

Sec. 2.13.1. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

To graduate, a student must complete the courses required by **Arrow Academy** in addition to those mandated by the state.

Sec. 2.13.2. STUDENTS ENTERING GRADE 9 IN THE 2014–2015 SCHOOL YEAR

Sec. 2.13.2.1. Foundation High School Program

To receive a high school diploma, a student entering grade 9 in the 2014–2015 school year and thereafter must complete:

1. Requirements of the foundation high school program under 19 TAC 74.12 (see “Foundation High School Program” below);
2. Testing requirements for graduation under 19 TAC Chapter 101; and
3. Demonstrated proficiency, as determined by **Arrow Academy**, in delivering clear verbal messages; choosing effective nonverbal behaviors; listening for desired results; applying valid critical-thinking and problem-solving processes; and identifying, analyzing, developing, and evaluating communication skills needed for professional and social success in interpersonal situations, group interactions, and personal and professional presentations.

A student shall enroll in the courses necessary to complete the curriculum requirements for the foundation high school program and the curriculum requirements for at least one endorsement.

Education Code 28.025(c); 19 TAC 74.11(a), (c).

Sec. 2.13.2.2. Foundation High School Program

A student must earn at least 22 credits to complete the foundation high school program and must demonstrate proficiency in the following core courses:

1. English language arts—4 credits;
2. Mathematics—3 credits;
3. Science—3 credits;
4. Social Studies—3 credits;
5. Languages other than English—2 credits;
6. Physical Education—1 credit;
7. Fine Arts—1 credit; and
8. Elective courses—5 credits.

19 TAC 74.12.

Sec. 2.13.2.3. Endorsements

A student shall specify in writing an endorsement the student intends to earn upon entering grade 9. A student may earn any of the following endorsements:

1. Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM);
2. Business and industry;
3. Public services;
4. Arts and humanities; and
5. Multidisciplinary studies.

Arrow Academy must make at least one endorsement available to students. If **Arrow Academy** offers only one endorsement, its curriculum must offer multidisciplinary studies.

To earn an endorsement a student must demonstrate proficiency in the curriculum requirements for the foundation high school program and, in accordance with 19 TAC 74.13(e), earn:

1. A fourth credit in mathematics;
2. An additional credit in science; and
3. Two additional elective credits.

A course completed as part of the four courses needed to satisfy an endorsement requirement may also satisfy a requirement under the foundation high school program, including an elective requirement. The same course may count as part of the set of four courses for more than one endorsement.

Arrow Academy shall permit a student to enroll in courses under more than one endorsement before the student's junior year and to choose, at any time, to earn an endorsement other than the endorsement the student previously indicated.

A student must earn at least 26 credits to earn an endorsement, but a student is not entitled to remain enrolled to earn more than 26 credits.

Arrow Academy may define advanced courses and determine a coherent sequence of courses for an endorsement area, provided that prerequisites in 19 TAC Chapters 110–118, 126, 127, and 130 are followed.

Education Code 28.025; 19 TAC 74.13.

Sec. 2.13.2.3.1. Exception

A student may graduate under the foundation high school program without earning an endorsement if, after the student's sophomore year:

1. The student and the student's parent or person standing in parental relation to the student are advised by a school counselor of the specific benefits of graduating from high school with one or more endorsements; and
2. The student's parent or person standing in parental relation to the student files with a school counselor written permission, on a form adopted by TEA, allowing the student to graduate under the foundation high school program without earning an endorsement.

19 TAC 74.11(d).

Sec. 2.13.2.4. Distinguished Level of Achievement

A student may earn a distinguished level of achievement by successfully completing the curriculum requirements for the foundation high school program and the curriculum requirements for at least one endorsement, including four credits in science and four credits in mathematics, including Algebra II. *19 TAC 74.11(e).*

Sec. 2.13.2.5. Prerequisites

A student may not be enrolled in a course that has a required prerequisite unless:

1. The student has completed the prerequisite course(s);
2. The student has demonstrated equivalent knowledge as determined by **Arrow Academy**; or
3. The student was already enrolled in the course in an out-of-state, an out-of-country, or a Texas nonpublic school and transferred to a Texas public school prior to successfully completing the course.

Arrow Academy may award credit for a course a student completed without having met the prerequisites if the student completed the course in an out-of-state, an out-of-country, or a Texas nonpublic school where there was not a prerequisite.

19 TAC 74.11(j), (k).

Sec. 2.13.2.6. College Courses

Courses offered for dual credit at or in conjunction with an institution of higher education that provide advanced academic instruction beyond, or in greater depth than, the essential knowledge and skills for the equivalent high school course required for graduation may satisfy graduation requirements, including requirements for required courses, advanced courses, and courses for elective credit as well as requirements for endorsements. *19 TAC 74.11(i).*

Sec. 2.13.2.7. Physical Education Substitutions

To the extent permitted by state rules applicable to the student's graduation program, **Arrow Academy** shall award state graduation credit in physical education for participation in approved activities and elective courses.

Arrow Academy shall award state graduation credit in physical education for appropriate private or commercially sponsored physical activity programs conducted either on or off campus, upon approval by the Commissioner.

A student who is unable to participate in physical activity due to disability or illness may substitute an academic elective credit in English language arts, mathematics, science, social studies or a course that is offered for credit as provided by Education Code 28.002(g-1) for the required physical education credit. A credit allowed to be substituted may not also be used by the student to satisfy a graduation requirement other than completion of the physical education credit. The determination regarding a student's ability to participate in physical activity must be made by:

1. The student's ARD committee if the student receives special education services;
2. The student's Section 504 Committee, if the student does not receive special education services under Education but is covered by Section 504; or
3. A committee, established by **Arrow Academy**, of persons with appropriate knowledge regarding the student if each of the committees described above is inapplicable. This committee must follow the same procedures required of an ARD or a Section 504 Committee.

Education Code 28.025(b-10)–(b-11); 19 TAC 74.12(b)(6).

Sec. 2.13.2.8. Community-Based Fine Arts Programs

In accordance with local **Arrow Academy** policy, the required fine arts credit may be earned through participation in a community-based fine arts program not provided by **Arrow Academy**. Such credit may be earned through participation in the community-based fine arts program only if the program meets each of the following requirements:

1. **Arrow Academy** must apply to the commissioner for approval of the community-based fine arts program;
2. The Board must certify that the program provides instruction in the essential knowledge and skills for fine arts as defined by 19 TAC Chapter 117, Subchapter C;
3. **Arrow Academy** must document student completion of the approved activity;
4. The program must be organized and monitored by appropriately trained instructors;
5. The fine arts program may be provided on or off a school campus and outside the regular school day; and

6. Students may not be dismissed from any part of the regular school day to participate in the community-based fine arts program.

Arrow Academy shall require that instructors of the community-based fine arts program provide **Arrow Academy**, at its request, the information necessary to obtain the criminal history record information required for school personnel in accordance with 19 TAC Chapter 153, Subchapter DD, if the community-based program is offered on campus.

Education Code 28.025(b-9); 19 TAC 74.12(b)(7)(B), .1030.

Sec. 2.13.2.9. Performance Acknowledgments

In accordance with the requirements of 19 TAC 74.14, a student may earn a performance acknowledgment on the student's transcript for:

1. Outstanding performance:
 - a. In a dual credit course;
 - b. In bilingualism and biliteracy;
 - c. On a College Board advanced placement test or international baccalaureate examination;
 - d. On an established, valid, reliable, and nationally normreferenced preliminary college preparation assessment instrument used to measure a student's progress toward readiness for college and the workplace;
 - e. On an established, valid, reliable, and nationally normreferenced assessment instrument used by colleges and universities as part of their undergraduate admissions process; or
2. Earning a state-recognized or nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certification or license.

Education Code 28.025(c-5); 19 TAC 74.14.

Sec. 2.13.3. TRANSITION TO FOUNDATION HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

Arrow Academy shall allow a student who entered grade 9 prior to the 2014–2015 school year to complete the curriculum requirements for high school graduation:

1. By satisfying the requirements in place when the student entered grade 9 for the Minimum, Recommended, or Advanced/ Distinguished Achievement High School Program (see 19 TAC Chapter 74) if the student was participating in the program before the 2014–2015 school year; or
2. Under the foundation high school program by satisfying the requirements adopted by the SBOE, if the student chooses during the 2014–2015 school year to take courses under the program.

A student who entered grade 9 prior to the 2014–2015 school year may, at any time prior to graduation and upon request, choose to complete the curriculum requirements required for high school graduation under a different program than that selected by the student during the 2014–2015 school year.

19 TAC 74.1021.

Sec. 2.13.4. STUDENTS WHO ENTERED GRADE 9 BEFORE THE 2014–2015 SCHOOL YEAR

All credit for graduation must be earned no later than grade 12. *19 TAC 74.61(b), .71(b).*

Sec. 2.13.4.1. Minimum High School Program

A student entering grade 9 prior to the 2014–2015 school year who does not choose to complete the curriculum requirements for high school graduation under the foundation high school program must enroll in the courses necessary to complete the curriculum requirements for the Recommended High School Program or the Advanced/Distinguished Achievement High School Program, unless the student, the student’s parent or other person standing in parental relation to the student, and a school counselor or school administrator agree in writing signed by each party that the student should be permitted to take courses under the Minimum High School Program, and the student:

1. Is at least 16 years of age;
2. Has completed two credits required for graduation in each subject of the foundation curriculum under Education Code 28.002(a)(1); or
3. Has failed to be promoted to the tenth grade one or more times as determined by **Arrow Academy**.

Students enrolled in high school prior to the 2014–2015 school year may graduate under state programs other than the foundation program, including the Minimum Program, the Recommended Program, and the Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Program. The courses required for each of these programs shall be listed in appropriate publications. **Arrow Academy**’s credit requirements under these programs are listed below.

Sec. 2.13.4.1.1. *Students with Disabilities*

If an ARD committee makes decisions that place a student with a disability on a modified curriculum in a subject area, the student will be automatically placed in the Minimum High School Program.

Sec. 2.13.4.1.2. Requirements

A student must earn at least 22 credits to complete the Minimum High School Program. A student who entered grade 9 in the 2007–2008, 2008–2009, 2009–2010, 2010–2011, or 2011–2012 school year must demonstrate proficiency in the program requirements listed at 19 TAC 74.62.

A student who entered grade 9 in the 2012–2013 or 2013–2014 school year must demonstrate proficiency in the program requirements listed at 19 TAC 74.72.

Education Code 28.025; 19 TAC 74.62, .72.

Arrow Academy requires no additional credits for graduation under the Minimum Program beyond the number mandated by the state.

Sec. 2.13.4.2. Recommended High School Program

A student who entered grade 9 in the 2007–2008, 2008–2009, 2009–2010, 2010–2011, or 2011–2012 school year must earn at least 26 credits to complete the Recommended High School Program. A student must demonstrate proficiency in the program requirements listed at 19 TAC 74.63.

A student who entered grade 9 in the 2012–2013 or 2013–2014 school year must earn at least 26 credits to complete the Recommended High School Program. A student must demonstrate proficiency in the program requirements listed at 19 TAC 74.73.

Education Code 28.025; 19 TAC 74.63, .73.

Arrow Academy requires no additional credits for graduation under the Recommended Program beyond the number mandated by the state.

Sec. 2.13.4.3. Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Program

A student who entered grade 9 in the 2007–2008, 2008–2009, 2009–2010, 2010–2011, or 2011–2012 school year must earn at least 26 credits to complete the Advanced/Distinguished Achievement High School Program. A student must demonstrate proficiency in the program requirements listed at 19 TAC 74.64.

A student who entered grade 9 in the 2012–2013 or 2013–2014 school year must earn at least 26 credits to complete the Advanced/Distinguished Achievement High School Program. A student must demonstrate proficiency in the program requirements listed at 19 TAC 74.74.

Education Code 28.025; 19 TAC 74.64, .74.

Arrow Academy requires no additional credits for graduation under the Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Program beyond the number mandated by the state.

Sec. 2.13.4.4. Substitutions

No substitutions are allowed for high school graduation requirements in the Recommended and Advanced/Distinguished Achievement High School Programs, except as provided by State Board rule. *19 TAC 74.63(d), .64(e), .73(d), .74(e).*

Sec. 2.13.5. TRANSFERS FROM OUT-OF-STATE OR NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS

An out-of-state or out-of-country transfer student (including foreign exchange students) or a transfer student from a Texas nonpublic school is eligible to receive an **Arrow Academy** diploma but must complete all applicable high school graduation requirements. Any course credits required for graduation that are not completed before enrollment may be satisfied through credit by examination, correspondence courses, distance learning, or completing the course, according to the provisions of 19 TAC 74.26. *19 TAC 74.51(f), .61(i).*

Sec. 2.13.6. GRADUATION OF STUDENTS RECEIVING SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

Sec. 2.13.6.1. Definitions

Modified curriculum and modified content refer to any reduction of the amount or complexity of the required knowledge and skills in 19 Administrative Code Chapters 110–118, 126–128, and 130. Substitutions that are specifically authorized in statute or rule must not be considered modified curriculum or modified content.

Employability and self-help skills are those skills directly related to the preparation of students for employment, including general skills necessary to obtain or retain employment.

Sec. 2.13.6.2. Summary of Academic Achievement and Evaluation

All students graduating must be provided with a summary of academic achievement and functional performance as described in 34 C.F.R. 300.305(e)(3). This summary must consider, as appropriate, the views of the parent and student and written recommendations from adult service agencies on how to assist the student in meeting postsecondary goals. An evaluation as required by 34 C.F.R. 300.305(e)(1) (evaluation to determine that the child is no longer a child with a disability), must be included as part of the summary for a student graduating under 19 TAC 89.1070(b)(2)(A), (B), or (C) or (g)(4)(A), (B), or (C). Students who participate in graduation ceremonies but who are not graduating under subsections (b)(2)(A), (B), or (C) or (g)(4)(A), (B), or (C) and who will remain in school to complete their education do not have to be evaluated.

Sec. 2.13.6.3. Students Entering Grade 9 In or After the 2014-2015 School Year

A student entering grade 9 in the 2014–2015 school year and thereafter who receives special education services may graduate and be awarded a regular high school diploma if the student meets one of the following conditions:

1. The student has demonstrated mastery of the required state standards (or **Arrow Academy** standards if greater) in 19 TAC Chapters 110-118, 126–128, and 130 and satisfactorily completed credit requirements for graduation under the foundation high school program applicable to students in general education as well as satisfactory performance on the required state assessments, unless the student’s ARD committee has determined that satisfactory performance on the required state assessments is not necessary for graduation.
2. The student has demonstrated mastery of the required state standards (or **Arrow Academy** standards if greater) in 19 TAC Chapters 110–118, 126–128, and 130 and satisfactorily completed credit requirements for graduation under the foundation high school program through courses, one or more of which contain modified curriculum that is aligned to the standards applicable to students in general education, as well as satisfactory performance on the required state assessments, unless the student’s ARD committee has determined that satisfactory performance on the required state assessments is not necessary for graduation. The student must also successfully complete the student’s IEP and meet one of the following conditions:
 - a. Consistent with the IEP, the student has obtained fulltime employment, based on the student’s abilities and local employment opportunities, in addition to mastering sufficient self-help skills to enable the student to maintain the employment without direct and ongoing educational support of **Arrow Academy**.
 - b. Consistent with the IEP, the student has demonstrated mastery of specific employability skills and self-help skills that do not require direct ongoing educational support of **Arrow Academy**.
 - c. The student has access to services that are not within the legal responsibility of public education or employment or educational options for which the student has been prepared by the academic program.
 - d. The student no longer meets age eligibility requirements.

When a student receives a diploma under item 2(a), (b), or (c), above, the ARD committee must determine needed educational services upon the request of the student or parent to resume services, as long as the student meets the age eligibility requirements.

Sec. 2.13.6.3.1. Endorsements

A student receiving special education services may earn an endorsement if the student:

1. Satisfactorily completes the requirements for graduation under the foundation high school program as well as the additional credit requirements in mathematics, science, and elective courses with or without modified curriculum;
2. Satisfactorily completes the courses required for the endorsement without any modified curriculum; and
3. Performs satisfactorily on the required state assessments.

A student in grade 11 or 12 receiving special education services during the 2014–2015, 2015–2016, or 2016–2017 school year who has taken each of the state assessments required by 19 TAC Chapter 101, Subchapter CC (relating to Commissioner’s Rules Concerning Implementation of the Academic Content Areas Testing Program) or Subchapter DD (relating to Commissioner’s Rules Concerning Substitute Assessments for Graduation) but failed to achieve satisfactory performance on no more than two of the assessments is eligible to receive an endorsement if the student has met the requirements of items 1 and 2 above.

In order for a student receiving special education services to use a course to satisfy both a requirement under the foundation high school program and a requirement for an endorsement, the student must satisfactorily complete the course without any modified curriculum.

Sec. 2.13.6.4. Students Entering Grade 9 Before the 2014-2015 School Year

A student receiving special education services who entered grade 9 before the 2014–2015 school year may graduate and be awarded a high school diploma under the foundation high school program if the student’s ARD committee determines that the student should take courses under that program and the student satisfies the requirements of that program. A student transitioning to the Foundation High School Program may earn an endorsement as set out above [see Endorsements, above].

A student receiving special education services in 11th or 12th grade during the 2014–2015, 2015–2016, or 2016–2017 school year who has taken each of the required state assessments but failed to achieve satisfactory performance on no more than two of the assessments may graduate if the student has satisfied all other applicable graduation requirements.

A student receiving special education services who entered grade 9 before the 2014–2015 school year may graduate and be awarded a regular high school diploma if the student meets one of the following conditions:

1. The student has demonstrated mastery of the required state standards (or **Arrow Academy** standards if greater) in 19 TAC Chapters 110–118, 126–128, and 130 and satisfactorily completed credit requirements for graduation under the Recommend or Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Programs, including satisfactory performance on the required state assessments.
2. The student is in grade 11 or 12 during the 2014–2015, 2015–2016, or 2016–2017 school year and has taken each of the state assessments required by 19 TAC Chapter 101, Subchapter CC (relating to Commissioner’s Rules Concerning Substitute Assessments for Graduation) but failed to achieve satisfactory performance on no more than two of the assessments and has met all other applicable graduation requirements in item 1 above.
3. The student has demonstrated mastery of the required state standards (or **Arrow Academy** standards if greater) in 19 TAC Chapters 110–118, 126–128, and 130 and satisfactorily completed credit requirements under the Minimum High School Program, including participation in state assessments. The student’s ARD committee shall determine whether satisfactory performance on the required state assessments is necessary for graduation.
4. The student has demonstrated mastery of the required state or **Arrow Academy** standards (whichever is greater) in 19 TAC Chapters 110–119, 126–128, and 130 through courses, one or more of which contain modified content that is aligned to the standards required under the Minimum High School Program as well as the satisfactorily completed credit requirements under the Minimum High School Program, including participation in required state assessments. The student’s ARD committee shall determine whether satisfactory performance on the required state assessments is necessary for graduation. The student must also successfully complete the student’s IEP and meet one of the following conditions consistent with the IEP:
 - a. Consistent with the IEP, the student has obtained full-time employment, based on the student’s abilities and local employment opportunities, in addition to mastering sufficient self-help skills to enable the student to maintain the employment without direct and ongoing educational support of **Arrow Academy**;
 - b. Consistent with the IEP, the student has demonstrated mastery of specific employability skills and self-help skills that do not require direct ongoing educational support of **Arrow Academy**;
 - c. The student has access to services that are not within the legal responsibility of public education, or employment or educational options for which the student has been prepared by the academic program; or
 - d. The student no longer meets eligibility requirements.

When a student receives a diploma under item 4(a), (b), or (c), above, the ARD committee must determine needed educational services upon the request of the student or parent to resume services, as long as the student meets the age eligibility requirements.

19 TAC 89.1070(b)–(k).

Sec. 2.13.7. GRADUATION OF MILITARY DEPENDENTS

Sec. 2.13.7.1. Course Waiver

Arrow Academy shall waive specific courses required for graduation if similar coursework has been satisfactorily completed by a military student in another district or shall provide reasonable justification for denial. Should a waiver not be granted to a student who would qualify to graduate from the sending school, **Arrow Academy** shall provide an alternative means of acquiring required coursework so that graduation may occur on time.

Sec. 2.13.7.2. Transfers During Senior Year

Should a military student transferring at the beginning or during the student's senior year be ineligible to graduate from **Arrow Academy** after all alternatives have been considered, the sending district and **Arrow Academy** shall ensure the receipt of a diploma from the sending district, if the student meets the graduation requirements of the sending district.

Sec. 2.13.7.3. Substitute Passing Standard

Arrow Academy may utilize a substitute passing standard adopted by the Commissioner on one or more national norm-referenced achievement tests for purposes of permitting a qualified military dependent to meet that standard as a substitute for completing a specific course otherwise required for graduation. The passing standard is available only for a student who enrolls in a public school in Texas for the first time after completing the ninth grade or who reenrolls in a Texas public school at or above the tenth grade level after an absence of at least two years from Texas public schools. Each passing standard in effect when a student first enrolls in a Texas public high school remains applicable to the student for the duration of the student's high school enrollment, regardless of any subsequent revision of the standard.

Education Code 162.002 art. VII, §§ A, C.

Sec. 2.13.8. GRADUATION OF A STUDENT WHO IS HOMELESS OR IN CONSERVATORSHIP OF DFPS

If an 11th or 12th grade student who is homeless or in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services transfers to **Arrow Academy** and the student is ineligible to graduate from **Arrow Academy**, the public school from which the student transferred shall award a diploma at the student's request, if the student meets the graduation requirements of the school from which the student transferred. "Student who is homeless" has the meaning assigned to the term "homeless children and youths" under 42 U.S.C. Section 11434a. *Education Code 28.025(i).*