

400.080. REQUIRED INSTRUCTION AND GRADUATION

The governing body (“Board”) of CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY adopts the following policy, which shall be effective on the date that the policy is adopted by the Board.

Section 1. Compliance

The Superintendent shall ensure that CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY maintains compliance with all state laws and regulations governing curriculum and graduation requirements.

Section 1.2. Pledge of Allegiance.

The principal, or designee, of each campus of CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY shall ensure that CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY maintains compliance with all state laws and regulations governing recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and Texas flags and the regulations governing proper flag display in each classroom in which the pledges of allegiance are recited.

Section 1.3 Observance of Moment of Silence.

The principal, or designee, of each campus of CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY shall ensure that CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY maintains compliance with state law governing the observance of one minute of silence following the recitation of the pledges of allegiance to the United States and Texas flags.

Section 1.4. Commemoration of the Events of September 11, 2001.

The principal, or designee, of each campus of CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY shall ensure that CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY maintains compliance with state law governing the commemoration of the events of September 11, 2001.

Section 1.5. Instruction in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR).

The principal, or designee, of each campus of CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY that serves grades 7 through 12 shall ensure that CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY maintains compliance with the state law and regulations governing instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and that each student receives CPR instruction at least once prior to graduation.

Section 2. Graduation

The Superintendent shall ensure that CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY maintains compliance with all state laws and regulations governing graduation requirements.

Section 2.1 Endorsements.

CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY shall offer the following endorsements:

1. science, technology, engineering and math (STEM)
2. business and industry
3. public services
4. arts and humanities
5. multidisciplinary students

The Superintendent or designee, of CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY, shall implement procedures to ensure that each student of CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY indicates in writing the endorsement the student intends to earn.

Section 2.2 Distinguished Level of Achievement.

The Superintendent or designee, of CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY, shall ensure that CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY offers the curriculum requirements for a student to earn a distinguished level of achievement.

Section 2.3 Performance Acknowledgements.

The Superintendent or designee, of CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY, shall ensure that CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY offers the requirements adopted by the SBOE for a student to earn a performance acknowledgment on his or her diploma.

Section 2.4 High School Graduation Plan.

CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY elects not to develop and administer personal graduation plans.

Section 2.5 Individual Graduation Committee

The Superintendent or designee, of CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY shall establish an Individual Graduation Committee (IGC) for each student who has failed not more than two end-of-course (EOC) assessments, is in their 12th grade year, and has successfully completed at least the Foundation High School Program.

The IGC shall be composed of the following persons:

1. Principal or principal's designee,
2. The teacher of the course for each EOC the student failed;
3. The department chair or lead teacher supervising the teacher described above;
4. The student's parent or guardian; or
5. A designated advocate if the parent or guardian is unable to serve; or
6. The student (at the student's option) if the student is 18 years of age or is emancipated.

The Superintendent shall ensure that CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY maintains compliance with all state laws and regulations governing graduation of a student by means of an individual graduation committee (IGC). The Superintendent shall implement procedures for the establishment of, and graduation determinations made by, an IGC. Such procedures shall include the following:

1. The process by which CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY shall appoint a designated advocate if the parent or guardian of a student is unable to serve on the IGC;
2. The method by which CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY shall provide notice to the parent or guardian of the student or designated advocate, if applicable, of the time, place, and purpose of the IGC;
3. The method by which CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY documents the student's satisfaction of the additional remediation requirements and demonstration of proficiency in the subject matter of the EOC exam failed by the student;
4. The academic criteria considered by the IGC to determine if a student is qualified to graduate;
5. The vote of the IGC on the graduation decision of an individual student; and
6. A timeline for the IGC's determination of the graduation decision.

In addition to criteria required by law to be considered by the IGC, the IGC shall also consider the following academic criteria to determine whether a student is qualified to graduate:

1. Student's participation in review and remediation sessions

Section 3. End-of-Course Assessments

Section 3.1. End-of-Course Exams.

Students shall take end-of-course (EOC) exams for secondary-level courses in Algebra I, Biology, English I, English II and United States History. A student's performance on such assessments shall not be used in determining class ranking or to account for a percentage of the student's final grade for the course.

1. CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY shall not administer more than two benchmark assessment instruments to prepare a student for an end-of-course exam.
2. The principal, or designee, of each campus of CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY, shall implement procedures to ensure that each teacher receives the results of the end-of-course exam administered to students taught by that teacher in the subject for which the exam is administered.
3. The principal, or designee, of each campus of CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY shall ensure that each student who fails to perform satisfactorily on an end-of-course exam receives accelerated instruction in the applicable subject area.

Section 3.2. Texas Success Initiative (TSI).

A student enrolled in a college preparatory Mathematics or English language arts course that satisfies the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) college readiness benchmarks is exempt from the Algebra I or English I and English II end-of-course exams, even if the student did not perform satisfactorily on a previous administration of the applicable end-of-course assessment instrument.

Section 3.3. Retakes.

A student who fails to achieve the requisite score on an end of course exam shall retake the exam.

Section 3.4. Students with Disabilities.

The admission, review, and dismissal committee shall determine the type of assessment to be administered to a student receiving special education services. A parent or guardian of a student with special needs may request administration of additional benchmark assessments.

Section 3.5 Postsecondary Readiness Assessments.

CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY may administer postsecondary readiness assessments in Algebra II and English III for students enrolled in those courses. The results of such assessments shall not be used to determine the student's final course grade, class rank, or for any purpose other than as a measure of the student's readiness for post- secondary education.

Section 4. Local Graduation Requirements

CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY has no local graduation requirements.

Section 5. Notification Regarding Automatic College Admission and Financial Aid

The Superintendent, or designee of CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY, shall ensure that each high school campus operated by CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY, posts signs in the counselor's office, in each principal's office and in each administrative building, the requirements for automatic admission to a Texas public college or university and the curriculum requirements for federal financial aid.

The principal of each high school campus operated by CEDARS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY, shall ensure that each student, at the time the student registers for one or more classes required for high school graduation, receives a notice regarding the requirements for automatic admission to a Texas public college or university and the curriculum requirements for federal financial aid, and shall ensure that the notice is signed by the student's counselor, the student and the student's parent or guardian.

House Bill 5 Graduation Plans

Distinguished Level of Achievement Graduation Plan - 26 credits

Student must fulfill the Graduation requirements of at least 1 of the 5 Endorsements below and successfully complete Algebra II.

Foundation + Endorsement Graduation Plan - 26 credits

STEM	Business & Industry	Public Service	Arts & Humanities	Multidisciplinary
4 English - ELA I, II, III & one advanced English	4 English - ELA I, II, III & one advanced English	4 English - ELA I, II, III & one advanced English	4 English - ELA I, II, III & one advanced English	4 English - ELA I, II, III & one advanced English
4 Math - Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II & one advanced math	4 Math - Algebra I, Geometry & two advanced math	4 Math - Algebra I, Geometry & two advanced math	4 Math - Algebra I, Geometry & two advanced math	4 Math - Algebra I, Geometry & two advanced math
4 Science - Biology, Chemistry, Physics & one advanced science	4 Science - Biology, IPC or Chemistry or Physics & two advanced science	4 Science - Biology, IPC or Chemistry or Physics & two advanced science	4 Science - Biology, IPC or Chemistry or Physics & two advanced science	4 Science - Biology, IPC or Chemistry or Physics & two advanced science
4 Social Studies - World Geography, World History, US History, Government (.5) & Economics (.5)	4 Social Studies - World Geography, World History, US History, Government (.5) & Economics (.5)	4 Social Studies - World Geography, World History, US History, Government (.5) & Economics (.5)	4 Social Studies - World Geography, World History, US History, Government (.5) & Economics (.5)	4 Social Studies - World Geography, World History, US History, Government (.5) & Economics (.5)
2 LOTE or Computer Programming	2 LOTE or Computer Programming	2 LOTE or Computer Programming	2 LOTE or Computer Programming	2 LOTE or Computer Programming
1 Physical	1 Physical	1 Physical	1 Physical	1 Physical
Education 1 Fine	Education 1 Fine	Education 1 Fine	Education 1 Fine	Education 1 Fine
Arts	Arts	Arts	Arts	Arts
.5 Health	.5 Health	Arts	Arts	.5 Health
4 Electives in STEM Pathway	4 Electives in Business & Industry Pathway	.5 Health	.5 Health	4 Electives in Multidisciplinary Pathway
1.5 Additional Electives	1.5 Additional Electives	4 Electives in Public Service Pathway	4 Electives in Arts & Humanities Pathway	5. Additional Electives
		1.5 Additional Electives	1.5 Additional Electives	

Foundation Graduation Plan - 22 credits*

4 English - ELA I - III & one advanced	2 LOTE or Computer Programming
3 Science - Biology, IPC or Chem./Physics & one advanced	1 Physical
Education	
3 Math - Algebra I, Geometry & one advanced	1 Fine Arts
3 Social Studies - World Geography or World History	.5 Health
US History, Government (.5) & Economics (.5) ,	4.5 Electives

*Student can only declare Foundation Plan after sophomore year.

State Assessment(s) Required for Graduation

Performance Acknowledgements

English I Biology
English II US
History Algebra I

- **Outstanding performance:** **Certification:** Nationally or
Dual credit coursework internationally recognized
;Bilingualism, AP, PSAT, SAT and business or industry
ACT certification or license

Section 6 Determination of Grade Point Averages:

Cedars International Academy shall apply the same class rank calculation method and rules for local graduation honors for all students in a graduating class, regardless of the school year in which a student first earned high school credit.

To determine unweighted grade point averages (GPAs), numerical final course grades shall be converted via the established weighting system (Tier 4). Actual grades earned shall be recorded on report cards and official transcripts.

The GPA shall be calculated by totaling the unweighted final course points and dividing by the number of credit courses attempted.

When multiple credit courses are included in computing the GPA, the final course points for that course shall be entered the same number times of credits attempted in the course.

Section 6. 1 Class Rank

Only core courses (all ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies) and final Pathway courses will be included to determine Class Rank. Class Rank shall be calculated by weighted (Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 GPAs). Class rank will be calculated after the 3rd Monday of the Fall and Spring

Semesters.

Final official class rank shall be determined at the end of the senior year after all grades have been calculated.

Section 6. 2. Top Ten Percent

All students whose Class Rank makes up the top ten percent of the graduating class shall be recognized. The GPA shall be reported on the student's transcript and made available in accordance with the application deadline for the college or university when requested by the student.

Section 6. 3 Valedictorian/Salutatorian

The valedictorian and salutatorian shall have completed the credit requirements for the foundation with endorsements distinguished level of achievement program and shall have the highest and second highest Class Ranks. The valedictorian and salutatorian must also have been continuously enrolled at the same District high school (enrolled by the first school day) for the four semesters or six tri semesters immediately preceding graduation and must be full-time students (enrolled in at least four clock hours).

Section 6. 4 Ties

In case of a tie in Class Rank among students, the District staff shall compute the weighted GPA to a sufficient number of decimal places until the tie is broken.

Section 6. 5 Ranking for Early Graduates

A student who completes the high school program requirements in fewer than four years shall be ranked in the class with which he or she actually graduates. Early graduates will have their grade level changed and included in Class Rank after Fall semester of their graduating year.

Section 6. 6 Transfer of Credit

For the purposes of determining GPA, transfer grades from other accredited institutions shall receive weighted credit in accordance with the District’s scale, provided the previous district has the same or comparable course offerings. However, the transfer of International Baccalaureate (IB) courses shall be accepted and weighted under the District’s Tier 2 scale.

Students transferring into the District shall receive the numerical grade that were earned in courses at another accredited institution.

Section 6. 7 Conversion Scale

All letter grades for District-approved courses or transfer grades shall be converted to the following numerical grading scale.

A+ = 98	B+ = 88	C+ = 78
A = 95	B = 85	C = 75
A- = 93	B- = 83	C- = 73

Section 6. 8 Grades Included in Class Rank Calculations

All core courses that are state-approved, are assigned a numerical grade, and can be used for graduation shall be assigned to one of three tiers and shall be used to calculate the weighted GPA to determine class rank.

Section 6. 9 Grade Point System

Class rank and GPA shall be assessed according to the following four-tier scale:

Semester Numerical Grade	Tier 1: Dual Credit Courses	Tier 2: AP/IB Courses	Tier 3: TEKS-Based Courses or Other High School Courses	Tier 4: Unweighted Numerical GPA Grade
100	102	101	100	4.0
99	101	100	99	4.0
98	100	99	98	4.0
97	99	98	97	4.0
96	98	97	96	4.0
95	97	96	95	4.0

94	96	95	94	4.0
93	95	94	93	4.0
92	94	93	92	4.0
91	93	92	91	4.0
90	92	91	90	4.0
89	91	90	89	3.0
88	90	89	88	3.0
87	89	88	87	3.0
86	88	87	86	3.0
85	87	86	85	3.0
84	86	85	84	3.0
83	85	84	83	3.0
82	84	83	82	3.0
81	83	82	81	3.0
80	82	81	80	3.0
79	81	80	79	2.0
78	80	79	78	2.0
77	79	78	77	2.0
76	78	77	76	2.0
75	77	76	75	2.0
74	76	75	74	2.0
73	75	74	73	2.0
72	74	73	72	2.0
71	73	72	71	2.0
70	72	71	70	2.0
Below 70	0	0	0	0.0

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Section 7 Late Work Policy Grades 6-7

Late work fails to invoke professional work ethic from the student; therefore, the following consequences concerning failure to turn in work on time or not at all shall apply to grades based on a 100-point scale:

- Students have an opportunity to submit their work to the teacher at any time before and on the designated due date. The assignment can also be submitted electronically at any time during the due date.
- Work submitted on day 2 will receive a deduction of 10 points.
- Work submitted on day 3 will receive an additional deduction of 10 points.
- Work submitted on day 4 will receive an additional deduction of 5 points.
- Work submitted on Day 5, the maximum grade is 70%
- After 1 week, the student's grade may result in a '0' in the gradebook.

The Board and Staff realize the impact of grade '0', therefore every effort is to be exercised to encourage and motivate students to be prompt in their efforts to get assignments in on time. The Board and Staff also realize there may be extenuation circumstances therefore each situation will be treated on an individual basis.

