**2024-2025 Credit By Exam Frequently Asked Questions**

**for the 2025-2026 School Year**

**What is Credit By Exam No Prior Instruction?**

Credit by Exam/Exam for Acceleration provides an opportunity to earn grade level or course credit in which no prior formal instruction was completed. Credit by Exam is designed for a small percentage of students who have an academic and emotional need to advance to the next grade level. Credit by Exam is not designed for grade level recovery after being retained in a previous grade level.

**What are the eligibility requirements for a student to register for Credit By Exam?**

Students must meet all eligibility requirements to register for CBE testing:

1. Student is enrolled in a FBISD school.
2. Kindergarten and First grade students must meet the state law age requirement

 – 5 years old by September 1 for Kindergarten

 – 6 years old by September 1 for First grade

1. Registration form is completed and returned to school counselor by deadline.
2. School counselor must sign registration form to verify student’s grade level and eligibility.

**What are the registration deadlines?**

Deadlines for each of the four test windows—Session 1, Session 2, Session 3, and Session 4 for the 2024-2025 school year can be found on the Credit by Exam page of the Department of Assessment webpage at <http://www.fortbendisd.com/Page/296>. Deadline information can also be found on the registration form, which can be obtained through the counselor’s office at your child’s school during the registration window.

**What are the dates for Credit By Exam?**

Fort Bend ISD offers four testing opportunities throughout the year. The Session 1 exam will be administered the first two Saturdays in December; Session 2 exam will be administered in February and March; Session 3 will be administered in April, May, and June; and Session 4 exam will be administered in June, July and August. Test dates can be found on the Credit by Exam page of the Department of Assessment webpage, at <http://www.fortbendisd.com/Page/296>.

**What time should my student arrive at the testing location?**

All students must arrive at the testing location by 8:00 a.m. The maximum amount of time allowed for each exam is 3 hours. For core high school courses, times allowed is 3 hours for A & 3 hours for B. World Languages are untimed.

**What is the testing site location and address?**

Testing locations may change, depending on the availability of campuses. Testing locations will be included on the registration form, which can be obtained in the counselor’s office. Testing locations will also be identified on the Credit by Exam registration form and on the Credit by Exam page of the Department of Accountability, Assessment & Compliance website at <http://www.fortbendisd.com/Page/296>.

**We will be out of town on the testing dates listed can my child take the test on a different day?**

FBISD will strictly adhere to the scheduled testing dates. The district will not accept scores of testing completed outside of our district scheduled testing window.

**How can my child study or prepare for the CBE exams?**

Review materials may be found at: <https://highschool.utexas.edu/cbe_study_guides>.

Obtaining student t textbooks referenced in the study materials is solely the responsibility of the parent.

World Language CBEs are offered beginning in 8th grade. CBEs for World Language are developed by Avant Assessment. Available languages as well as practice tests can be found at: <https://avantassessment.com/stamp>

**Can my child use a calculator?**

The calculator policy for UT can be found on the Credit by Exam page of the Department of Assessment website at <http://www.fortbendisd.com/Page/296>.

**What are the Credit By Exam score requirements to advance a grade level?**

In order for a Kindergarten student to advance to first grade, he/she must score a minimum 80% in both the Reading and Math test.

For Grades 1- 5, students must score a minimum 80% on all subject area tests; social studies, ELA, math and science.

With Prior Instruction does not apply to elementary.

**What are the Credit By Exam score requirements to be awarded course credit?**

Middle School courses are awarded credit for the entire year. A student must earn the minimum score of 80 percent on the exam in a subject area to be awarded course credit. Regular/Non-weighted course credit will be given. Middle school students who take and pass all four core content area subject exams will be promoted to the next grade.

High school students must take an exam for each semester of an academic course they wish to skip. A course taken for high school credit must meet the high school course requirement of scoring an average of 80 or above on each semester exam. Regular/non-weighted course credit will be given.

**If my student does not score the minimum 80%, will the score be recorded on the student transcript?**

Scores below 80% will not be recorded on the student’s permanent transcript.

**My child did not make an 80% on one or more of the exams. Can I appeal the results?**

The state has established a passing standard of 80%. Therefore, appeals of student results will not be considered.

**I do not think my child’s test was scored correctly. Can I request a rescore?**

Yes. You will need to call the Accountability, Assessment & Compliance Department to request the form. There will be a $50 charge to UT for each requested test to be re-scored. Re-scores could take up to 3-4 weeks.

**If my child meets the passing score of 80% or above, can I choose whether or not to have my student enroll in the next grade level or course?**

If the student meets the score requirements for an elementary grade level, once the parents sign the authorization to promote they do not have the option not to promote. If the student meets the score requirements for a secondary course, the student must be placed in the next grade level or course. The parent/guardian does not have the option of not promoting the student if they meet the grade level or course credit required.

**What grade will my child test out of if he/she is taking Session 1 Credit by Exam in December?**

Students taking Credit by Exam in December will test out of the following year grade level (2025-2026). That is, a student enrolled in Kindergarten will take Grade 1 CBE. If the requirements are met, the student will remain in the current grade level until the end of the school year.

**What grade will my child test out of if he/she is taking Session 2, 3 or 4 Credit by Exam?**

All Credit by Exam tests will test out of the next grade level. For example, a student currently enrolled in Grade 1 will take the exams to test out of Grade 2. If the requirements are met, the student will remain in the current grade level until the end of the school year.

**When will we receive the CBE results?**

With the exception of some exams that must be hand scored by UT, most scores will emailed to the parents Skyward email within fourteen business days from the testing date.

**What will happen if the results are not received before the first day of school?**

The Credit by Exam schedule is designed with the intention that parents and campuses will receive the CBE results before the start of the school year. However, if the CBE results are not received by the first day of school, the student will begin the school year in the current enrolled grade level. If the student does meet the criteria to advance to the next course or grade level, the student will be moved to the new course or grade level, once the CBE results are received.

**How many times can my child test for CBE?**

A student is allowed one attempt at the grade level, or course exam.

**Can I order a test for my child directly from UT and be administered online?**

Only CBEs administered during the districts four testing windows will be accepted. No individual outside registration from UT will be accepted.

**What do I do if I want my 6th grade child to take Algebra I in 7th grade?**

The student has to take 7th grade CBE in one session and meet the passing requirements of 80% or above, then register for 8th grade CBE in another session and meet the 80% requirement. Refer to MS Math Sequence.

<https://www.fortbendisd.com/cms/lib/TX01917858/Centricity/Domain/80/MS%20AAC%20Sequence%20Update%20-%20rev%20April%202023.pdf>

**What if my child I enrolled in a private school and took CBE?**

Contact the Department of Accountability, Assessment & Compliance before or soon after the test is taken.