



Ready for College Now?

A Look at Early High School Graduation

The University of Texas at Austin High School



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Start anytime!

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Our Mission

Improve outcomes for **school districts**, **educators**, and **students across Texas** and beyond, by creating innovative learning experiences and provide strategic support services.



UTHS Programs & Services

- Diploma Program
- High School Courses
- Credit by Exams (CBEs)
- Parent & Student Resources
- G/T, Advanced, & Early Readiness
- ELL, LUCHA™, & Migrant
- Partner Schools
- Professional Development



[Video](#)



**HOW ARE YOU ALLOWING
YOUR STUDENTS TO SPEND
THEIR JELLYBEANS?**



First, consider...

- Acceleration of 2 or more years is an effective way to differentiate instruction for gifted learners.
- Accelerated students have higher self-esteem, a stronger internal locus of control, and no decrease in social interactions when compared to non-accelerated students.



Early High School Graduation



Allows a gifted student to shorten the amount of years needed to complete the high school graduation requirements



Fits students that function well beyond peers academically, that are highly motivated, independent, and socially mature, and that prefer a faster pace with more self-instruction/ individual projects



Results in a positive social adjustment and a realistic academic self-concept



Results in academic gains of 1/3+ year of additional educational growth



What is ERHSGO?

An opportunity for students to...



Graduate early



Enroll in college level
courses early



Earn a distinguished
level of achievement
on diploma





Texas Education Code 28.0253

The ERHSGO was created by the 81st Legislature in House Bill 3. Under the provisions of the statute, research universities may partner directly with Texas school districts to offer an alternative route to a high school diploma to students who demonstrate early readiness for college.



ERHSGO

Students who meet the research universities' placement standards in English language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, and a language other than English may be eligible to receive high school diplomas, **notwithstanding any other state or local requirements.**



ERHSGO

- Signifies that students have met rigorous standards aligned with placement standards of a leading flagship institution
- Does not guarantee admission to colleges or universities, including UT Austin or Texas A&M



Requirements

- Achieve qualifying scores on exams in each core subject and a language other than English (LOTE)
 - AP, IB, SAT, and CLEP exams
 - Subject areas: math, science, English Language Arts, social studies, LOTE
- Attend a high school in a participating Texas school district



District/School Policies

Define policies for early graduates

- When is a student classified as junior or senior level status?
- When is class rank determined for graduating class?
- When must a student declare his/her intention to graduate early?



Discussion

- What examples of early graduation have you experienced in your district?
- What district policy do you have for students intending to graduate early?





Prepare in Middle School

- Take Pre-AP courses in all core subjects
- Preferably take Geometry or higher in middle school
- Take Language Other Than English (LOTE) courses in qualifying language
- Participate in programs to advance performance (ex. Duke TIP – take SAT)



Prepare in High School

Courses

- Develop Personal Graduation Plan (PGP) with ERHSGO requirements in mind
- Take Pre-AP courses in all core subjects
- Continue taking the same LOTE subject courses (ex. Spanish)
- Take courses to prepare for success in AP courses
- Take electives during summer or online to allow more room in schedule for AP courses



Prepare in High School – Paths

- Math
 - FOUR courses before AP
 - PreAP Alg I, PreAP Geom, PreAP Alg II, PreAP PreCal
 - AP Calculus
- Science
 - TWO courses before AP
 - PreAP Biology, PreAP Chemistry
 - AP Chem, AP Physics, AP Bio, AP Environ Sci



Prepare in High School - Paths

- English
 - TWO courses before AP
 - PreAP English I, PreAP English II
 - AP English III (Lang/Lit), AP English IV (Lit/Comp)
- Social Studies
 - ONE course before AP
 - PreAP World Geography or PreAP World History
 - AP US History, AP Microeconomics, AP Macroeconomics



Prepare in High School – Paths

- Languages Other Than English (LOTE)
 - TWO courses before AP
 - Spanish I, Spanish II
 - AP Spanish III (Language), AP Spanish IV (Literature)
- Qualifying languages
 - Spanish, French, German, Latin



Prepare in High School – Exams

SAT/ACT/CLEP

- Prepare for the exams
 - SAT Prep: See College Board website & [Khan Academy](#)
 - Study by taking timed practice tests
- Take the exams more than once – students usually increase their scores the second time, due to familiarity with testing



Discussion

- What is communicated for early high school graduation or acceleration options in middle school? high school?
- How could that communication be improved and/ or replicated?





PARTNERING WITH UT



Registering for ERHSGO

Districts:

- Contact earlyreadiness@austin.utexas.edu or UTHSpartner@austin.utexas.edu to establish a partnership agreement with The University of Texas at Austin

Students and Parents:

- View requirements online
- Contact school representative



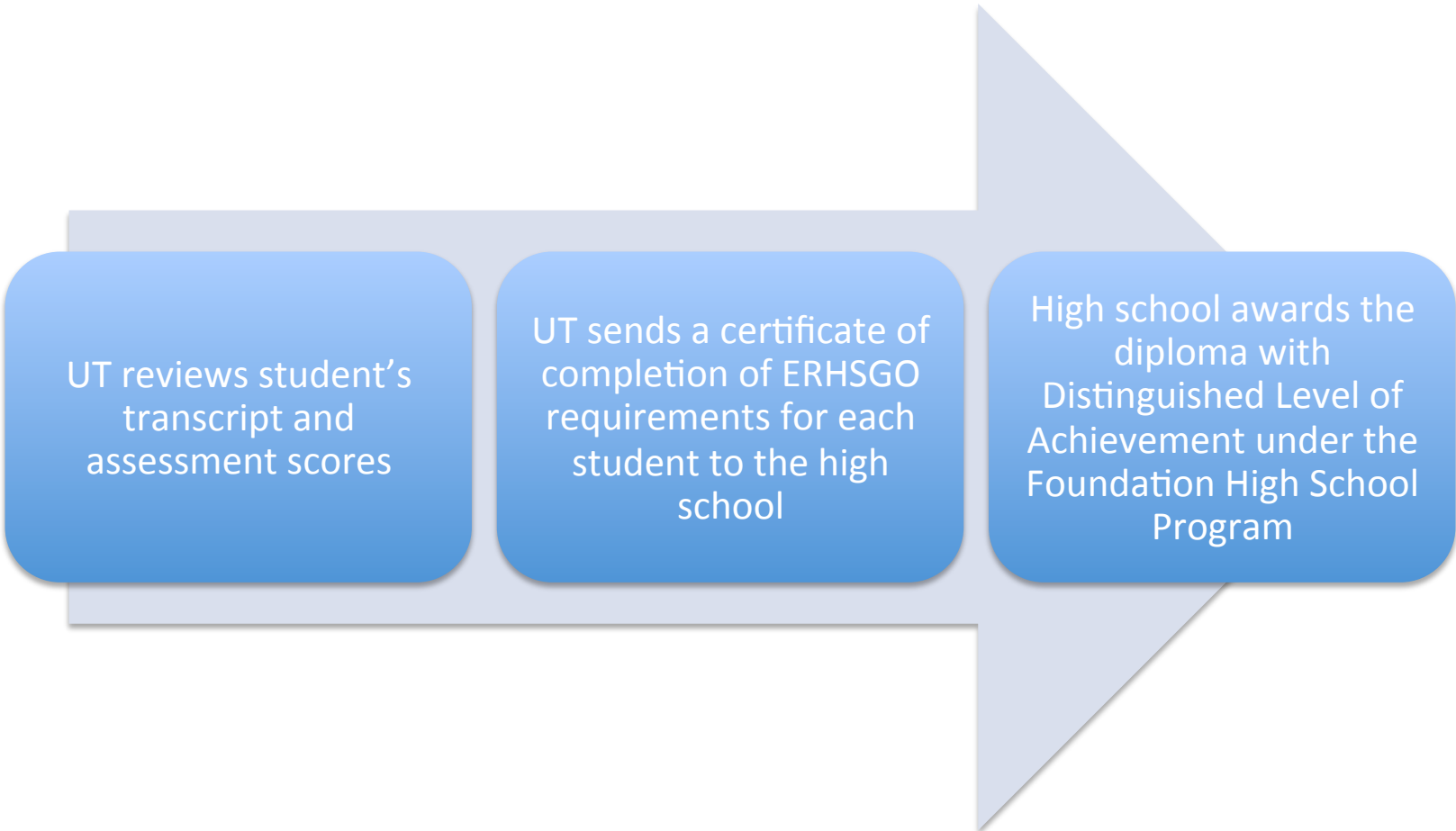
Registering for ERHSGO

- View requirements online
- Complete [registration form](#) online

*If your school is not a participating school,
talk to your counselor or contact UT High
School



Process



UT reviews student's
transcript and
assessment scores

UT sends a certificate of
completion of ERHSGO
requirements for each
student to the high
school

High school awards the
diploma with
Distinguished Level of
Achievement under the
Foundation High School
Program



Early High School Graduation Results

- Early entrants earn higher grade point averages than regular freshman
- Early entrants graduated sooner and with more honors than non-accelerants
- Early entrants experience both short-term and long-term academic success, leading to long-term occupational success and personal satisfaction



Graduate up to one year
early

Demonstrate early
readiness for college –
advantage for college
admissions



Student Advantages

Enter college early (must
receive acceptance from
the college)

Be eligible to take college
level courses earlier
(courses not offered by
school district)



District Advantages

Offer innovative programming options for brightest and most accelerated students

Receive advising support and recommendations for ERHSGO participants

Publicize a partnership with the University of Texas at Austin





Questions?



References

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