## **GRADUATION**

Authorities: 34 CFR Part 300; Texas Education Code; Texas Family Code; 19 TAC Chapters 74, 89, and 101; House Bill 3

Additional	Resources	
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	FEDERAL AND STATE REQUIREMENTS
<u>Practice</u>	Except as specifically provided as follows, graduation with a regular high school diploma terminates a child's eligibility for special education services and:  Citations: 89.1035(a) 89.1070(a) 300.102(a)(3)
Practice	Requires compliance with the <u>SUMMARY OF</u> <u>PERFORMANCE</u> framework; and
<u>Practice</u>	Constitutes a change of placement and requires compliance with the <u>PRIOR WRITTEN</u> <u>NOTICE</u> framework.
<u>Practice</u>	Employability and self-help skills are those skills directly related to the preparation of children for employment, including general skills necessary to obtain or retain employment.  Citations: 89.1070(i)
<u>Practice</u>	Modified curriculum and modified content refer to any reduction of the amount or complexity of the required Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills.  Citations: 89.1070(k)
Practice	Substitutions that are specifically authorized in statute or rule must not be considered modified curriculum or modified content.

	FEDERAL AND STATE REQUIREMENTS
	Citations:
	89.1070(k)
	FOUNDATION HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM
	A child entering grade 9 in the 2014-15 school year and thereafter who receives special education services may graduate and be awarded a regular high school diploma if the child meets the following criteria:
<u>Practice</u>	Citations:  74.12  89.1070(b)(1)  101.3023  TEC 28.025(c)(1)  TEC 39.025
Document	<ul> <li>Demonstrates mastery of the required state standards or local education agency (LEA) standards if they are greater;</li> <li>Citations: 89.1070(b)(1)</li> </ul>
<u>Document</u>	<ul> <li>Satisfactorily completes the credit requirements for graduation under the Foundation High School Program; and</li> <li>Citations: 89.1070(b)(1)</li> </ul>
<u>Document</u>	Achieves satisfactory performance on the required end- of-course assessment instruments.  Citations: 74.1025(n) 89.1070(b)(1) 101.3023(a) TEC 39.025(a-4)
Practice	A child entering grade 9 in the 2014-15 school year and thereafter who receives special education services may also graduate and be awarded a regular high school diploma if the child meets the following criteria:  Citations: 89.1070(b)

	FEDERAL AND STATE REQUIREMENTS
Document	<ul> <li>Demonstrates mastery of the required state standards or LEA standards if they are greater;</li> <li>Citations:</li> </ul>
	89.1070(b)(2)
Document	<ul> <li>Satisfactorily completes the credit requirements for graduation under the Foundation High School Program; butand</li> <li>Citations:</li> </ul>
	89.1070(b)(2)
	The child's admission, review, and dismissal (ARD)     committee has determined that satisfactory     performance on the required and of source assessment.
Document	performance on the required end-of-course assessment instruments is not necessary required for graduation.
	Citations: 89.1070(b)(2)
<u>Practice</u>	A child entering grade 9 in the 2014-15 school year and thereafter who receives special education services may also graduate and be awarded a regular high school diploma if the child meets the following criteria:
	Citations:  74.12  89.1070(b)  101.3023  TEC 28.025(c)(2)  TEC 39.025
Document	Demonstrates mastery of the required state standards or LEA standards if they are greater;  Citations: 89.1070(b)(3)
<u>Document</u>	<ul> <li>Satisfactorily completes the credit requirements for graduation under the Foundation High School Program through courses, one or more of which contain modified curriculum that is aligned to the standards applicable to general education;</li> <li>Citations:</li> </ul>

	FEDERAL AND STATE REQUIREMENTS
	89.1070(b)(3)
Document	<ul> <li>Achieves satisfactory performance on the required end- of-course assessment instruments, unless the child's ARD committee has determined that satisfactory performance on the required end-of-course assessment instruments is not necessary required for graduation; and</li> </ul>
	Citations:  74.1025(n)  89.1070(b)(3)  101.3023(a)  TEC 39.025(a-4)
<u>Document</u>	Successfully completes the individualized education program (IEP) and meets one of the following conditions:
	Citations: 89.1070(b)(3)
<u>Document</u>	<ul> <li>Consistent with the IEP, has obtained full-time employment, based on the child's abilities and local employment opportunities, in addition to mastering sufficient self-help skills to enable the child to maintain the employment without direct and ongoing educational support of the LEA;</li> </ul>
	Citations: 89.1070(b)(23)(A)
<u>Document</u>	<ul> <li>Consistent with the IEP, has demonstrated mastery of specific employability skills and self- help skills that do not require direct ongoing educational support of the LEA; or</li> </ul>
	Citations: 89.1070(b)(23)(B)
Document	Where Eemployability and self-help skills are those skills directly related to the preparation of children for employment, including general skills necessary to obtain or retain employment.

	FEDERAL AND STATE REQUIREMENTS
	<u>Citations:</u> 89.1070(i)
<u>Document</u>	<ul> <li>→ Has access to services that are not within the legal responsibility of public education or employment or educational options for which the child has been prepared established by the academic program through transition planning:</li></ul>
<u>Document</u>	→ No longer meets age eligibility requirements.  Citations: 89.1070(b)(3)(D) 89.1035
<u>Practice</u>	A child receiving special education services may earn an endorsement by:  Citations: 74.12 74.13 89.1070(c) TEC 28.025(c-7)
Document	Satisfactorily completing, with or without modification of the curriculum:      Citations:     89.1070(c)(1)     TEC 28.025(c-7)(1)
Document	<ul> <li>The curriculum requirements for graduation under the Foundation High School Program;</li> <li>Citations:         <ul> <li>89.1070(c)(1)</li> <li>TEC 28.025(c-7)(1)(A)</li> <li>TEC 28.025(a)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	FEDERAL AND STATE REQUIREMENTS
	<ul> <li>The additional credit requirements in</li> </ul>
	mathematics, science, and elective courses; and
<u>Document</u>	Citations:
	74.13(e) 89.1070(c)(1)
	TEC 28.025(c-7)(1)(B)
	TEC 28.025(c-2)
	<ul> <li>Satisfactorily completing the courses required for that</li> </ul>
	endorsement:
Document	Citationes
Document	Citations: 74.13(f)
	89.1070(c)(2)
	TEC 28.025(c-7)(2)
	<ul> <li>Without modification of the curriculum for those</li> </ul>
	courses; or
<u>Document</u>	Citationa
	Citations: 89.1070(c)(2)
	TEC 28.025(c-7)(2)(A)
	<ul> <li>With modification of the curriculum for those</li> </ul>
	courses, provided that the curriculum as
	modified, is sufficiently rigorous as determined by
<u>Document</u>	the child's ARD committee.
	Citations:
	89.1070(c)(2)
	TEC 28.025(c-7)(2)(B)
	The ARD committee of a child in a special education
	program will determine whether the child is required to
	achieve satisfactory performance on an end-of-course
Demonstra	assessment instrument to earn an endorsement on the
Document	child's transcript.
	Citations:
	89.1070(c)(3)
	TEC 28.025(c-8)
<u>Document</u>	A child who is classified in grade 11 or 12 who has taken each
	of the required state assessments but failed to achieve
	satisfactory performance on no more than two of the

	FEDERAL AND STATE REQUIREMENTS
	assessments is eligible to receive an endorsement if the child
	meets the other requirements for an endorsement.
	Citations: 89.1070(b)(1);(d) 89.1070(d)
	TRANSITION TO THE FOUNDATION HIGH SCHOOL
	PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN WHO ENTERED GRADE 9 BEFORE THE 2014-15 SCHOOL YEAR
	A child transitioning to the Foundation High School Program
	who is classified in grade 11 or 12 who has taken each of the
	required state assessments but failed to achieve satisfactory
	performance on no more than two of the assessments may
	graduate if the child has satisfied all other applicable
	graduation requirements.
<u>DocumentPractice</u>	Citations: 89.1070(b)(1); (d) 101.3022(f)(1)A child receiving special education services who entered grade 9 before the 2014-15 school year may graduate and be awarded a high school diploma under the Foundation High School Program, if the child's ARD committee determines that the child should take courses under that program and the child satisfies the requirements of that program.  Citations: 89.1070(e) TEC 28.025(e)(1)
<u>Practice</u>	A child who is 21 years of age on September 1 of a school year receiving special education services who did not meet the credit, curriculum, and assessment requirements under the Foundation High School Program, is not eligible to receive a diploma but may receive a certificate of attendance and participate in a graduation ceremony with students receiving high school diplomas.  Citations: 89.1070(e) TEC 28.025(f)e)(1)

	FEDERAL AND STATE REQUIREMENTS
<u>Practice</u>	A child transitioning to the Foundation High School Program may earn an endorsement if the child meets the
	requirements for an endorsement.
	Citations:  89.1070(c) (d)  89.1070(e)
<u>Document</u>	A child transitioning to the Foundation High School Program who is classified in grade 11 or 12 who has taken each of the required state assessments but failed to achieve satisfactory performance on no more than two of the assessments may graduate if the child has satisfied all other applicable graduation requirements.
	Citations:  89.1070(e) 101.3022(f)(1)
	SUBSTITUTIONS UNDER THE FOUNDATION HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM
Document	A child, who due to a disability, is unable to complete two credits in the same language in a language-other-than-English (LOTE), may substitute a combination of two credits from English language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies or two credits in career and technical education, technology applications, or other academic electives for the LOTE credit requirements if the ARD committee determines that the child is unable to complete the LOTE credit requirements.
	Citations: 74.12(b)(5)(D)(ii) TEC 28.025(b-14)(1)
<u>Document</u>	A child who is unable to participate in physical activity due to a disability or illness may substitute one credit in English language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, a locally-designed course that meets the state criteria for substitution under state law, or one academic credit elective for the physical education (PE) credit requirement if the ARD

	FEDERAL AND STATE REQUIREMENTS
	committee determines that the child is unable to participate
	in physical activity.
	Citations:
	74.12(b)(6)(G)(i) TEC 28.025(b-11)
	A credit allowed to be substituted for LOTE or PE credit may
	not be used to satisfy any other graduation credit
	requirement.
<u>Practice</u>	
	Citations:
	TEC 28.025(b-11)
	TEC 28.025(b-14)
	DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT, RECOMMENDED, AND MINIMUM HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS
	A child receiving special education services who entered
	grade 9 before the 2014-15 school year may graduate and be
	awarded a regular high school diploma if the childA summary
	of academic achievement and functional performance must
	be provided prior to exit from public school for children who
Practice	meet one of the following conditions:
	Citations:
	89.1070(f)
	101.3023 TEC 28.025(c)(1)
	TEC 39.025
	Demonstrates mastery of the state standards or LEA
	standards if they are greater;
<u>Document</u>	
	Citations:
	89.1070(f)(1)  Satisfactorily completes credit requirements for
	Satisfactorily completes credit requirements for  graduation under the recommended or distinguished.
	graduation, under the recommended or distinguished achievement high school programs; and
Document	achievenient high school programs, and
	Citations:
	89.1070(f)(1)

	FEDERAL AND STATE REQUIREMENTS
<u>Document</u>	<ul> <li>Achieves satisfactory performance on the required state assessments; or-</li> </ul>
	Citations: 89.1070(f)(1)
	<ul> <li>Is 21 years of age on September 1 of a school year; or</li> </ul>
Document	<u>Citations:</u>
	89.1070(f)(1)
<u>Document</u>	A child who is classified in grade 11 or 12 who has taken each of the required state assessments but failed to achieve satisfactory performance on no more than two of the assessments is eligible to graduate under the recommended or distinguished achievement high school program if the child meets all other applicable graduation requirements.  • Has met requirements for graduation specified in subsection (b)(2) or (b)(3)(A), (B), or (C), of this section. Additionally, a child meeting this condition is entitled to an evaluation as described in 300.305(e)(1).  Citations: 89.1070(f)(2) 101.3022(f)(1)
<u>Document</u>	300.305(e)(1)  The summary of performance described above must include recommendations on how to assist the child in meeting the child's postsecondary goals.  Citations: 89.1070(g)
<u>Document</u>	The summary must also consider, as appropriate, the views of the parent and child and written recommendations from adult service agencies on how to assist the child in meeting postsecondary goals.  Citations: 89.1070(g)
<u>Practice</u>	A child receiving special education services who entered grade 9 before the 2014-15 school year may also graduate and be awarded a regular high school diploma if the

	FEDERAL AND STATE REQUIREMENTS
	child:who meets graduation requirements and who will
	continue enrollment in public school to receive special
	education services aligned with their transition plan will be
	provided the summary of performance upon exit from the
	public school system. These students are entitled to
	participate in commencement ceremonies and receive a
	certificate of attendance after completing four years of high
	school.
	Citations:
	89.1070( <u>h<del>f)(3</del>)</u>
	101.3023 TEG 20.025
	TEC 39.025 TEC 28.025(c)(1)
	Demonstrates mastery of the state standards or LEA
	standards if they are greater; For students who graduate and
	receive a diploma, the ARD committee must determine
	needed special education services upon the request of the
Document	parent or child to resume services, as long as the child is
	between the ages of 3-21 years old.
	zetireen the ages of s 2. years oral
	Citations:
	89.1070(j <del>f)(3</del> )
	<ul> <li>Satisfactorily completes credit requirements for</li> </ul>
	graduation, under the minimum high school program;
Document	<del>and</del>
	Citations
	<del>Citations:</del> <del>89.1070(f)(3)</del>
	Participates in or satisfactorily performs on the required
	state assessments, as determined by the ARD
	committee.
<u>Document</u>	Citations:
	74.1025(n)
	89.1070(f)(3)
	101.3023(a)
	TEC 39.025(a-4)

	FEDERAL AND STATE REQUIREMENTS
<u>Practice</u>	A child receiving special education services who entered
	grade 9 before the 2014-15 school year may also graduate
	and be awarded a regular high school diploma if the child:
	Citations:  89.1070(f)(4)  101.3023  TEC 28.025(c)(2)  TEC 39.025
	Demonstrates mastery of the state standards or LEA
	standards if they are greater through courses, one or
	more of which contain modified content that is aligned
<del>Document</del>	to the standards required under the minimum high
	school program;
	Citations: 89.1070(f)(4)
	Satisfactorily completes credit requirements under the
	minimum high school program;
<del>Document</del>	
	<del>Citations:</del> 89.1070(f)(4)
	Participates in or satisfactorily performs on the required
	state assessments, as determined by the ARD
	committee; and
Document	Citations:
	74.1025(n)
	89.1070(f)(4)
	101.3023(a)
	TEC 39.025(a-4)
<u>Document</u>	<ul> <li>Successfully completes the IEP and meets one of the following conditions:</li> </ul>
	Tollowing conditions.
	Citations:
	89.1070(f)(3)
<u>Document</u>	Consistent with the IEP, has obtained full-time
	employment, based on the child's abilities and
	local employment opportunities, in addition to
	mastering sufficient self-help skills to enable the

	FEDERAL AND STATE REQUIREMENTS
	child to maintain the employment without direct
	and ongoing educational support of the LEA;
	Citations:
	89.1070(g)(4)(A)
	Consistent with the IEP, has demonstrated
Document	mastery of specific employability skills and self-
	help skills that do not require direct ongoing
<u>Bocument</u>	educational support of the LEA;
	Citations:
	89.1070(g)(4)(B)
	→ Has access to services that are not within the
	legal responsibility of public education or
	employment or educational options for which the
Document	child has been prepared by the academic
<u>Bocument</u>	<del>program; or</del>
	Citations:
	89.1070(g)(4)(C)
	→ No longer meets age eligibility requirements.
Document	Citations:
	<del>89.1035</del>
	89.1070(f)(4)(D)
_	CHILDREN ELIGIBLE TO RETURN TO SCHOOL AFTER
	GRADUATING .
	A child who meets the <u>AGE RANGE FOR ELIGIBILITY</u> may
	return to school as long as the child was awarded a diploma
	that met the following conditions:
<del>Practice</del>	Citations:
Tractice	89.1035(a)
	89.1070(b)(3)(A)-(C)
	89.1070(f)(4)(A)-(C)
	<del>89.1070(j)</del>
	<ul> <li>The child was required to successfully complete the</li> </ul>
Dog 44	<del>child's IEP; and</del>
<u>Practice</u>	Citations
	<del>Citations:</del> 89.1070(b)(3)(A)-(C)
	<del>02.1070(0)(3)(1) (€)</del>

	FEDERAL AND STATE REQUIREMENTS
	89.1070(f)(4)(A)-(C)
	<del>89.1070(j)</del>
	<ul> <li>The child was required to:</li> </ul>
	Citations
<b>Practice</b>	Citations: 89.1070(b)(3)(A)-(C)
	89.1070(f)(4)(A)-(C)
	89.1070(j)
	<ul> <li>Obtain full-time employment, based on the child's</li> </ul>
	abilities and local employment opportunities, in
	addition to mastering sufficient self-help skills to
	enable the child to maintain the employment
<del>Practice</del>	without direct and ongoing educational support
Fractice	of the LEA;
	Citations:
	89.1070(b)(3)(A)-(C)
	89.1070(f)(4)(A)-(C)
	89.1070(j)
	<ul> <li>Demonstrate mastery of specific employability</li> </ul>
	skills and self-help skills that do not require direct
	ongoing educational support of the LEA; or
<u>Practice</u>	
	Citations: 89.1070(b)(3)(A)-(C)
	89.1070(f)(4)(A)-(C)
	89.1070(j)
	→ Have access to services that were not within the
<u>Practice</u>	legal responsibility of public education or
	employment or educational options for which the
	child has been prepared by the academic
	<del>program.</del>
	Citations
	<del>Citations:</del> 89.1070(b)(3)(A)-(C)
	89.1070(f)(4)(A)-(C)
	89.1070(j)
<u>Practice</u>	The ARD committee must determine the needed educational
	services upon the request of the child or parent to resume
	services.

	FEDERAL AND STATE REQUIREMENTS
	Citations:
	89.1070(j)
	CERTIFICATES OF ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION IN GRADUATION CEREMONIES
<u>Practice</u>	The LEA must issue a certificate of attendance to the child who has completed four years of high school but has not completed the IEP.
	Citations: TEC 28.025(f)
<u>Practice</u>	The LEA must allow the child who receives a certificate of attendance to participate in a graduation ceremony with children receiving high school diplomas.
	Citations: TEC 28.025(f)
<u>Practice</u>	The child may participate in only one graduation ceremony to receive a certificate of attendance.
	Citations: TEC 28.025(f)
<u>Practice</u>	The child who receives a certificate of attendance is not prevented from receiving a diploma if the child completes the IEP.
	Citations: TEC 28.025(f)
	FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION REQUIREMENT
<u>Practice</u>	Beginning with children enrolled in grade 12 during the 2021- 22 school year:
	Citations: HB 3 Sec. 5.001(c)(2019)
<u>Practice</u>	<ul> <li>Before graduating from high school, each child must complete and submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or a Texas Application for State Financial Aid (TAFSA).</li> </ul>
	Citations: TEC 28.0256(a)

	FEDERAL AND STATE REQUIREMENTS
<u>Practice</u>	<ul> <li>The child is not required to submit the FAFSA or the TAFSA if:</li> <li>Citations:</li> </ul>
	TEC 28.0256(b)
<u>Document</u>	<ul> <li>The child's parent or other person standing in parental relation submits a signed form indicating that the parent or other person authorizes the child to decline to complete and submit the financial aid application;</li> </ul>
	Citations: TEC 28.0256(b)(1)
<u>Document</u>	<ul> <li>The child signs and submits the form on the child's own behalf if the child is 18 years of age or older or the child's disabilities of minority have been removed for general purposes; or</li> </ul>
	Citations: <u>TEC 28.0256(b)(2)</u> <u>TX Family Code Ch. 31</u>
<u>Document</u>	<ul> <li>A school counselor authorizes the child to decline to complete and submit the financial aid application for good cause, as determined by the school counselor.</li> </ul>
	Citations: <u>TEC 28.0256(b)(3)</u>
Document	<ul> <li>The LEA must adopt a form to be used for purposes of documenting the waiver to submit the FAFSA or TASFA, and the form must be:</li> </ul>
	Citations: <u>TEC 28.0256(c)</u>
Document	<ul> <li>Approved by the Texas Education Agency; and</li> </ul>
	Citations: TEC 28.0256(c)(1)
Document	<ul> <li>Made available in English, Spanish, and any other language spoken by a majority of the children</li> </ul>

	FEDERAL AND STATE REQUIREMENTS
	enrolled in a bilingual education or special
	language program in the district or school.
	Citations: <u>TEC 28.0256(c)(32)</u>
<u>Document</u>	If a school counselor notifies an LEA whether a child has complied with the financial aid application requirement, the school counselor may only indicate whether the child has complied with this section and may not indicate the manner in which the child complied.
	Citations:
	<u>TEC 28.0256(d)</u>

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