

Credit by Exam for Acceleration

Information for Families

January 22, 2024 from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Boardroom 1 at CSISD Central Office

Cheri Hendrick

Staff Responsible for the Credit By Exam (CBE) Program

Coordinate Testing:

Cheri Hendrick, Director of Assessment & Accountability

Deanne Holmes, Administrative Assistant

Course Selection:

Campus Counselors (Advisor)

Credit by Exam for Acceleration

- Credit by exams without prior instruction are elective tests given for the purpose of skipping a Kindergarten - 5th grade level or individual courses.
 - The student will take the social studies exam first. If the student receives a passing grade of 80% (1st - 5th grade)(Kindergarten 90%) or higher for social studies, the district will then order the next subject exam.
- Credit by exams with prior instruction are for credit recovery and are not covered under this program.

State Requirements

- Provide credit by exam opportunities in each window
 - January 1 - March 31
 - April 1 - June 30
 - July 1 - September 30
 - October 1 - December 31
- Provide exams free of charge for **first attempts** on a CBE
 - CSISD registration deadlines must be met
- Publicize testing opportunities

State Requirements - continued

- Parent permission for testing and acceleration is required.
- A score of 80% or better is required to receive credit in grades 1-12 (90% for Kindergarten).
- Students
 - may not attempt to test out of a course more than two times and
 - may not retest during the same assessment window.
- The district does not cover the cost of retesting. Refer to the [Retest Policy](#) link on the Credit by Exam website.

Who Creates the Exams?

- Two state-approved vendors write and score the exams
 - University of Texas High School
 - Texas Tech University ISD
- College Station ISD orders most credit by exams from University of Texas High School
 - Faster score return
 - Counselor portal for accessing and printing score reports
 - Online testing opportunities

Understanding the Test Design

Exam Items:

- Match the depth and breadth of the TEKS for 100% alignment
- Are kept confidential as required by state policy
- Are developed using subject-specific blueprints
- Are audited by the Texas Education Agency for technical quality

Important Note

- Some exams require that students complete reading and/or project assignments prior to testing.
- It is the responsibility of the student and parent to check the study guides provided by the vendor to ensure any pretest requirements are met.

Credit by Exam Study Resources

Since the district does not write or score the exams, we do not provide [study](#) resources. The following CBE resources are recommended to families and can be found on our website:

- Free, printable study guides provided by the vendors
- Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)
- Released STAAR Exams
- Khan Academy

Most Popular Subject Exams in 2023

Exam	# Administered	# Passed
Math 5	102	54
Algebra II	23	19
Math 6	20	5
Spanish II	18	16
Spanish I	16	10
Geometry	13	8
English IV	13	2

Entire Grade Level Results - 2023

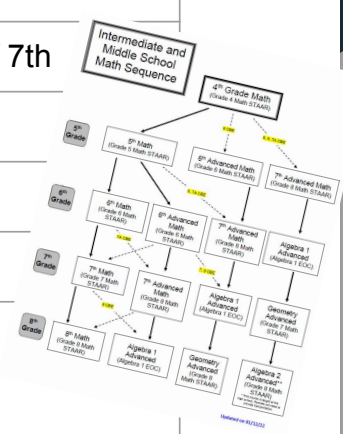
Exams	# Students	# Passed
Entire Elementary Grade Level (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies)	4	0

2023 District Numbers

- 254 students tested
- 281 exams administered
- \$12,375 for exams
- \$860 charged to parents for exams not taken

Advanced Math Sequence Without Credit by Exams

Enrolled Grade	Course	Content
6th grade	Grade 6 Adv Math	All of 6th and roughly half of 7th
7th grade	Grade 7 Adv Math	Remaining 7th and all of 8th
8th grade	Algebra I Advanced	
9th grade	Geometry Advanced	
10th grade	Algebra II Advanced	
11th grade	Pre-Calculus Advanced	
12th grade	AP Calculus (AB or BC)	AB = Calculus I BC = Calculus I and Calculus II



Math Information - Where are courses offered?

Intermediate Schools

- 5th Grade Math
- 6th Grade Math
- 6th Grade Adv Math
- 7th Grade Adv Math
- Algebra I Advanced*

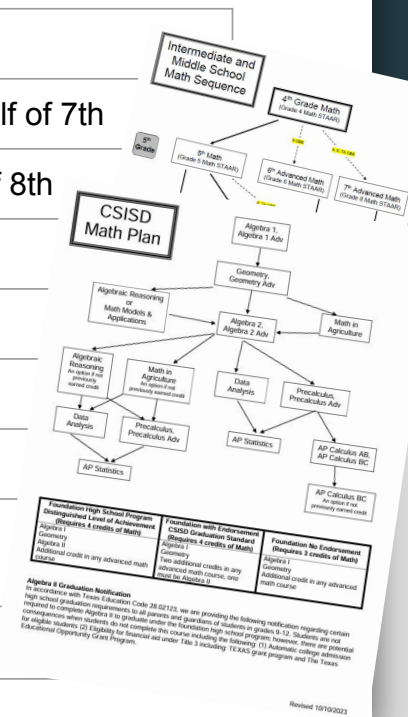
Middle Schools

- 7th Grade Math
- 7th Grade Adv Math
- 8th Grade Math
- Algebra I Advanced
- Geometry Advanced
- Algebra 2 Advanced*

*Not offered on campus; personal transportation to the other campus is the responsibility of the parent/guardian

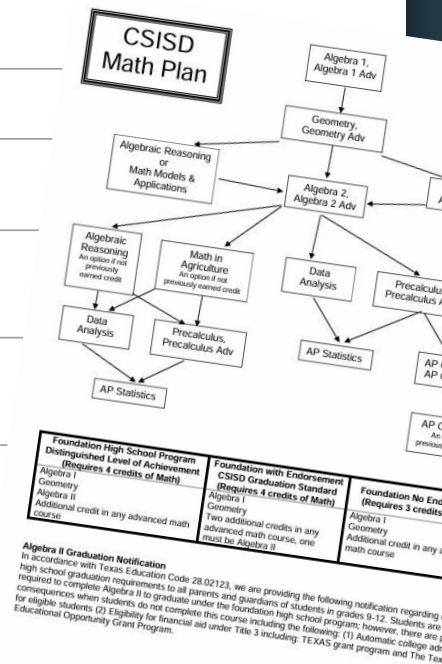
Math Sequence If Test Out of 5th Grade Math

Enrolled Grade	Course	Content
5th grade	Grade 6 Adv Math	All of 6th and roughly half of 7th
6th grade	Grade 7 Adv Math	Remaining 7th and all of 8th
7th grade	Algebra I Advanced	
8th grade	Geometry Advanced	
9th grade	Algebra II Advanced	
10th grade	Pre-Calculus Advanced	
11th grade	AP Calculus (AB or BC)	AB = Calculus I BC = Calculus II
12th grade	Options to follow	



Another Option For 10th-12th If Skip 5th Grade Math

Enrolled Grade	Course	Content
10th grade	Pre-Calculus Advanced	
11th grade	AP Calculus AB	AB = Calculus I
12th grade	AP Calculus BC	BC = Calculus I and II



Process for Registering

1. Determine your exam session. (These can be found on our [Credit by Exam website](#) under Registration and Testing Schedule.)
2. Download the [Parent Permission Form](#). Complete this and give to your campus counselor.
3. The counselor will then review and provide you with the online registration link.*
 - a. Classroom performance, MAP Growth data, acceleration or enrichment.
4. Complete and submit the registration **by the deadline** indicated for each testing session. (Note: Registrations **will not** be processed without the Parent Permission Form.)
5. Exams are ordered after the registration deadline and are non-refundable and non-transferable.
 - a. Once the exam is ordered if you decide not to test, you will be charged for the exam.

Notification of Date and Time of Testing

The vendor will email the student information on how to access the test. Please read and follow all instructions given by the vendor, such as:

- a. Specific software & set-up instructions
- b. Pre-reading assignments
- c. Student must test alone and stay on camera
- d. Showing calculator and scratch paper, as directed
- e. Use the chat feature to update your proctor. Your proctor is there to help, please do not hesitate to ask questions

Example Online Instructions

DIRECTIONS

You were instructed to clear your calculator memory on the allowable materials page. If you have not already done so, please clear it at this time. Hold up the cleared memory screen to your web camera and hold it still for five seconds so that your instructor can review the screen.

Next, hold up each page of your printed scratch paper, graph paper, and formula chart to the webcam. The instructor will need to see the front and back of each page clearly for 5 seconds.

Remember that the UTHS Calculator Policy prohibits the use of certain types of calculators for this exam. For example, calculators with CAS are NOT allowed.

Notification of Date and Time of Testing

CSISD students must follow the CSISD deadlines and windows for completing the exam within each window and you can only test once per window:

- a. Window in statute: October 1 - December 31*
 - i. Deadline to register was October 5, 2023; Must test by December 1
- b. Window in statute: January 1 - March 31*
 - i. Deadline to register was December 1, 2023; Must test by March 7
- c. Window in statute: April 1 - June 30 (*CSISD suggests testing in June*)
 - i. Deadline to register is March 21, 2024; Must test by June 26
- d. Window in statute: July 1 - September 30 (*CSISD only uses July*)
 - i. Deadline to register is May 15, 2024; Must test by July 22

**non-enrolled high school courses only*

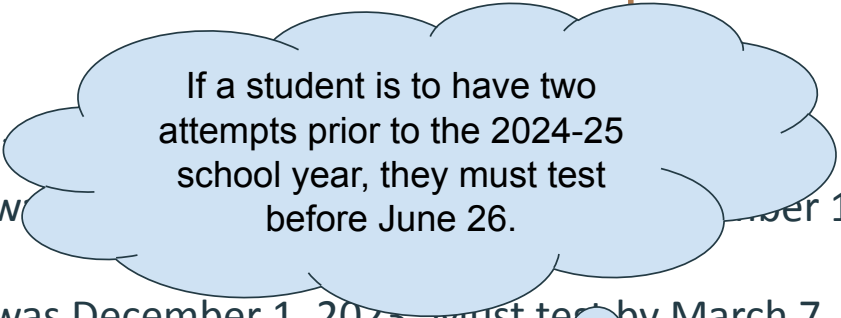
Students are only allowed to test once per window

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- c. April 1 - June 30 (*CSISD suggests testing in June*)
 - i. Deadline to register is March 21, 2024; Must test by June 26
- d. July 1 - September 30 (*CSISD only uses July*)
 - i. Deadline to register is May 15, 2024; Must test by July 22

The May 15 deadline does not apply to retest opportunities. If the required score of 80% or higher is not met on the June test, retest registration is a different process. Please visit the Retest section on the CBE website.

Students are only allowed to test once per window

- a. October 1 - December 31*
 - i. Deadline to register was October 5, 2023; Must test by December 1
- b. January 1 - March 31*
 - i. Deadline to register was December 1, 2023; Must test by March 7
- c. April 1 - June 30 (*CSISD suggests testing in June*)
 - i. Deadline to register is March 21, 2024; Must test by June 26
- d. July 1 - September 30 (*CSISD only uses July*)
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If a student is to have two attempts prior to the 2024-25 school year, they must test before June 26.

The May 15 deadline does not apply to retest opportunities. If the required score of 80% or higher is not met on the June test, retest registration is a different process. Please visit the Retest section on the CBE website.

Students are only allowed to test once per window

Suggested timeline for CBEs needed for your student's 2024-25 course schedule with April - June and July - Sept. windows

April Still in School	May CBE exam information from vendor (finish 23-24 course and begin studying)	June Study and take CBE by June 26
July Second attempt opportunity; test by July 22 so that we can schedule for 2024-25	August School starts and we need results prior to scheduling	September School is in session therefore no schedule changes

If you wait until July to take your first attempt, you cannot retest until the next window which is October 1. This will be too late to adjust your 2024-25 schedule.

Questions for Families to Consider

- How might my child's GPA be affected by taking high school courses at a younger age?

Class of 2026 and before

CBE grades **are not** factored into grade point average (GPA) for any purpose in accordance with [EIC \(local\)](#). The transcribed credit will not be calculated into the student's grade point average (GPA) for ranking purposes.

If the CBE is taken and the 80% or higher is received, the grade will be recorded.

Class of 2027 and after

CBE grades **ARE** factored into grade point average (GPA) for any purpose in accordance with [EIC \(local\)](#). The transcribed credit will be calculated into the student's grade point average (GPA) for ranking purposes.

- Tier 3 (5.0) for CBE

More Questions for Families to Consider

- Credit by exams do not mirror the rigor of the actual course. Will skipping a course be best for my child's education? Is enrichment more appropriate?
- *If your child scores the required 80% (90% for K), the student **will be** accelerated.* If my child's CBE score is 80% (90% for K), might this affect his/her performance in the subsequent course?
- Is my child socially and emotionally mature enough to learn with older students?

More Questions for Families to Consider

- Can my family provide daily transportation if the course is offered on another campus?
- Is my child willing to give up an elective if the course is offered on another campus and travel time affects the schedule?

More information:

CSISD Credit By Exam Guidelines

- [Elementary \(K-4\) Guidelines](#)
- [Secondary \(5-12\) Guidelines](#)

Questions?

Coordinating Testing:

Cheri Hendrick, Director of Assessment & Accountability
chendrick@csisd.org 979-695-7269

Deanne Holmes, Administrative Assistant
aholmes@csisd.org 979-695-7269

Course Selection (Advisor questions):

You child's campus counselors

www.csisd.org/departments/CurriculumandInstruction/credit_by_exam