

General Information

Attendance

Students must be in attendance a minimum of 90 percent of the days after enrollment in the course. See the Student/Parent Handbook for more information.

Semester System

The Fort Bend Independent School District's high schools operate on a semester system. Each school year is divided into two semesters, and each semester is divided into two grading periods. Most courses vary from one to two semesters in length. Credit for courses is awarded based on EIE policy.

Grading System

The State Board of Education has set 70 as a minimum passing grade. Written communication of the student's achievement

is reported to the parents on a nine-weeks basis. When letter grades are recorded, the following conversions are used.

- 90-100 = A
- 80-89 = B
- 70-79 = C
- 69-below = F

Actual student numerical grades are recorded in the grade book and averaged as actual grades. An Incomplete (I) is given on a report card if a student, because of illness or for some other excused reason, cannot complete the required work by the end of the reporting period. The student should contact the teacher to arrange to complete the work.

Academic Options

Students have several academic options when selecting classes. These include on-level courses, AAC, AP, Honors and Dual Credit courses. Students are advised to take courses at a level where they will be challenged and yet will perform successfully. The options available for each course are listed with course descriptions.

State Credit Courses

All courses which are to be counted toward grade level and graduation requirements must be state approved courses. Students must complete the correct graduation plan for their cohort upon entering high school to receive a diploma. The requirement may be waived under certain circumstances.

Academic Eligibility Rules

A student shall be suspended from participation in all extracurricular activities sponsored or sanctioned by the school district during the three week period following a grade reporting period in which the student received a grade lower than 70 in any class other than certain identified classes. This suspension continues for at least three weeks and is not removed during the school year until the student's grade in each class, other than certain identified classes, is 70 or greater. A student may continue to practice or rehearse with other students for an extracurricular activity but may not participate in a competition or other public performance. A suspended student may regain eligibility seven days after the six-week grading period ends or seven days after a three week evaluation period. For a student to be eligible to participate in UIL activities, the student must be classified as a full time student (Five classes — traditional schedule, six classes — block schedule). Classes such as study hall, office aide, and off-campus do not meet this requirement.

Make-Up Work

It is the student's responsibility to ask the teacher for make-up work immediately upon returning to school after an absence. If a test was scheduled before the student was absent, then the student may be required to take the test the day he/she returns. If a student has missed work, the teacher will give the student the opportunity to make up the work. Generally one day for each day of excused absence will be provided for the make-up work. Failure to meet the deadline may result in a lower grade.

Course Credit

High school students are required to complete courses mandated under their graduation plan. Credit for a course may be earned only if the student receives a grade equivalent to a 70 or higher on a 100-point scale. State-approved courses are aligned to the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). Credits are awarded in semester increments. A one-semester course is worth a .5 credit. A full-year course is worth 1.0 credit. (Identified courses are worth more than one credit.) If a student fails a semester course, the student must retake the entire course to earn graduation credit. If a student fails one semester of a multi-semester course, the student only retakes the semester that was failed. (In a two-semester course, a student can gain credit if both semesters average to a 70 or higher for the year.) High school courses taken in middle school will be included on a student's transcript and count in the grade point average (GPA).

Noncredit Courses

Some courses do not count toward graduation credits, will not post to a student's transcript and will not be calculated for GPA and class rank. Such classes may include:

- Office Aide
- Off-Campus
- Study Hall

Classification of Students

Grade level advancement for students in grades 9 through 12 shall be determined by the number of earned course credits according to the classification chart below.

Class Standing	Credits Required for Class Standings Minimum State Approved Units of Credit
Sophomore	6
Junior	12
Senior	18

Some courses may not be available on all campuses in a face-to-face traditional format. Other formats (online learning or distance learning) may be utilized to provide a course to meet student requests within District procedures.

Extracurricular Activity Participation

A student may participate in extracurricular activities at the beginning of the school year only if the student has earned the appropriate state credit.

Number of Years Completed in High School	Number State Credits At Beginning of School Year
1	5
2	10
3	15

Fitness Assessment

The Texas Education Code (TEC) §38.101 states that a school district must annually assess the physical fitness of students enrolled in grade 3 through 12 in a course that satisfies the curriculum requirements for physical education under TEC §28.002 (a)(2)(C). Students at the high school level enrolled in a Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) based course for physical education, or any student in a substitution for physical education must be assessed. Students that are enrolled in athletics, off-campus private or commercially-sponsored physical activity programs or ROTC must always be assessed. The assessment instrument is the Fitnessgram which evaluates body composition (Body Mass Index), aerobic capacity (one mile run or pacer test), muscular strength and endurance (curl- ups, pullups, flexed arm hang) and flexibility (shoulder stretch).

Off Campus Physical Education

Private or commercially-sponsored physical activity programs designed to develop national-level capabilities may be substituted for physical education credit in grades 6 to 12, if approved by the school board and the Texas Education Agency. Students who wish to participate in Off-Campus PE must receive prior approval from the Coordinator of Health, PE and Wellness, must provide his/her own transportation and must provide a workout schedule and attendance records. The Category I classification requires a minimum of 15 hours per week (Mon.–Fri.) per semester. Examples of Category I Off Campus PE options include equestrian, gymnastics, ice skating, and Tae Kwon Do. The Category II classification is only offered to high school students and requires a minimum of 5 hours per week per semester. Category II Off-Campus PE options include physical activity programs that teach a curriculum aligned to

the Texas Education Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for physical activity. See the FBISD Off-Campus PE webpage to complete the online applications. Applications must be submitted by the first day of school for both the fall and spring semesters.

Physical Education Substitutions

Marching band (fall semester only), cheerleading (fall semester only), JROTC I, Dance I, and approved Off Campus PE may substitute for the physical education requirement. Students enrolled in physical education and band (fall semester only), or JROTC the same semester, may use both to meet the physical education requirement.

District Guidelines for Award of Grade Points

1. Grade points are awarded for any high school course successfully completed. Grade points are determined by the level at which the course is taken.
2. All high school credit courses taken in Fort Bend ISD Summer School or Evening School receive regular/on-level points on the GPA scale with the exception of identified AAC/AP courses that may be offered.
3. All high school credit courses taken in summer school programs outside of Fort Bend ISD receive regular/on-level points on the GPA scale unless otherwise designated by the sending program.
4. Online learning course credit, credit by exam, and night school course credit receive regular/on-level points on the GPA scale unless otherwise designated.
5. High school courses taken through credit by exam with no prior instruction are awarded credit and grade points. A student must earn a grade of 80 percent or more on each exam in a subject area to be awarded a .5 unit of credit and grade points.
6. Off Campus Physical Education receives regular/on-level points on the GPA scale.

The 100-Point GPA Scale

The GPA system utilized in Fort Bend ISD is referred to as a 100-Point Scale. With this system, the 100-Point Scale is calculated by adding all of the semester averages earned by a student and dividing by semesters attempted. The 100-Point Scale can be converted to the Four-Point Scale which is the most common scale for college admissions, National Athletic Collegiate Association (NCAA) and scholarship applications. Courses in Fort Bend ISD are weighted differently in the GPA calculation used for class rank. See charts below:

Graduating Class of 2020, 2021, and 2022:

Advanced Placement (AP)/ Beyond AP Courses	AAC, Honors Courses, Dual Credit Courses	On Level Courses
Receives 10 point weight	Receive 5 point weight	Non-weighted

Example of a high school student's grades:

Physics (on level)	86 = 86 points
AP English III	94 = 104 points
US History Dual Credit	84 = 89 points
Athletics	100 = 100 points
Choir	100 = 100 points
AAC Pre-Calculus	86 = 91 points
Journalism	94 = 94 points

Total points = 664 points,
divided by 7 = 94.8571429

Graduating Class of 2023 and beyond:

Advanced Placement (AP)/ Beyond AP Courses, Dual Credit Courses	AAC, Honors Courses	On Level Courses
Receives 10 point weight	Receive 5 point weight	Non-weighted

Example of a high school student's grades:

Physics (on level)	86 = 86 points
AP English III	94 = 104 points
US History Dual Credit	84 = 94 points
Athletics	100 = 100 points
Choir	100 = 100 points
AAC Pre-Calculus	86 = 91 points
Journalism	94 = 94 points

Total points = 669 points,
divided by 7 = 95.5714286