MIDLOTHIAN ISD™

INSPIRING EXCELLENCE

2026-2027
Secondary
Advising and Planning Guide

This **Advising and Planning Guide** is designed to support students, parents, and counselors as they make informed decisions throughout a student's academic journey. The guide provides essential information related to future planning, **Personal Graduation Plans (PGPs)**, and the academic requirements for graduation in **Midlothian Independent School District (MISD)**.

Please note that the information contained in this guide, including procedures and graduation requirements, is subject to change from year to year in accordance with state and district guidelines. The following pages outline the graduation programs and pathways available to students attending MISD schools.

For detailed course descriptions, families are encouraged to reference the **MISD Course Catalog**, which is linked at the end of this guide. Successful academic planning is best achieved through a collaborative partnership among students, parents, and counselors. Careful consideration should be given to course sequences and how they align with each student's selected graduation plan, career interests, and postsecondary goals.

MISD utilizes **Schoolinks** as its comprehensive planning platform to support **College, Career, and Military Readiness (CCMR)**. Through Schoolinks, students and families can engage in career exploration, course planning, graduation tracking, college searches, and postsecondary application management. Schoolinks allows students to develop and update their Personal Graduation Plan, monitor progress toward graduation and CCMR requirements, and explore colleges, career pathways, and workforce opportunities in one centralized system.

Families are strongly encouraged to actively use Schoolinks throughout a student's middle and high school years to support informed decision-making and long-term planning.

Other Texas Resources Available to you:

Texas OnCourse: A state-funded initiative to improve college and career readiness by equipping all Texas students for an educational and professional future that unlocks their potential. TCheck out MapMyGrad, an interactive website where students can learn about endorsements, careers, graduation plan options, and creating a personal graduation plan.

My Texas Future: A free state-run website designed to help Texans align education with career goals. My Texas Future guides students to expand their options, set goals, and take action.

ApplyTexas: A project of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to offer a centralized means for both Texas and non-Texas students to apply to the many outstanding postsecondary institutions available in Texas.

Texas College Bridge: A user-friendly platform designed to provide individualized support to help 11th and 12th grade students strengthen their Math and English skills prior to enrolling in college. In addition, Texas College Bridge offers additional supports to help students complete college transition milestones. Texas Success Initiative (TSI) exemptions can also be earned at participating higher education institutions.

Labor Market and Career Information: The Texas Workforce Commission's Labor Market and Career Information (LMCI) Department produces many valuable resources to provide regional and statewide labor market information to students and their families. LMCI also has several educational tools, such as the Texas Reality Check and Texas Career Check, that can support students in career decision-making.

Ask ADVi: The Texas Virtual College Advisor offers assistance to Texas students who need answers to questions about attending college, returning to college, financial aid, and more.

Tri-Agency Workforce Initiative: Launched by Governor Greg Abbott in 2016, this initiative seeks to achieve the ambitious goal of ensuring that all Texans achieve their full potential and contribute to the state's continued economic growth.

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Course Catalog

Middle School Planning

Course Requirements for Middle School

6th GRADE

Students are required to enroll in one course in each of the following content areas:

English Language Arts Reading (ELAR), Math, World Cultures: Social Studies, Science, Career Exploration/Leadership, Physical Education or Pre-Athletics, and a Fine Arts course of their choosing

Note: In place of an elective, students may be enrolled in an intervention class based on academic need.

7th GRADE

Students will enroll in one course in each of the following content areas:

English Language Arts Reading (ELAR), Math, Texas History: Social Studies, Science, Physical Education or Athletics

Students will select elective courses to fill the remainder of the school day. Note: In place of an elective, students may be enrolled in an intervention class based on academic need.

8th GRADE

Students will enroll in one course in each of the following content areas:

English Language Arts Reading (ELAR), Math, US History: Social Studies, Science,

Students will select elective courses to fill the remainder of the school day. Note: In place of an elective, students may be enrolled in an intervention class based on academic need.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Students in grades 6–8 must participate in moderate or vigorous daily physical activity for at least 30 minutes for at least four semesters during the 6th-8th grade levels as part of the district's physical education curriculum. Students may enroll in physical education courses or physical education substitution courses such as pre-athletics, athletics, dance or an appropriate private or commercially sponsored physical activity programs conducted off campus to satisfy this requirement.

For off-campus PE substitutions, students must submit an application for approval prior to the start of the semester in which the student wishes to participate. Specific criteria related to administrative approval, grade reporting requirements, transportation, awarding credit, and other important information is contained in the application, Applications can be requested from the campus counselor. The following program requirements must be met:

1. Off-Campus physical activity programs will be approved on an individual basis for those students who are recommended by qualified instructors.
2. Only students in grades six (6) through twelve (12) will be eligible for consideration for the program.

The district will offer two categories of participation:

1. Level 1: (Olympic-level participation and/or competition) These programs involve a minimum of fifteen (15) hours per week of highly intense, professionally supervised training. Students qualifying at this level may be dismissed from one hour per day for such participation. ***Students dismissed may not miss any class other than physical education.***
2. Level 2: (Private/Commercial Level) These programs are to be of high quality, well-supervised by (Superintendent certified) appropriately trained instructors, and will consist of a minimum of five (5) hours per week. ***Students certified to participate at this level may not be dismissed from any part of the regular school day.***

The student must participate a minimum of 100 minutes during the five (5) day-week (Monday through Friday); plus, an additional day that may fall on either the weekend or during the week. All such participation must be under the direct supervision of the instructor.

Advanced Academics in Middle School

Midlothian ISD offers many advanced courses to middle school students. Participation in advanced academic coursework sets a foundation for college and career readiness. Advanced courses are intended to develop students' literacy depth and complexity, critical thinking and problem-solving skills, and analysis of content so they have the tools to apply skills in real world settings. These courses are designed to challenge students through rigorous instruction and complex learning tasks in order to prepare them for success in future advanced classes in high school, such as Advanced Placement (AP) and Dual Credit. Taking advanced level courses in middle school is not a requirement for enrollment in advanced level courses in high school.

HONORS COURSES

Advanced level courses in middle school are labeled as "Honors" courses for ELAR, Science, and Social Studies. Honors level courses are taught at a different level of difficulty compared to the on level course. Honors course selections are not "all or nothing." Students may take one Honors course or may take Honors for all of their core classes. Students in Honors courses will be challenged in a variety of ways, which may include:

- introduction to the content at a faster pace,
- depth and complexity in which the content is taught,
- inquiry based learning, and
- critical thinking and analysis to solve problems

Any student may enroll in a course designated as "Honors". To determine if taking Honors courses is appropriate for your student, input from a previous teacher of that subject area or a counselor is recommended. Below are traits and skills often seen from a student who is prepared for Honors courses. The student:

- Expresses an interested in the subject
- Works to develop and maintain good study skills and habits
- Manages time effectively and plans ahead in preparation for assignments
- Participates in class and asks for assistance when needed

GIFTED AND TALENTED

Students identified as Gifted and Talented are served in both on level and advanced level courses through differentiated instruction. It is highly encouraged for Gifted and Talented students to enroll in advanced level Honors courses. Since Honors courses emphasize more depth and complexity, creative problem solving, and critical thinking, it is an optimal learning environment that fosters leadership and maximizes opportunities for independent thinking. In addition to Honors courses, students also have multiple opportunities to earn high school credit while enrolled in middle school. You can find more information about these courses in the section labeled; *High School Credit Courses in Middle School*.

ADVANCED MATH

Students have the opportunity to accelerate in the subject area of mathematics. Beginning in 6th grade, students may take 6th Advanced Math, which includes all of the 6th grade state standards and half of the 7th grade state standards with students taking the 6th grade STAAR assessment. Taking Advanced Math in the 6th grade allows students to take Advanced Math in the 7th grade, which is the rest of 7th grade state standards and all of 8th grade state standards with taking the 8th grade STAAR assessment. During the student's 8th grade year, they will take Algebra I. Algebra I is a High School credit course and the EOC is a requirement for high school graduation. Students who do not meet a grade of 70 or higher in both semesters of HS Algebra I will not receive credit for the course. Additionally, attendance requirements for credit apply to HS Algebra I. Please see the section *High School Credit Courses in Middle School* for more information.

In 6th and 7th grades, students will have the expectation of working at a faster pace through the curriculum. In 6th grade Advanced Math, students are taught all of 6th grade math TEKS and half of 7th grade math TEKS. In 7th grade Advanced Math, students are taught the remainder of 7th grade TEKS and all of 8th grade TEKS. 7th Advanced Math students will take the 8th grade STAAR Mathematics test. In 8th grade, students will take High School Algebra I and will take the STAAR End of Course (EOC) Exam for Algebra I. Algebra I is a High School credit course and the EOC is a requirement for high school graduation.

High School Credit Courses in Middle School

At MISD we offer several courses in the 8th grade that are high school credit courses. High school credit courses enhance student confidence during their time in middle school and set them up for success in high school. Completed high school credit courses in middle school increase student opportunity to enroll in high-interest or advanced courses throughout high school. Careful consideration for enrollment in high school courses in middle school is highly encouraged. **Students receive state credit from high school courses, and credit awarded is dependent upon grades earned and attendance**. Credits apply to the student's personal graduation plan, which is 26 credits. **All grades earned and credits from high school courses are reflected on the student's Academic Achievement Record or transcript.** Continue reading the next few sections to learn more about high school credit courses and specific requirements related.

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

The Minimum Attendance for Class Credit Law (section 25.092) states, "A student may not be given credit for a class unless the student is in attendance for at least 90% of the days the class is offered." A student who is in attendance for at least 75 percent but less than 90 percent of the days a class is offered may be given credit or a final grade for the class if the student completes a plan approved by the school's principal that provides for the student to meet the instructional requirements of the class.

GRADING GUIDELINES FOR HIGH SCHOOL COURSES

These guidelines reflect EIA (Local) Policy. EIC (Local) explains that the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that each campus or instructional level develops guidelines for teachers to follow in determining grades for students. These guidelines shall ensure that grading reflects a student's relative mastery of skills and that a sufficient number of grades are taken to support the grade average assigned. Dual Credit courses in high school will follow Navarro College's grading guidelines.

MISD Grading Guidelines can be found on the midlothianisd.org website in the student handbook. Grading Guidelines

HIGH SCHOOL GRADE POINT AVERAGE AND TRANSCRIPTS

The High School Grade Point Average (GPA) is a summary of a student's grades across all high school credit courses. All state high school credit courses are included in the student's overall 4-point GPA calculation, whether they earn a passing or failing grade.

However, there are certain courses that are calculated in weighted GPA calculation for class rank purposes. To view the full policy regarding courses included in weighted GPA calculation for class rank, visit the MISD website board policy online and search EIC (Local). Information can also be found in the MISD Course Catalog.

All courses taken for high school credit will be reflected on the student's Academic Achievement Record (transcript) with a code that indicates it was taken in middle school.

ALGEBRA I STAAR END OF COURSE (EOC) EXAM

Students taking Algebra I will be administered the STAAR End-of-Course (EOC) Algebra I exam in the spring semester. This test is a rigorous high school assessment. Successful performance on the Algebra I EOC is a requirement for high school graduation. If a student fails to meet the EOC passing standard, the student will receive accelerated instruction and retake the EOC the following year at each opportunity to retest until the state passing standard is met. The Algebra I EOC score is not calculated into a student's semester grade or GPA.

Assessments in Middle School

STAAR (STATE ASSESSMENTS OF ACADEMIC READINESS)
State testing consists of assessments in the academic core areas: Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and Reading Language Arts. To find out more information on STAAR and resources related, please visit the Texas Education Agency's website STAAR Resources.

6th Grade STAAR Requirements
Math and Reading Language Arts

7th Grade STAAR Requirements
Math and Reading Language Arts

8th Grade STAAR Requirements
Math or *Algebra I EOC, Reading Language Arts, Science, Social Studies

* Algebra 1 EOC - Students enrolled in High School Algebra I must meet standard on the End of Course (EOC) exam, which is also a required element for high school graduation.

MAP Growth Universal Screener
MISD's primary purpose for assessing with Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) Growth is to determine each student's instructional level, identifying each student's strengths and challenges, as well as to provide a measurement tool to track student's growth. As a universal screening tool, it will assist in identifying students who are at risk of not meeting grade level standards, as well as those that are beyond grade level standards. This assessment will not determine mastery of all skills instructed for a particular grade level.

MAP Growth is a computer-adaptive test that uses a "RIT" scale to accurately measure what students know, regardless of their grade level, as well as identifying what they are ready to learn next. It creates a personalized assessment experience that accurately measures performance and growth through the school year and over multiple years. The MAP Growth assessment will be given three times per year: beginning of the year, middle of the year and end of the year.

TSIA (TEXAS SUCCESS ASSESSMENT INITIATIVE)
The TSIA2 is part of the Texas Success Initiative program designed to help colleges or universities determine if a student is ready for college-level coursework in the areas of reading, writing, and mathematics. Students wishing to take dual credit courses beginning in the 9th grade will need to successfully meet the score requirements for dual credit enrollment. To learn more about TSIA2, visit the Accuplacer CollegeBoard Website.

Pathway to Graduation Planning
A Time for Decision Making

Planning for your high school program takes careful and detailed planning starting in middle school. Although many courses will be determined by the graduation plan selected, students will have other choices to make during the next few years of school. The courses selected should be guided largely by the student's plans for the future.

Some guiding questions for academic planning conversations could include:

- Will you continue your education in college or in a trade or vocational school?
- Do you want to learn a career skill in order to enter the full-time work force immediately after school?
- Are you interested in a technical field?
- Are you thinking of entering a profession that requires many years of specialized education?

Personal Graduation Plan

Students begin planning for their future during their **eighth-grade year**. During this time, school counselors work with students to develop a **Personal Graduation Plan (PGP)**, which outlines planned coursework for the four years of high school. The PGP is designed to be **flexible** and may be adjusted as students progress through high school.

Each year following eighth grade, counselors continue to meet with students to review academic progress, discuss any changes in goals or interests, ensure students remain on track for graduation, and update each student's **Course Planner** as needed.

While some students enter high school with a clear vision of their future plans, many are still exploring their interests—and it is common for students' career goals to evolve over time. For this reason, students are encouraged to pursue a **rigorous and well-rounded academic program**. Maintaining a challenging course load helps preserve future options should career interests change.

Foundation High School Program plus Endorsement

The State of Texas has developed the Foundation High School Program (FHSP) as the "default curriculum." It is an expectation that all Midlothian ISD high school students will complete the Foundation High School Program plus one or more endorsements to earn a diploma. Through the coursework, a student needs to earn 26 state credits following the courses required in the FHSP + endorsement. Exceptions to this expectation should be determined through an extensive decision making process that includes the student, the student's parent or guardian, teachers, school administrators, and a guidance counselor.

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 required by the Texas Education Code (TEC), §28.025(b-15). A total of 26 credits. A student must earn this designation to be eligible for Top 10% Automatic Admission to a Texas public university. The Distinguished Level of Achievement requires:

- A total of four credits in math, including Algebra II;
- A total of four credits in science; and
- Successful completion of an endorsement in your area of interest.

Endorsements

Endorsements consist of a related series of courses that are grouped together by interest or skill set. They provide students with in-depth knowledge of a subject area. A high school counselor will help students select appropriate endorsements during 8th grade as a part of their Personal Graduation Plan (PGP).

MISD offers the following endorsements:

- Arts & Humanities
- Business & Industry
- Multidisciplinary
- Public Service
- STEM

For more information related to endorsements, visit the Texas Education Agency (TEA) website and the High School Graduation Toolkit.

Performance Acknowledgements

Students may earn an additional acknowledgment on their transcripts because of outstanding performance in the following areas:

- Outstanding performance in Dual Credit courses- one of the following categories
    - 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
    - an associate degree while in high school.
- Outstanding performance in bilingualism and biliteracy - 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 by completing one of the following:
    - 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
    - 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
    - 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
    - demonstrated proficiency in one or more languages other than English through a score of 3 or higher on a College Board Advanced Placement examination for a language other than English
        - In addition to meeting the requirements of above to earn a performance acknowledgment in bilingualism and biliteracy, an emergent bilingual student must also have:
            - participated in and met the exit criteria for a bilingual or English as a second language (ESL) program; and
            - scored at the Advanced High level on the Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS).
- Outstanding performance on a College Board Advanced Placement test by earning a score of 3 or above on a College Board Advanced Placement examination.
- Outstanding performance on SAT, ACT, or PSAT by:
    - 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 National Merit Scholarship Corporation or as an awardee of the National Recognition Programs of the College Board
    - earning a composite score of 442 on the ACT AspireTM examination;
    - earning a composite score of 29 on the ACT PreACT® examination;
    - earning a total score of at least 1350 on the SAT®; or
    - earning a composite score on the ACT® examination of 29 (excluding the writing subscore).
- 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.

Graduation Requirements

MISD students will graduate under the Foundation High School Program with Endorsement which equals to 26 credits. Those 26 credits will include:

Discipline	+Endorsement(s) Credits	Distinguished Credits
English	4	4
Math	4	4 - must include Algebra II
Science	4	4
Social Studies	4	4
LOTE	2	2
Fine Arts	1	1
Physical Education	1	1
Electives	6-7	6-7
Total Credits for Graduation	26	26

EOC Student Assessment Requirements for Graduation

To receive a Texas high school diploma, a student must demonstrate proficiency on the End of Course (EOC) exams in the following subject areas: Algebra I, English I, English II, US History, and Biology.

FAFSA/TAFSA Graduation Requirement

In accordance with Texas Education Code (TEC), §28.0256, each student must do one of the following in order to graduate:

- Complete and submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA);
- Complete and submit a Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TASFA); or
- Submit a signed opt-out form.

Students and parents will receive information on this process from their high school counselor during the student's senior year.

Community Service Graduation Requirements

All Midlothian students must complete a minimum of **ten** community service hours as a requirement for graduation. Hours must be earned while in high school. Below are the guidelines for obtaining Community Service hours:

1. The student will receive NO pay for services, monetary or otherwise, of any kind.
2. The service completed must benefit a person in need (a non-family member); a non-profit organization or an organization, which assists persons in need; or fulfill a civic need in the community.
3. The service must be performed on the student's own time or as a part of a school sponsored organization in which the sponsor approves and coordinates the service during the school day.
4. The student shall be responsible for reporting his/her own service hours according to the established guidelines. Forms are available in the high school counseling center and the high schools' websites.
5. Students may not overlap (count twice) service hours for other organizations such as Honor Society, PALS, Student Council, etc. Community Service hours that are assigned as a result of a court order will not count toward the district requirement.
6. The only time hours should be accumulated or held is in the case of completing all service hours in one location on a continuous basis.
7. Community service hours required as a result of legal actions do not count.
8. Documentation must be signed by the student, the student's parent, and the adult supervisor of the service activity and are subject to verification by Midlothian Independent School District.
9. Service hours will be entered into the system when the completed community service form is turned into the counseling office.
10. Keep a copy for your own documentation.
11. Students transferring from outside the district will have their hours prorated.

Automatic Admission Requirements

In accordance with Texas Education Code (TEC), §51.803, a student is eligible for automatic admission to a Texas public college or university as an undergraduate student if the student earned a grade point average in the **top 10 percent** of the student's high school graduating class with the exception of the University of Texas at Austin which is currently at top 5 percent; **and** the applicant

(1) earned the distinguished level of achievement under the Foundation High School Program; or
(2) satisfied ACT's College Readiness Benchmarks on the ACT assessment or earned on the SAT assessment a score of at least 1,500 out of 2,400 or the equivalent.

Texas colleges and universities are required to admit an applicant for admission as an undergraduate student if the applicant is the child of a public servant who was killed or sustained a fatal injury in the line of duty and meets the minimum requirements, if any, established by the governing board of the college or university for high school or prior college- level grade point average and performance on standardized tests.

* The University of Texas at Austin (UT) is not required to automatically admit applicants in excess of 75% of its enrollment capacity for first-time resident undergraduate students. Should the number of applicants who qualify for automatic admission exceed 75% of enrollment capacity, UT must provide notice of the percentage of qualified applicants that are anticipated to be offered admission.

State Financial Aid Programs with Curriculum Requirements

Under Texas Education Code (TEC), Title 3, there are several state financial aid programs available for Texas public high school students. The following state financial aid programs include certain curriculum requirements to be considered when planning a student's high school career to ensure eligibility for financial aid under one of these programs. **Please note that this is not a complete list of requirements and additional eligibility requirements apply.**
Texas Higher Education Board

My Texas Future (formerly Colleges for All Texans)

General college enrollment and college financial aid information are cataloged on the following website:
My Texas Future

TEXAS Grant

The Toward Excellence, Access, & Success (TEXAS) Grant Program is authorized by TEC Chapter 56, Section 56.302. Information can be found on the following website:
Texas Grant Program Guidelines

Basic Initial Year (IY) Student Eligibility Curriculum Requirements

A student must complete the Foundation High School Program, RHSP, or DAP (or the equivalent).

Priority Model Initial Year (IY) Student Curriculum Eligibility Requirements

In addition to the basic initial year (IY) student eligibility requirements, to receive priority consideration for an IY award through the TEXAS Grant Program, a student must meet at least one requirement in at least two of the four following areas:

AREA	REQUIREMENT(S)
Advanced Academic Program	Earn 12 hours of college credit (dual credit or AP courses), complete the Distinguished Achievement Program (DAP), or complete the International Baccalaureate (IB) Program
TSI Readiness	Meet the Texas Success Initiatives (TSI) assessment thresholds or qualify for an exemption
Class Standing	Graduate in the top one/third of the HS graduating class or have a B average
Advanced Math	Complete at least one math course beyond Algebra II as determined by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) or complete at least one advanced career and technical course, as determined by TEA

Academic Regulations

Grade Classification

Freshman (9th Grade) ..... 0-5.5 credits
Sophomore (10th Grade) ..... 6 credits
Junior (11th Grade) ..... 13 credits
Senior (12th Grade) ..... 19 credits
Graduation ..... 26 credits

Promotion and Retention

A high school student will be promoted only on the basis of adequate attainment of credit as outlined above in the section Grade Classification. To earn credit in a course, a student must receive a grade of at least 70 based on course-level or grade-level standards. Excessive absences may result in loss of credit (TEC 25.092) even if a passing grade is earned.

Attendance for Credit

The Minimum Attendance for Class Credit Law (Texas Education Code Section 25.092) states, "A student may not be given credit for a class unless the student is in attendance for at least 90% of the days the class is offered." A student who is in attendance for at least 75 percent but less than 90 percent of the days a class is offered may be given credit or a final grade for the class if the student completes a plan approved by the school's principal that provides for the student to meet the instructional requirements of the class.

Grade Point Averages

Students will have two types of Grade Point Averages reflected on their Academic Achievement Record (AAR) or transcript: weighted GPA and 4 point GPA. Weighted GPA is used for class rank purposes and includes only courses listed below in the chart labeled "Chapter 74 Courses for Weighted GPA". The 4 point GPA includes all courses taken that count for state graduation credit, including high school courses taken in middle school.

Class Rank

The District shall include in the calculation of class rank only grades earned for high school credit in the following subjects: English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies according to TEA Chapter 74(A)(1) as listed below in the chart labeled "Chapter 74 Courses for Weighted GPA". The District shall assign weights to semester grades earned in eligible courses and shall calculate a weighted grade average in accordance with the following:

Level	**Configuration**	**Courses (**English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies according to TEA Chapter 74 as listed below)
Advanced	1.15	**Eligible AP courses shall be categorized and weighted as Advanced courses**; weight is calculated at the end of the semester
Honors	1.10	**Eligible Pre-AP, dual credit courses, and courses locally designated as honors shall be categorized and weighted as Honors courses;** weight is calculated at the end of the semester
Regular	1.0	**All other eligible courses shall be categorized and weighted as Regular courses.**

Calculation of Class Rank

Calculation of class rank is based on potential credit for semester grades earned in a course from Ch. 74 listed in the chart of the section labeled "Chapter 74 Courses for Weighted GPA". To calculate the GPA points associated with each semester grade, divide the numerical grade earned by 25, multiply that number by the multiplier for the course level (either 1.0, 1.10, or 1.15). This number will be the GPA points associated with that semester grade. The calculation shall include failing grades.

Preliminary calculation of class rank shall be made available to students by the beginning of their Junior year. Class ranks thereafter will be given to students each semester.

Students must have achieved the Distinguished Level of Achievement to be ranked in the top 10% of the class for automatic admissions eligibility to any public Texas university (except where other limits apply).

Weighted Grade Scales with grade point average equivalencies. - extended chart of grades and GPA equivalent

Below is a chart that provides grade point average equivalencies by 4 point category.

4 Point Grade Scales with Grade Points	
100-90	4.0
89-80	3.0
79-70	2.0
69-60	1.0
59 and below	0

Limitations and Exclusions to Class Rank Calculation

The calculation of class rank shall exclude grades earned in the following:

1. Dual credit courses except those taken with prior written District approval.
2. Courses taken without District approval while enrolled in the District high school.

For more information, see Midlothian ISD Policy Online EIC (Local).

Chapter 74 Courses for Weighted GPA §74.12.2-4

*Only courses listed in this link are calculated in class rank and in weighted GPA

Program Opportunities

Career and Technical Education (CTE)

Midlothian ISD Career and Technical Education provides competency-based applied learning that contributes to academic knowledge, higher order thinking skills, problem-solving skills, work attitudes, general employability skills, and occupationally specific skills needed for success in the workplace or in

post-secondary education. Students have the opportunity to travel to the MILE for upper level and practicum courses for certain CTE pathways.

TSTC and Dual Enrollment

Midlothian ISD partners with Texas State Technical College in Red Oak in order to offer selected CTE courses. Students would earn college credit while completing state elective courses that meet high school graduation requirements. Enrollment procedures include selection of courses through the high school campus as well as providing a high school transcript and shot records required by TSTC. Pathways offered to students include: Industrial Systems Mechanic Electrical Pathway, HVAC Technician Pathway, and Diesel Equipment Technology. For full course information, including sequence and prerequisites, visit the academic course offerings section of this document. Dual enrollment courses through TSTC are offered at a reduced rate. Books and supplies may be an additional cost to the student. Midlothian ISD will provide transportation for students to the TSTC campus. Course offerings are subject to change due to factors such as low student interest in a pathway or scheduling conflicts with the student's high school based on the student's required courses for high school graduation.

Navarro College Cosmetology

MISD partners with Navarro College to provide an opportunity for our students to pursue a certification in Cosmetology. Enrollment procedures include selection of courses through the high school campus as well as providing a high school transcript and shot records required by Navarro College. Dual enrollment courses through Navarro are offered at a reduced rate. Books and supplies may be an additional cost to the student. Midlothian ISD will provide transportation for students to the Navarro campus. Course offerings are subject to change due to factors such as low student interest in a pathway or scheduling conflicts with the student's high school based on the student's required courses for high school graduation.

Navarro College Fire Academy

Through a partnership between **Midlothian Independent School District (MISD)** and **Navarro College**, students have the opportunity to participate in the **Navarro College Fire Academy**, a career-focused program designed to prepare students for postsecondary certification and employment in the fire service.

This partnership allows eligible MISD high school students to engage in rigorous, hands-on training while continuing to earn high school credit. Instruction is aligned with state and industry standards and provides students with practical skills and real-world experience in fire protection, emergency response, and public safety.

Students enrolled in the Fire Academy gain a strong foundation for careers in the fire service and related public safety fields, whether they plan to enter the workforce immediately after graduation or continue their education in fire science or a related program.

Through this collaborative partnership, Midlothian ISD supports students in achieving **college, career, and military readiness**, ensuring graduates leave high school with valuable credentials, industry-relevant experience, and the skills necessary to succeed in a competitive workforce.

Fine Arts
Students who have talents and interests in fine arts programs will find a variety of programs of study to meet their needs. Midlothian ISD provides a diverse selection of visual and performing arts opportunities, including a range of courses in art, band, choir, dance, and theatre arts. Some courses within the MISD fine arts programs require audition and selection prior to registration for the class.

Advanced Academics

College Board Advanced Placement (AP) and Pre-Advanced Placement (Pre-AP)
Advanced Placement courses are designed for highly motivated students. Courses are taught with a rigorous college level curriculum utilizing materials provided by the College Board. Enrollment in these courses should be based on interest as well as ability since the curriculum requires more advanced and intensive work. There are no summer assignments or requirements for Pre-AP or Advanced Placement courses. Per MISD policy, students taking AP courses are required to take the AP exam at the end of the course. Earning a score of 3 or higher on an Advanced Placement exam may provide the student with college credit for that course.

Dual Credit (DC) and Concurrent Enrollment
Midlothian Independent School District and Navarro College have created a partnership to offer high school students educational programs and courses. Qualified students may be dually enrolled at MHS or MHHS and Navarro College. Students **MUST** meet the college readiness requirements as well as the Midlothian ISD standards to enroll (see below). Dual credit courses have the same requirements and expectations as those taught on any Navarro College campus. Students may take any combination of dual credit course offerings as long as the student is advised by the high school counselor to ensure prerequisites are met as well as college readiness requirements. Interested students should set up an appointment with a counselor to determine dual credit eligibility.

Students participating in dual credit and/or concurrent enrollment programs may receive high school as well as college credit for courses taken at the Navarro College campus during the summer, in the evenings, or in mini-mesters. However, students **must have approval** from their high school **prior** to taking these courses.
Students enrolled in either approved concurrent courses or approved dual credit courses will earn college credit and will have an official college transcript reflecting the work completed through Navarro College.

Associate Degree Program
Eligible high achieving Midlothian ISD students have an opportunity to graduate from high school with a high school diploma AND an Associate's Degree from Navarro College. Students wishing to begin the associate degree program should start coursework in the 9th grade in order to effectively complete all requirements for both the associate degree and high school graduation requirements. Interested students should complete higher education admission requirements in the spring of their eighth grade year at their PGP meeting. Students must satisfactorily complete all MISD dual credit enrollment procedures outlined in the following sections.

Students may opt to attend summer classes at Navarro College in order to take other courses that meet the student's needs. It is critical that students seek guidance from their high school counselor **prior** to taking summer classes at the college. It is recommended that summer courses at Navarro not be taken until after the student completes his/her sophomore year. Failure to follow high school and college counseling recommendations can cause a student to risk not graduating on time with the degree/diploma. Course offerings may vary by campus and are subject to change in order to meet

staffing, space, class size requirements and requirements of the THECB (Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board).

Core Complete

Core complete courses are a set of courses in the Texas Common Course Numbering System equal to 42 hours. The Texas Common Course Numbering System (TCCNS) is a voluntary, co-operative effort among 139 Texas community colleges and universities to facilitate transfer of freshman and sophomore level general academic coursework. TCCNS provides a shared, uniform set of course designations for students and their advisors to use in determining both course equivalency and degree applicability of transfer credit on a statewide basis. When students transfer between two participating TCCNS institutions, a course taken at the sending institution transfers as the course carrying the same TCCNS designation at the receiving institution.

Students wishing to seek completion of the core complete should express interest to the high school counselor so he/she can effectively advise the student to create a plan of coursework that will accomplish successful completion of both high school graduation requirements and core complete courses.

If a student is unsure if they should choose an Associate Degree or to be Core Complete check out this link for more information.

Navarro Dual Credit Enrollment Requirements

As part of the Student Success Initiative, Texas state law requires that students be tested in the areas of reading, writing, and mathematics prior to enrolling in college courses. Listed below are acceptable dual credit admission tests for dual credit students set by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Navarro College Dual Credit Testing Requirements

Test	Score Explanation/Requirements
ACT-ASPIRE	A scale score of 435 in English shall waive for both the reading and writing sections of the TSI Assessment. A scale score of 431 in Math shall waive for the math section of the TSI Assessment.
TSI Assessment	**TSIA 2.0** ***(New TSI Assessment: Beginning January 11, 2021)*** **TSIA 2 Math College Ready Scores:** CRC 950-990 or CRC 910-949 **AND** Diagnostic Level 6 **TSIA 2 ELAR College Ready Scores:** CRC 945-990 **AND** Essay 5-8 or CRC 910-944 **AND** Diagnostic Level 5 – 6 **AND** Essay 5-8
ACT	Combined score of 40 on English and Reading will exempt both reading and writing sections of the TSI. 22 on the math will exempt the math TSI.
SAT	A minimum score of 480 on the Evidenced-Based Reading and Writing (EBRW) test shall be exempt for both reading and writing sections of the TSI Assessment; a minimum score of 530 on the mathematics test shall be exempt for th e mathematics section of the TSI Assessment. *There is no combined score.*

❖Students that have not met the acceptable dual credit tests (listed above) must take a College Placement Exam (TSI Asse ssment). Students who are exempt from one part of the placement test will be required to take the TSI Assessment in the ot her areas prior to enrolling for related college courses. ***(NOTE: 9th & 10th grade students are required to take the TSI Assessment and be college ready in writing and reading prior to enrollment approval.)***

Enrollment in Navarro College and Deadlines for Dual Credit

All proper applications and enrollment paperwork must be completed online before a student will be officially enrolled in a dual credit course at a Midlothian ISD high school. Please check with campus counselors for specific deadlines. There will be exceptions to this date for students that enroll in MISD after the deadline and these students will need to see their school counselor for further instructions.
Enrollment steps include:
1. Apply Texas Application & acceptance to Navarro College
2. Qualifying test scores
3. Completion of online dual credit enrollment form (including online parent permission form)
4. Payment of tuition. Tuition is set by the college and is subject to increase at the college's discretion and without notification of the school district. MISD dual credit students are charged a reduced dual credit tuition rate for fall and spring semester courses.

For more information, please visit Navarro College's Dual Credit page.

Gifted and Talented Program (GT)

Students who are identified for GT services can choose to take Honors, Pre-AP or AP classes if they meet the recommended prerequisites. Teachers will differentiate the curriculum to meet the needs of their identified GT students.

Credit Recovery, Acceleration Options, Free Periods

Texas First Diploma

Senate Bill 1888, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, added Texas Education Code §28.0253, which establishes the Texas First Early High School Completion Program to allow public high school students who demonstrate early readiness for college to graduate early from high school.
The purpose of the Texas First Early High School Completion Program, in conjunction with the Texas First Scholarship Program (Texas Education Code, Chapter 56, Subchapter K-1), is to promote efficiency in the state public education system and incentivize the enrollment of high performing students at eligible institutions within the state of Texas.

Texas First Diploma Info Flyer

Early Graduation Requirements

Students must apply for early graduation no later than 1 semester prior to the year they wish to graduate. EX: A 10th grader wanting to graduate a full year early must apply in the Spring of their Sophomore year. A Junior wanting to graduate in December of their Senior Year, must apply in the Spring of their 11th grade year.
Applicants should obtain credit verification with a counselor to formalize the student's plan for early graduation. This may include students needing to purchase courses during the summer or school year. (Midlothian ISD does not currently offer Summer School for Advancement). Students may not graduate early without an endorsement and 26 credits.

Parent and Principal approval are required. Students meeting graduation requirements before the scheduled graduation ceremonies may participate in the ceremonies.

Courses for Credit Through Texas Virtual School Network or TxVSN

Before consideration of taking a course through TxVSN can be made, students must see their counselor for eligibility for enrollment and complete the requirement documents. The Texas Virtual School Network (TxVSN) has been established as a method of distance learning that is networked throughout the state. Students may enroll in a TxVSN course to earn credit towards graduation. Enrollment requires payment of tuition, usually about $250-$400 per semester (subject to the TXVSN's pricing per course), and the courses offered are subject to the UIL provision "no pass, no play" rule. Grades earned in TxVSN classes

are figured into the student's GPA according to EIC local. Student athletes seeking to play at the collegiate level must understand that the NCAA may not accept the course. Additionally, a student who enrolls in a TxVSN course for which an end-of-course (EOC) assessment is required, the student must take the EOC and the requirements related to the incorporation of the EOC score into the student's final course grade for graduation still apply.

Credit by Exam (CBE) For Credit Recovery

A student who has received prior instruction in a course but did not receive credit for it may be permitted to earn credit by passing an exam on the essential knowledge and skills defined for the course. To receive credit, a student must score at least 70 on the exam. The district administration will determine whether any opportunity for credit by exam will be offered. Exams are from Texas Tech and students are responsible for all fees. Students must talk to their counselors prior to this order. The Credit by Exam option for gaining credit is NOT available for students who lost credit due to excessive absences.

Credit by Exam (CBE) For Original Credit

A student will be permitted to take an exam to earn credit for an academic course for which the student has no prior instruction for the purpose of academic acceleration. Students are required to complete an application and will have to test during a specific testing window. The CBE results will be included in the student's weighted GPA if the course is listed in the Ch. 74 chart in this document. CBE tests are given during specific testing windows. When a student seeks to gain credit by exam without prior instruction in the course, a student must make an 80 or higher on each exam. Please refer to the MISD Acceleration Regulations for more information and application for acceleration.

LEAP Academy

The Midlothian ISD LEAP Academy's mission is to help students maximize their potential by providing an individualized, diverse learning environment empowering them to succeed. LEAP Academy is a non-traditional setting in which students work at an accelerated pace to complete courses for graduation. All students must meet the same academic and STAAR (EOC) requirements as other secondary school students. It is important to note that all students who complete their senior year through LEAP Academy will receive their high school diploma through MISD, and have the option to walk at the traditional graduation ceremony. Students seeking acceleration in regaining credits or who wish to pursue a nontraditional pathway to graduation may apply to become a LEAP Academy student.

Free periods

Free periods are only allowed for **Seniors** who are in good academic standing. Students must pass courses during the semester they are enrolled in a Free period or students will lose this privilege in order to stay on track for graduation credit requirements.
Eligibility requirements are:

- **MUST HAVE TRANSPORTATION**
- **LEAVE CAMPUS**
- **ON-TRACK FOR GRADUATION**
- **NO EDGENUITY**
- **GOOD STANDING WITH ATTENDANCE,**
- **CCMR POINT Seniors who have not yet earned their College, Career, and Military Readiness point will not be eligible for 2 Free periods.**

  Students may earn their CCMR point by:

  - being TSI compliant
  - scoring 19 on both ACT English and Math sections
  - SAT score of 480 on English/Writing and 530 on Math
  - scoring a 3 or above on an AP exam
  - completing 9 hours of college English/Math course work

- completing an Industry Certification through Practicum in a Pathway

Now it is time to plan out the courses that best fit your students needs:
Course Catalog