

HB5 College Preparatory Courses

FAQs for High Schools

What is a HB5 College Preparatory Course?

House Bill 5 passed by the 83rd Texas Legislature requires that a school district partner with at least one institution of higher education to develop and provide courses in college preparatory mathematics and English language arts to prepare students for success in entry-level college courses. These courses must be designed for students in the 12th grade who have demonstrated (through assessments or coursework) that they are not ready to “perform entry-level college work.” A student who “successfully completes” such a course is exempt from the requirements of the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) in that content area at the partnering higher education institution.

Are certain students required to enroll in the college prep course?

No. School districts are required to provide notice to each student who meets eligibility criteria for a college preparatory course and the student’s parent or guardian regarding the benefits of enrolling in the course. However, students are not required to enroll in college preparatory courses.

Do students earn college credit for this course?

No. Students do not earn college credit for this course. Upon successful completion the students are TSI waived at Austin Community College (ACC) for their first semester. Once they successfully pass a college course in the subject area they will be considered TSI complete. Students have up to 2 years from high school graduation to utilize their waiver.

Is the waiver good at any Texas Institution of Higher Education?

No. The waiver is only good at the partnering institution, in this case ACC. However once a student successfully completes a course at ACC in the subject area of their waiver they are considered TSI complete at any institution.

How does this course count on a student’s high school graduation plan?

Students enrolled in college preparatory courses must be on the Foundation High School Program to count the class as an Advanced Mathematics credit or an Advanced English credit.

What does ACC require of their school district partners for the HB5 College Preparatory Course?

1. A current MOU for each year the courses are offered. (In Process)
2. Ensure that teachers utilize the *Student Achievement Recording System* to record student data.

What does ACC require of a HB5 College Preparatory Course teacher?

1. Complete Curriculum Training *every other year*
2. Attend a Fall and Spring Workshop/Department meeting with the ACC Faculty Partner
3. Utilize the ACC Student Achievement Recording System to record student grades
4. Teach lesson plans that will prepare students to take the end of course exam
5. Administer an end of course exam/assessment provided by ACC

What do my students need to do to be eligible for the waiver?

1. This year teachers will enroll students in the Student Achievement System but at some point students might be asked to create their own enrollment for the class.
2. They must have a **70 or higher class average** and a **70 or higher on the ACC End of Course Assessment** to be eligible for credit.

Can high schools offer a college preparatory course to students who are not in 12th grade?

- There is not a specific requirement that a student must be in 12th grade to take the college preparatory course.
- However, a student may not earn credit for the college preparatory math course until after the student has completed the three mathematics credit requirements for the Foundation High School Program.

Please contact Jaye Chavez, High School Programs Coordinator for more information. jaye.chavez@austincc.edu