

## Foundation High School Program with Endorsements

The Foundation High School Program with endorsements is the graduation program for all Texas public school students entering ninth grade in the 2014–2015 and following school years.

The Foundation Graduation Plan with endorsements is a flexible program that encourages students to pursue their interests. In addition to completing required courses, students are requested to select a coherent sequence of courses that match their interests and include as a part of their graduation plan.

# Texas High School Program Graduation Plans

## The Foundation High School Program with Endorsements

The diploma for the Foundation High School Program with endorsements diploma plan requires at least 26 credits and consists of several parts.

### Foundation Plan (22 credits)

- the core courses of the Texas high school diploma program

### Endorsements (4 or more additional credits)

- acknowledgement(s) a student receives for meeting Foundation Plan requirements and completing a series of additional courses in a particular endorsement area
- five endorsement options

### Enhancements

- **Distinguished Level of Achievement**
  - notes completion of more advanced academic courses and an endorsement
- **Performance Acknowledgment**
  - notes outstanding achievement in specific areas

## Foundation Plan

The 22 credit Foundation Plan coursework includes:

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| • English language arts                  | 4 credits |
| • Mathematics                            | 3 credits |
| • Social studies                         | 3 credits |
| • Science                                | 3 credits |
| • Foreign language                       | 2 credits |
| • Fine arts                              | 1 credit  |
| • PE                                     | 1 credit  |
| • Electives (includes speech and health) | 5 credits |

## Endorsements

Endorsement areas are made up of a series of related courses that are grouped together by interest or skills. Each endorsement area will provide students with in-depth knowledge of a subject area.

### Accessing your account in Career Cruising

Access account at [careercruising.com](http://careercruising.com)

#### Username:

"NBR-" followed by your NBISD student ID#  
(ex. NBR-123456)

#### Password:

Your birthdate  
"mmddyyyy"  
(ex. May 25, 2003 -> 05252003)

## Endorsements

To earn an endorsement, a student must successfully meet the curriculum requirements of the Foundation High School Program *and* earn credits for additional courses as required for a specific endorsement.

### To earn an endorsement, students must complete

- Foundation Plan coursework,
- an additional math credit,
- an additional science credit, and
- a coherent sequence of elective or Career and Technical Education courses that meet the requirements for a specific endorsement.

***A student must earn at least 26 credits to earn an endorsement.***

### New Braunfels ISD students may earn endorsements in the following areas:

- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM)
- Business and Industry
- Arts and Humanities
- Public Services
- Multidisciplinary Studies

Students will be assisted by their counselor to select an area of interest.

***A school district must ensure that each student, on entering ninth grade, indicates in writing an endorsement that the student intends to earn.***

## Career Cruising

NBISD uses a web-based program, Career Cruising, to help students identify their interests, explore options, and build a plan for high school graduation and college and career readiness.

All registered students (grades 2–12) have a personal account in Career Cruising.

### To set up an account in Career Cruising,

- go to [www.careercruising.com](http://www.careercruising.com);
- log in by using "NBR-" followed by your NBISD student ID# as your username;
- use your birthdate in digits as your password;
- create a new password, if you wish; and
- record your new password.

## Developing a Graduation Plan

All students are required to:

complete the interest inventory, *Matchmaker*, in Career Cruising;

-select an endorsement(s) area;

-submit an Endorsement Declaration form; and

-complete a four-year plan of coursework leading to a diploma in the Foundation Plan with endorsement(s).

## Developing a Four-year Plan

In pursuit of a Foundation Plan with endorsement(s) high school graduation diploma, students will complete the activities listed below within one month of entering ninth grade.

- **Interest Inventory (*Matchmaker* in Career Cruising)**

New students should access their accounts in Career Cruising once they have registered at the New Braunfels ISD Ninth Grade Center.

All three sets of questions under *Matchmaker & My Skills* must be completed.

If preferred, further exploration of interests can occur by completing questions under *Ability Profiler* and *Learning Styles Inventory*.

***All of these activities are to be completed by the student at home.***

- **Endorsement Area Selection**

Students should review their *Matchmaker* results, research courses in the New Braunfels ISD High School course catalog, and identify an endorsement area(s).

- **Endorsement Declaration**

Students will meet the counselor shortly after they have enrolled to discuss their endorsement selection and will be provided with a form called an Endorsement Declaration. Students will be asked to record their endorsement selection on the form.

Both parents and students sign and return the Endorsement Declaration form to the Counselor Office at the Ninth Grade Center.

- **Four-year Plan Development**

Students will meet with a counselor in the fall to develop a four-year plan of selected coursework and record in Career Cruising.

## Resources

The following resources can be found through links on the NBISD website: [nbisd.org](http://nbisd.org) >Ninth Grade Center>Course and Career Planning.

- *New Braunfels High School Main Campus and Ninth Grade Center Course Catalog–Foundation Graduation Plans with Endorsements*
- Career Cruising
- Project Graduation

For information on Career and Technical Education course sequencing, go to [nbisd.org/page/cate.homepage2](http://nbisd.org/page/cate.homepage2) >CTE Catalog.