type="checkbox"/> CTEC-Power Plant Systems for Pilots (Spring) (5) Dual Credit	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC-Aircraft Systems for Pilots (Fall) (5) Dual Credit <input type="checkbox"/> CTEC-Flight Science 1 (Spring) (5) Dual Credit
MULTIDISCIPLINARY ENDORSEMENT -This is the recommended approach for this endorsement. Please view the FISD Course Catalog for prerequisites and other specifics.			
Core Courses - 16 total credits. select one credit from each core area in each sequence box (Dual Credit Courses in these areas count towards the requirements)			
<input type="checkbox"/> English 1 / PAP English 1 / GT Humanities I <input type="checkbox"/> Biology / PAP Biology <input type="checkbox"/> Algebra 1 / PAP Algebra 1 <input type="checkbox"/> World Geography / AP Human Geography	<input type="checkbox"/> English 2 / PAP English 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Chemistry / PAP Chemistry <input type="checkbox"/> Geometry / PAP Geometry <input type="checkbox"/> World History / AP World History / GT Humanities II	<input type="checkbox"/> English 3 / AP English Language <input type="checkbox"/> Physics / AP Physics 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Algebra 2 / PAP Algebra 2 <input type="checkbox"/> US History / AP US History	<input type="checkbox"/> English 4 / AP English Literature <input type="checkbox"/> AP Physics 2 / AP Physics C / AP Biology / AP Chemistry / or other 4 th Science <input type="checkbox"/> Pre Calculus / AP Calculus / or other 4 th Math <input type="checkbox"/> Government (1/2) & Economics (1/2) or AP Government (1/2) & AP Economics (1/2)
PUBLIC SERVICE ENDORSEMENT -Unless noted, this endorsement can be earned with 4 credits in a coherent sequence. Please view the FISD Course Catalog for prerequisites and other specifics.			
Education & Training			
<input type="checkbox"/> Survey of Education & Training (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Child Development (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Interpersonal Studies (1/2)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC - Education & Training (2) Internship <input type="checkbox"/> CTEC - Child Guidance (2) Internship	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC - Practicum in Education & Training (2) Internship <input type="checkbox"/> CTEC - Practicum in Child Guidance (2) Internship
Government & Public Administration			
<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC - Survey of Gov't & Public Admin (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC - Court Systems & Practices (1) <input type="checkbox"/> CTEC - Political Science (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC - Mock Trial (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC - Practicum in Government (2) Internship <input type="checkbox"/> CTEC - Foreign Service & Diplomacy (1)
Health Science			
<input type="checkbox"/> Medical Terminology (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Health Science (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Anatomy & Physiology (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Health Science Clinical (2) Articulated Credit/Internship <input type="checkbox"/> CTEC - Pathophysiology (1) <input type="checkbox"/> CTEC - Medical Microbiology (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Medical Terminology (1) CC Online <input type="checkbox"/> Intro to the Healthcare System (1) CC Online	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC - Electrocardiography Dual Credit/Internship <input type="checkbox"/> CTEC - Emergency Medical Technician (2) Dual Credit <input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacology (1)
Law, Public Safety, Corrections, & Security			
<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC - Survey of Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC - Law Enforcement I (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC - Law Enforcement II (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC - Forensic Science (1) (Science Credit)



FISD ENDORSEMENT PATHWAYS*

1 st Course in Sequence	2 nd Course in Sequence	3 rd Course in Sequence	4 th Course in Sequence
STEM ENDORSEMENT - Unless noted, this endorsement can be earned with 4 credits in a coherent sequence. Please view the FISD Course Catalog for prerequisites and other specifics.			
Computer Science – In addition to Algebra 2, Chemistry, & Physics			
<input type="checkbox"/> Computer Science (1) <input type="checkbox"/> PAP Computer Science (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> AP Computer Science (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Video Game Design (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Computer Science (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Mobile Application Programming (1)
Math – 5 Total Math Credits (Completion of TWO additional math courses AFTER completion of Algebra2) - In addition to Chemistry & Physics			
<input type="checkbox"/> PAP Algebra 1 / Algebra 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Geometry / PAP Geometry	<input type="checkbox"/> Algebra 2 / PAP Algebra 2 <input type="checkbox"/> AP Computer Science (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Quantitative Reasoning <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Calculus / PAP Pre-Calculus	<input type="checkbox"/> AP Statistics <input type="checkbox"/> Bus. Calculus (1/2) / College Algebra (1/2) – Dual Credit <input type="checkbox"/> AP Calculus AB <input type="checkbox"/> AP Calculus BC
Science – 5 Total Science Credits (Completion of TWO additional science courses AFTER completion of Physics) – In addition to Algebra 2			
<input type="checkbox"/> Biology / PAP Biology	<input type="checkbox"/> Chemistry / PAP Chemistry <input type="checkbox"/> Anatomy & Physiology <input type="checkbox"/> Physics / AP Physics 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Systems <input type="checkbox"/> AP Environmental Science <input type="checkbox"/> AP Biology <input type="checkbox"/> AP Chemistry <input type="checkbox"/> Earth & Space Science	<input type="checkbox"/> AP Physics B <input type="checkbox"/> AP Physics C <input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Medical Microbiology (1) <input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – Pathophysiology (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Forensic Science (check pre-requisites) <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Animal Science (check pre-requisites) <input type="checkbox"/> Food Science (check pre-requisites)
STEM ENDORSEMENT - Unless noted, this endorsement can be earned with 4 credits in a coherent sequence. Please view the FISD Course Catalog for prerequisites and other specifics.			
Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics			
<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – PLTW - Introduction to Engineering Design (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – PLTW - Principles of Engineering Design (1) <input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – PLTW - Civil Engineering & Architecture (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – PLTW - Digital Electronics (1) <input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – PLTW - Aerospace Engineering (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> CTEC – PLTW - Engineering Design & Development (1)

*Students do NOT NEED to take EVERY course listed under each sequence, nor are these prescribed sequences for students – these are recommended sequences only. There are MANY options in each endorsement and in each pathway. The default plan for FISD student is the Distinguished Level of Achievement, which requires Alg. II to be in the math sequence of the student's endorsement plan.

Please consult your counselor, the FISD Course Catalog, the FISD Academic Guide, or the CTE Center Counseling Department for additional information on other possible endorsement or pathway course selections.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Who is affected by the new graduation program?**
Students who are in the class of 2018 and beyond.
2. **What state assessments are required for graduation?**
The number of State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®) end-of-course (EOC) for graduation includes:
 - a. English I
 - b. English II
 - c. Algebra I
 - d. Biology
 - e. U.S History
3. **Do students have to declare an endorsement?**
Yes, students must declare their preferred endorsement areas, in writing, by the beginning of their 9th grade year.
4. **Can students change their endorsement?**
Students will change their endorsement with appropriate guidance, parent notification, and proper permission.
5. **Can students graduate with more than one endorsement?**
Yes.
6. **Will students be able to take courses under different endorsement areas?**
Yes, however, be very careful in making too many changes to your endorsement based on credit and level requirements. Please consult your high school counselor when selecting courses towards an endorsement area.
7. **If I am an athlete, a Fine Arts Student, or just a student not really interested in an endorsement, what graduation program is recommended?**
The Distinguished Level of Achievement (DLA) program is recommended for all students in FISD.
8. **Can students complete all requirements for endorsements and Distinguished Level of Achievement and still participate in athletics/fine arts?**
Yes, students in the class of 2018 and beyond must take classes for eight periods each year for a maximum total of 32 or more credits by the end of their senior year. If athletes double blocks their schedule, they can achieve 28 credits by the end of their senior year.
9. **Can students be undecided as to which endorsement they want to pursue?**
No, every student will choose an endorsement by the beginning of the year of 9th grade.
10. **What is the purpose of an endorsement?**
Students who earn an endorsement have 'majored' in a specialty that will lead to a possible career option. Students who complete an endorsement by completing courses within Career & Technical Education (CTE) will have an opportunity to obtain a national or international license or certification. This license or certification will allow students to enter into the workforce in a highly competitive market and/or pursue a degree or certification in post-secondary education.
11. **How will students know what courses to take?**
Counselors will meet with students to plan their Personal Graduation Plans (PGP). During these meetings, counselors and students will discuss the order that a student must successfully complete specific classes to

meet requirements for the Foundation High School Program plus Endorsement, and the Distinguished Level of Achievement.

12. Will all students have a PGP?

Yes, all students will meet with their counselors as part of their pre registration for 9th grade and develop their PGP as well as complete their course registration. Parents will be required to sign the course registration to ensure that they have contributed to the selection process.

13. Are students required to take Algebra II?

Yes, Algebra II is a requirement for students who choose to graduate with a Distinguished Level of Achievement. It is also required under the STEM endorsement. FISD is highly recommending all students to take Algebra II as part of their preparation to go to college or join the workforce; however, FISD offers a provision for students to opt out of Algebra II when appropriate.

14. Will Health continue to be required under the new FISD Foundation High School Program?

Yes, Health is not required under the State Foundation High School Program; however, Health will continue to be a requirement under the FISD Foundation High School Program.

15. Will students be required to take Speech (Professional Communication)?

Yes.

16. Will Technology Application Courses be required under the new Foundation High School Program?

Yes.

17. Will students' diplomas reflect Endorsements, Performance Acknowledgements and Distinguished Level of Achievement?

No, only the transcripts will reflect the graduation program, Endorsements, Distinguished Level of Achievement, and Performance Acknowledgements.

18. Who will be eligible for consideration in the Top 10% for automatic admission to a Texas Institution of Higher Education?

Only students who graduate with the Distinguished Level of Achievement and rank within the top 10% of their class will be eligible for consideration for this honor.