



BULLDOG REVIEW FOR INCOMING FRESHMEN

Changing Endorsements

Students are allowed to change experiences and endorsements during registration Spring of their freshman year. Changing a pathway after the start of the sophomore year may not leave a student enough time to earn the 4 credits required for an endorsement.

Calculating GPA/Class Rank

Understanding your GPA and class rank should be an important part of every high school student. Not all classes count toward a student's GPA. Below you will find the specific courses that RCHS uses to determine GPA and rank for the class of 2020.

English: I, II, III, IV or one advanced English

Math: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II

Science: Biology, Chemistry, Physics

History: W. History, US History, Government, Economics

Language other than English: I, II

Dual Credit vs. Advanced Placement-Which is best for my student?

	<u>Dual Credit</u>	<u>Advanced Placement/AP</u>
<u>Use:</u>	To meet "core" requirements and electives.	To meet "core" requirements and electives.
<u>Transferability:</u>	In-state institutions, some private and out of state-check with the institution.	Accepted by most public and private institutions.
<u>How Transferred:</u>	Must send a transcript from the current college to the institution you are transferring to.	Must send a copy from College Board to the institution you are transferring to.
<u>Assigning Grades:</u>	Grades earned at the university will be the grade earned on the HS transcript. No HS credit awarded for grades lower than 70.	Grades are based on classwork and assignments given in class. AP exam grades are not included in class average.

Dual credit information

Students may begin taking college level courses as early as their sophomore year in high school. Students who are interested in taking a Dual Credit course will need to take the TSI test in the spring of their freshman year. Test results must be submitted to your child's counselor prior to summer break. This will ensure that your child will receive all the necessary information from the college for the FALL enrollment.

How do I sign up?

Tests are given on the campus of A&M Commerce.

Scheduling: The TSI assessment is done by appointment only. Appointments are scheduled between 8 am and 2 pm. Plan for 1 1/2 hours per section; however, the sections are untimed. Call 903-886-5122 at least 24 hours in advance to schedule an appointment to ensure a computer is available.

Fee: The TSI assessment costs \$15 per section payable by cash, money order or credit card.

PreAP and AP Policies

For information regarding PreAP or AP courses please visit us at <https://sites.google.com/a/rcisd.org/counselors/>
Please take time to read the policies regarding prereq's as well as the drop policy. Both procedures are strictly followed at the high school. Dropping a PreAP/AP course is never recommended or supported.

PSAT

PSAT is given to all sophomores in October. Other students may test for a small fee. Please contact your student's counselor in September.
Information regarding the PSAT and study tools, please visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nzCSiilL3WQ&feature=youtu.be>

Get Connected with the High School Counselors

Remind 101

Text @rccounsel to 81010

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STEM Endorsement

Science, Technology, Engineering and Math

- Life Science
- Physical Science
- Pre-Med*
- Math
- Sports Medicine

Arts and Humanities Endorsement

- Dance
- Music
- Political Science and Pre-Law
- Social Sciences
- Theatre
- Visual Arts
- World Languages
- American Sign Language

Public Service Endorsement

- Child Development*
- Education and Training*
- Emergency Medical Technician*
- Health Information Management*
- Health Science Nursing

Business and Industry Endorsement

- Agricultural Power Structures*
- Animal Science*
- Animation*
- Business*
- Finance*
- Communication
- Culinary*
- Fashion*
- Graphic Design*
- Horticulture*
- Information Technology*
- Interior Design*
- Journalism
- Video Production*

• Indicates all CTE Endorsements.

Multidisciplinary Studies Endorsement

A student may earn a multidisciplinary studies endorsement by completing foundation and general endorsement requirements plus:

- Four advanced courses preparing a student for success in workforce or college from within one endorsement area or among endorsement areas that are not in a coherent sequence.
- Four credits in each of the four foundation subject areas to include English IV, chemistry and/or physics.
- Four credits in AP or dual credit selected from English, mathematics, science, social studies, economics, and language other than English or fine arts.

Foundation Plan + Endorsement (26 Credits)

- **4 Credits ENGLISH** - English I, II, III, Advanced English
(Recommendation-English IV)
- **4 Credits MATH** - Algebra 1, Geometry, two credits in advance Math course **(Recommends Algebra II which is the Distinguished level of Achievement)**
- **4 Credits *SCIENCE** - One credit must be Biology, One credit in IPC/Chemistry/or Physics, and two credits in an advanced science course (*subject to prerequisites)
- **3 Credits SOCIAL STUDIES** - World Geography or World History **(recommendation)**, US History, Government, Economics
- **2 Credits LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH**
- **1 Credit PHYSICAL EDUCATION**
- **1 Credit FINE ARTS**
- **0.5 Credit HEALTH (RCISD requirement)**
- **0.5 Credit SPEECH or Professional Communications (RCISD requirement)**
- **5 Credits in **ELECTIVES**
**Credit requirement specific to at least one endorsement.

RCISD highly recommends students to minimally complete this Foundation plan to ensure college readiness

Distinguished Level of Achievement (26 Credits)

- **4 Credits ENGLISH** - English I, II, III, English IV or higher
- **4 Credits MATH** - Algebra 1, **Geometry**, Algebra II, one credit in an advanced math course **(Recommendation-Pre Calculus)**
- **4 Credits *SCIENCE** - Biology, Chemistry, Physics **(recommendation)** and one credit in any advanced science course (*subject to prerequisites)
- **3 Credits SOCIAL STUDIES** - World Geography or World History **(recommendation)**, US History, Government, Economics
- **2 Credits LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH**
- **1 Credit PHYSICAL EDUCATION**
- **1 Credit FINE ARTS**
- **0.5 Credit HEALTH (RCISD requirement)**
- **0.5 Credit SPEECH or Professional Communications (RCISD requirement)**
- **5 Credits in **ELECTIVES**
**Credit requirement specific to at least one endorsement.

Students must complete a minimum of 1 Performance Acknowledgement to earn the Distinguished Level of Achievement.

Additional Requirement: Performance Acknowledgements

- **Outstanding Performance:**
Dual credit course work, bilingualism/bi-literacy; College AP exams, PSAT, ACT or SAT scores
- **Certification:**
Nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certification or license.

An individual graduation plan for all the experiences that are listed under each of the endorsements can be found in the RCHS course guide.

The Course guide can be found at www.RCHSbulldogs.com

Go down to FAQ at the bottom of the page.

Click on Forms and documents.