Credit by Examination for Acceleration

The University of Texas at Austin High School
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What is a Credit by Exam (CBE)?

• According to Texas State Board of Education rules, school districts must offer examinations for acceleration at every grade level and for every subject area offered in grades K-12.
• To help schools serve this mandate, the UT High School offers a wide array of exams.
• Students are able to advance to the next course once they have received credit.
§74.24. Credit by Examination

• c.2.G. if for a course that has a state level end-of-course assessment instrument, is validated against the applicable end-of-course assessment. For an examination that is validated for this purpose, a school district must make public:

  (i) the test development process; and
  (ii) the results of the validation efforts.

• UTHS will have validation results for the EOC exams, making them available for acceleration by Fall 2016.
Exams Available

Kindergarten through 8th grade

– Science
– Social Studies
– Language Arts
– Math
High School Exams Available

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<tr>
<th>CTE</th>
<th>ELA</th>
<th>Fine Arts and Speech</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Business Information Management (A/B)</td>
<td>• English 1 (A/B)*</td>
<td>• Art 1 (A/B)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• English 2 (A/B)*</td>
<td>• Communication Applications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• English 3 (A/B)</td>
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<td>• English 4 (A/B)</td>
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*Credit Recovery Only
# High School Exams Available

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health and PE (1 Semester Course)</th>
<th>Languages Other Than English</th>
<th>Languages Other Than English</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Health 1</td>
<td>• French 1 (A/B)</td>
<td>• Mandarin Chinese 1 (Traditional)</td>
</tr>
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<td>• PE 1A: Foundations of Personal Fitness</td>
<td>• French 2 (A/B)</td>
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<td>• PE 1B:</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Bowling/Cycling</td>
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<td>• Bowling/Golf</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Bowling/Racquetball</td>
<td>• Korean 2</td>
<td>• Spanish 2 (A/B)</td>
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<td>• Cycling/Golf</td>
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<td>• Spanish 3 (A/B)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Cycling/Racquetball</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Golf/Racquetball</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
# High School Exams Available

## Mathematics
- Math Models with Applications
- Algebra 1 (A/B)*
- Geometry (A/B)
- Algebra 2 (A/B)
- Pre-Calculus (A/B)

## Science
- Integrated Physics & Chemistry (A/B)
- Biology (A/B)*
- Chemistry (A/B)
- Physics (A/B)

## Social Studies & Economics
- World Geography Studies (A/B)
- World History Studies (A/B)
- U.S. History (A/B)*
- U.S. Government
- Economics

*Credit Recovery Only
Preparing for Exams

- Free, printable study guides are provided on our website
- Exams are aligned with current Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)
- TEKS Format:
  - (Number) – Knowledge and Skill Statement
  - (Letter) – Student expectation
- TEKS Language: Including vs Such As
  - “Including” references content that must be mastered
  - “Such as” illustrates possible examples

http://tea.texas.gov/curriculum/teks/
Example of “Including”

Kindergarten Science TEKS

(7) Earth and space. The student knows that the natural world includes earth materials. The student is expected to:

(B) observe and describe physical properties of natural sources of water, including color and clarity
Example of “Such As”

Kindergarten Science TEKS

(3) Scientific investigation and reasoning. The student knows that information and critical thinking are used in scientific problem solving. The student is expected to:

(B) make predictions based on observable patterns in nature such as the shapes of leaves
Example of Both

Kindergarten Science TEKS

(8) Earth and space. The student knows that there are recognizable patterns in the natural world and among objects in the sky. The student is expected to:

(C) observe, describe, and illustrate objects in the sky such as the clouds, Moon, and stars, including the Sun.
Example of “Including”

8th Grade Social Studies

(17) Government. The student understands the dynamic nature of the powers of the national government and state governments in a federal system. The student is expected to:

(A) analyze the arguments of the Federalists and Anti-Federalists, including those of Alexander Hamilton, Patrick Henry, James Madison, and George Mason; and

(B) explain constitutional issues arising over the issue of states' rights, including the Nullification Crisis and the Civil War.
Example of “Such As”

8th Grade Social Studies

(22) Citizenship. The student understands the importance of effective leadership in a constitutional republic. The student is expected to:

(A) analyze the leadership qualities of elected and appointed leaders of the United States such as George Washington, John Marshall, and Abraham Lincoln; and

(B) describe the contributions of significant political, social, and military leaders of the United States such as Frederick Douglass, John Paul Jones, James Monroe, Stonewall Jackson, Susan B. Anthony, and Elizabeth Cady Stanton.
Preparing for Exams

- Released STAAR Exams
  - State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness
- Reading and Mathematics, grades 3–8
- Writing at grades 4 and 7
- Science at grades 5 and 8
- Social Studies at grade 8
- End-of-course assessments for English I, English II, Algebra I, Biology and U.S. History

http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/staar/
Preparing for Exams

- Reduce test anxiety
- Try not to stress
- Study tips
  - Review TEKS
  - Review Study Guide
  - Try not to go overboard
District Policy

• Each district differs
• Always check with your local school
• Testing Calendar
District Policy

Klein ISD

• Elementary and Intermediate students may accelerate an entire grade level or one core course by taking Credit by Exam (CBE) and scoring 80 on the required assessments. Kindergarten and Grade 1 students must meet the state enrollment requirements before registering for Credit by Exam.
District Policy

Klein ISD

• **High School Credit Courses**  Students may earn credit for high school courses by scoring an 80 or above on a Credit by Exam (CBE). Students must not have prior instruction in the course they are attempting. Credit will be awarded for core high school courses after the student has successfully completed both semester exams.
Benefits of CBES

• Rigor
  – Exams are rigorous and relevant
  – Developed by certified teachers

• Success
  – Aligned with TEKS
  – Shows mastery of material

• Access
  – Allows students to take courses at their academic level

• Completion
  – Can assist in early graduation
Concerns with CBEs

- K-8th grade – students advance to next grade level
- May lead to gaps in knowledge
- High School – pass A but not B
Questions?