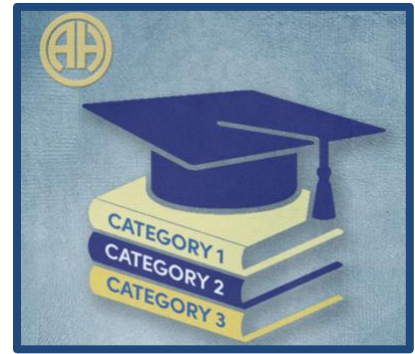


Class of 2028 and Beyond

AHISD Class Rank and Course Multiplier Updated Policy



The landscape for college admissions is rapidly changing, and AHISD is taking responsive action to ensure our students are competitive during the college application process and well-prepared once accepted into college.

At the April 17, 2024, AHISD School Board Meeting, Trustees approved changes to the method used to calculate weighted GPA and the reporting of class rank beginning with the class of 2028 (students entering grade nine in the 2024-2025 school year). The intent of the change is to ensure a fair and rigorous class ranking methodology and allow students to select courses and pathways of study based on their individual interests and aptitudes.

Consistent Application for Graduating Class

The District shall apply the same class rank calculation method and rules for local graduation honors (e.g., cum laude, etc.) for all students in a graduating class, regardless of the school year in which a student first earned high school credit.

Weighted Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA)

The all-inclusive weighted cumulative GPA shall be calculated for all high school students and shall appear on all student transcripts. The calculation of the student's cumulative GPA shall include grades earned in all eligible courses taken for high school credit.

Weighted Rank in Class Grade Point Average (RIC)

Rank in Class (RIC) shall be determined using only specific high school credit courses limited to courses in English, math, science, and social studies which the Texas Education Agency has identified as eligible to count as a graduation credit. A list of those courses within these content areas that will be included in the calculation of Rank in Class (RIC) will be included in the official AHHS course guide.

Courses Excluded in both Weighted Cumulative GPA and Rank in Class GPA

The calculation of Rank in Class (RIC) shall maintain the same exclusions that are in current policy:

- High school courses taken before 9th grade (i.e., Algebra I in 8th grade).
- Non-district online courses (i.e., Texas Tech online high school courses) or correspondence courses.
- Credit recovery programs.
- Courses for which a pass/fail grade is assigned.
- Night school courses.
- Courses taken outside of the United States that are not IB courses or courses from a Department of Defense school.
- Summer school courses not taken in the District.
- Credit by examination, with or without prior instruction.

The Rank in Class (RIC) calculation shall not include semester grades from a course that is retaken after a passing grade has been earned, and the new grade shall not be recorded on the transcript (same as current policy).

Top 10% Automatic Admission Based on Rank in Class

Rank in class for purposes of identification of the top 10% and automatic admission to Texas public universities shall be based solely on Rank in Class (RIC) GPA which is based on core classes only. A numeric class rank shall only be calculated for and communicated to students in the top 10% of each graduation cohort. For each student in the top 10%, the student's specific numeric rank out of the specific total class size will be recorded on the student's transcript. Class rank will not be recorded on student transcripts for students not in the top 10%. Valedictorian, Salutatorian, and Top Ten Students in the class shall be determined by RIC since it is a rank in class graduation honor.

Notification of Rank in Class Top 10%

Following each designated calculation period, students who are in the top 10% of their class will be informed of their precise class rank via both email and US mail, in line with administrative guidelines. Additionally, after each calculation period, the minimum weighted Rank in Class GPA for students within the top 6% (or other specified UT threshold), the top 10%, and each of the first, second, and third quartiles will be shared with the entire class through email and by posting on the counseling website. With the implementation of the complete policy change, class rank information will no longer be accessible in the Home Access Center (HAC for any AHHS students current or future).

In Grade 9: June publication of minimum weighted Rank in Class GPA for students within the top 6% (or other specified UT threshold), the top 10%, and each of the first, second, and third quartiles

In Grade 10: September, January, and June- Counselors email and mail letters to students with a weighted core-only Rank In Class (RIC) in the top 10% of the class. January and June- Communication of lowest weighted Rank in Class GPA for students within the top 6% (or other specified UT threshold), the top 10%, and each of the first, second, and third quartiles

In Grade 11: September, January, and June- Counselors email and mail letters to students with the weighted core-only Rank In Class (RIC) in the top 10% of the class. January and June- Communication of lowest weighted Rank in Class GPA for students within the top 6% (or other specified UT threshold), the top 10%, and each of the first, second, and third quartiles

In Grade 12: September, January, and June- Counselors email and mail letters to students with the weighted core-only Rank in Class (RIC) in the top 10% of the class. January and June- Communication of weighted Rank in Class GPA distributions for students within the top 6% (or other specified UT threshold), the top 10%, and each of the first, second, and third quartiles

The final class rank for seniors will be established after the last nine-week grading period of the senior year underscoring the significance of the entire senior year. The recognition of the Top Ten students in the class, determined by their Rank in Class, will be announced during the graduation ceremony instead of at the Senior Awards event.

Numeric class rank (e.g., 4/405) will continue to be printed on transcripts of students in the top 10%. Class rank shall not be included on the transcripts of students outside of the top 10%.



Example of Updated Transcript

Class Rank would only be printed on transcripts of students in the top 10% of the cohort.

Birth Date: 8/19/2002	Phone: (210) 123-4567
Student ID: 100000	Grade: 12
Parent Guardian: Example Example	Gender: F
Graduation Program Type: Foundation High School Program	
DATE of RANKING: 1/14/2021	
Type	GPA
Cumulative GPA All Classes	101.67
Rank In Class GPA- Core Classes Only	102.35
Top 10% Rank In Class Core Classes Only	38 / 385

Example of GPA Distribution Chart

The grade distribution chart is for informational purposes only and to be shared with AHHS Parents and Students via email. The GPA Distribution Chart will not be included on the AHHS Campus Profile or shared publicly.

GPA Distribution for Class of 2021		
AHHS does not provide class rank beyond the top 10%. AHISD provides a distribution of Rank in Class GPA cut score based on core classes only for informational purposes.		
Automatic Admission Top 6% Rank in Class (RIC)	Only Core Classes	107.4944 - 104.3526
Automatic Admission Top 10% Rank in Class (RIC)	Only Core Classes	107.4944 - 102.3289
1st Quarter	Only Core Classes	107.4944 - 98.2778
2nd Quarter	Only Core Classes	98.2565 - 94.7759
3rd Quarter	Only Core Classes	94.7625 - 90.1060

Credit By Exam

Students can be awarded high school credit for taking and passing a cumulative course exam from Texas Tech University.

- 80% passing score without prior instruction
- 70% passing score with prior instruction (credit recovery)

Grades earned through Credit by Exam are not included in Rank in Class or Cumulative GPA methodology.

Course Exclusion Contract

For the class of 2027 only, a student shall be permitted to choose one course each year and exclude the corresponding semester grades from the calculation of class rank. The student's choice shall be restricted to the list of exclusion-eligible courses and must be made prior to the start of the course, in accordance with administrative regulations. The Superintendent shall annually review and update as necessary the list of eligible courses. Currently, this list includes fine arts, PE, and athletics courses. Note: This course exclusion option was previously a policy that only applied to Cohort of 2027. The new policy for class of 2028 and beyond makes course exclusion contract a moot point since class rank will now be based only on core courses.

2024-2025 Courses Included in Rank in Class Top 10% Beginning with Graduation Cohort 2028

(Includes only courses currently approved by the School Board and offered during the school year at AHHS. Updated each year)

English

- English I, English I Advanced, English I Advanced GT,
- English II, English II Advanced, English II Advanced GT,
- English III, English III Dual Credit Freshman Composition I and II, English III AP English Language and Composition
- English IV, English IV Dual Credit British Literature I and II, English IV AP English Literature & Composition
- Modified English I, II, III, IV
- Alternate English I, II, III, IV

Note: While state guidelines may allow Creative Writing and Debate to count towards the English credit requirement for graduation, we are not endorsing these subjects as part of the core curriculum for determining Rank in Class at AHHS, given their traditional status as elective options for students.

Math

- Algebra I, Algebra I Advanced
- Geometry, Geometry Advanced or Geometry Advanced GT
- Algebra II, Algebra II Advanced or Algebra II Advanced GT
- Algebra III
- Algebraic Reasoning
- Statistics, AP Statistics
- Precalculus, AP Precalculus
- AP Calculus AB
- AP Calculus BC
- Modified Algebra I, Algebraic Reasoning, Geometry
- Alternate Algebra, Geometry, Math Models

Science

- Biology, Biology Advanced or Biology Advanced GT
- AP Biology
- Chemistry, Chemistry Advanced, or Chemistry Advanced GT
- AP Chemistry
- Physics
- UT OnRamps Physics
- AP Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism
- Environmental Systems
- AP Environmental Science
- Food Science
- Forensic Science
- Astronomy
- Anatomy and Physiology
- Alternate Biology

Social Studies

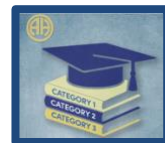
- World Geography, AP Human Geography
- World History, AP World History
- US History, AP US History
- US Government, AP US Government
- Economics, AP Macroeconomics
- AP European History
- Alternate World Geography, World History, US History, US Government, Economics

Note: While state guidelines may allow Psychology and Sociology to count towards the social studies credit requirement for graduation, we are not endorsing these subjects as part of the core curriculum for determining Rank in Class at AHHS, given their traditional status as elective options for students.

Languages Other than English

In AHISD, while we strongly support the learning of languages, World Language courses are excluded from the core-only Rank in Class methodology due to a variety of considerations. Students in Spanish Immersion and Dual Language Programs earn three World Language high school course credits in Junior School, and other students can achieve up to two World Language credits during the same period. We intend to omit Junior School grades from the Rank in Class methodology to prevent an imbalance. This prevents a scenario where some students complete levels I-III of a World Language without it affecting their Rank in Class, unlike their counterparts who take these levels in high school, where the grades are factored into Rank in Class.





Updated Numeric Course Weights (Multiplier)

Purpose

The rationale for weighting courses differently in AHISD is fundamentally linked to the varying levels of rigor and expectations across different course levels. This system acknowledges that certain courses mirror the expectations of college-level studies, demanding not just a deeper academic understanding but also a stronger work ethic and interdisciplinary knowledge. By differentiating these courses through weighting, AHISD recognizes and encourages the heightened intellectual engagement they require, aligning with our commitment that each student will graduate from AHISD with a competitive edge from a personally challenging academic program prepared to positively impact the world.

A multiplier is a numeric course weight that is “multiplied” to the earned grade to generate a final weighted course grade that is used in compute the final grade point average for each student. The multiplier is not applied at the student level but rather at the course level. The actual grade a student earns because of their performance on class assignments and assessments is published on individual progress reports, report cards, and the transcript.

The High School Registrar takes the current list of multiplier courses and applies the course weight (multiplier) to each course as a part of the GPA methodology. The resulting weighted GPA for each student is printed on transcripts and used to determine AHHS class rank. See example below.

Course Name and Level	Earned Grade Based on class assignments and assessments	Course Weight- Multiplier	Weighted Grade Used to compute weighted GPA
Advanced English I	90	1.1	99

The AHISD Board of Trustees places all courses on the designated list of courses eligible for multiplier weights. This list is published in the AHHS Academic Planning Guide and the AHISD Grading Guidelines. Criteria for placement on the designated list include alignment with current courses on designated list, prerequisite requirements, complexity of course content, time and labor intensity, and established course rigor.

Course Category Weights

Category I Multiplied by 1.00

Category II Multiplied by 1.10

Category III Multiplied by 1.13



Transition to 3-Category System

The grading and ranking systems for upcoming high school graduation cohorts will be implemented as follows:

- Students in the 2024-2027 graduation cohorts will continue to be graded and ranked using the 2-Category Multiplier System. This ensures consistency for students who have started their high school education under this system.
- The 2028 graduation cohort will be the inaugural group for the new 3-Category System.

As we transition from the 2-Category to the 3-Category System, there will inevitably be students from various graduation years in the same classes who will have different multiplier systems applied to their grades. However, this divergence in multipliers will not affect class rankings, as all students within the same graduation cohort will be evaluated using the same Multiplier Category System.



AHISD Weighted Course List Graduation Cohorts of 2028 and Beyond

	Category I 1.00 Multiplier	Category II 1.10 Multiplier	Category III 1.13 Multiplier
English	*English I, II, III, IV *Modified English I, II, III, IV *Alternate English I, II, III, IV All English Electives	*Adv. English I *Adv. English II	*AP English III Language *AP English IV Literature *DC English III Freshman Comp I/II *DC English IV British Literature I/II
Math	*Algebra I, II, III *Algebraic Reasoning *Geometry *Statistics *Precalculus *Modified Algebra I, Alg. Reasoning, Geometry *Alternate Algebra, Geometry, Math Models	*Adv. Algebra I *Adv. Geometry *Adv. Algebra II *DC College Algebra: Algebra II (2025)	*AP Pre-Calculus *AP Calculus AB *AP Calculus BC *AP Statistics
Social Studies	*World Geography *World History *US History *US Government/ *Economics (1 semester) Sociology (1 semester) All Other Social Science Electives	*DC US History I/II (2026) *DC Texas Government (1 semester) (2027) *DC Federal Gov't (1 semester) (2027) *DC Macroeconomics (1 semester) (2027) DC Psychology (1 semester) (2026) DC Intro to Sociology (1 semester) (2026)	*AP Human Geography *AP World History *AP U.S. History *AP U.S. Government *AP Macroeconomics *AP Microeconomics (Inactive) *AP European History AP Psychology (1 semester)
Science	*Biology I *Chemistry *Physics *Environmental Systems *Food Science *Forensic Science *Astronomy *Anatomy and Physiology *Alternate Biology All Science Electives	*Adv. Biology I Advanced *Adv. Chemistry Advanced *Adv. Physics Advanced *Adv. Physics I/II: UT OnRamps *DC College Biology for Non-Science Majors I/II (2027)	*AP Biology *AP Chemistry *AP Physics C: Electricity *AP Physics: Mechanical *AP Environmental Science
World Languages	Spanish I, II, III, IV, V, VI French I, II, III, IV Latin I, II, III, IV All World Languages Electives	Adv. Spanish I, II, III Adv. Latin I, II, III Advanced Adv. French I, II, III Advanced	AP Spanish Language and Culture AP Spanish Literature and Culture AP Latin IV AP French Language and Culture DC Spanish
Fine Arts	DC Art Appreciation (2025) All Fine Arts Electives		AP Music Theory AP 3-D Art and Design AP 2-D Art & Design AP Drawing AP Art History AP Art History (Inactive)
Career and Technical Education	DC College Transition (1 semester) DC Prof. Communication (1 semester) DC Principles of Marketing (Incubator) (2026) All Career and Technical Electives	DC Teach Program Level III DC/Adv. Rocketry Level III (2026) DC/Adv. Business Mgmt. (Accelerator) (2027)	AP Comp. Science Principles AP Computer Science A DC Teach Program Level IV: Practicum DC/Adv. Rocketry Level IV: Engineering I (2027)

* Denotes courses included in Rank in Class GPA used to calculate top 10% of the graduation cohort and eligibility for automatic admission to Texas public universities.

Dates in parenthesis are the proposed year the course will first be offered at AHHS in the fall of the year listed.



AHISD Weighted Course List

Graduation Cohorts of 2025, 2026 and 2027

	Category I 1.00 Multiplier	Category II 1.10 Multiplier
English	English I, II, III, IV Modified English I, II, III, IV Alternate English I, II, III, IV All English Electives	AP English III Language AP English IV Literature DC English III Freshman Comp I/II DC English IV British Literature I/II Adv. English I, II
Math	Algebra I, II, III Algebraic Reasoning Geometry Statistics Precalculus Modified Algebra I, Alg. Reasoning, Geometry Alternate Algebra, Geometry, Math Models	AP Pre-Calculus AP Calculus AB AP Calculus BC AP Statistics Adv. Algebra I, II Adv. Geometry
Social Studies	World Geography World History US History US Government/ Economics (1 semester) Sociology (1 semester) All Other Social Science Electives	AP Human Geography AP World History AP U.S. History AP U.S. Government AP Macroeconomics AP Microeconomics (Inactive) AP European History AP Psychology (1 semester)
Science	Biology Chemistry Physics Environmental Systems Food Science Forensic Science Astronomy Anatomy and Physiology Alternate Biology All Science Electives	AP Biology AP Chemistry AP Physics C: Electricity AP Physics: Mechanical AP Environmental Science Adv. Biology Advanced Adv. Chemistry Advanced Adv. Physics Advanced Adv. Physics I/II: UT OnRamps
World Languages	Spanish I, II, III, IV, V, VI French I, II, III, IV Latin I, II, III, IV All World Languages Electives	AP Spanish Language and Culture AP Spanish Literature and Culture AP Latin IV AP French Language and Culture Adv. Spanish I, II, III Adv. Latin I, II, III Advanced Adv. French I, II, III Advanced
Fine Arts	All Other Fine Arts Electives	AP Music Theory AP 3-D Art and Design AP 2-D Art & Design AP Drawing AP Art History AP Art History (Inactive)
Career and Technical Education	All Other Career and Technical Electives	AP Comp. Science Principles AP Computer Science A

Additional Updates Related to Class Rank and Multiplier

Advanced Placement Exams

The District will continue provide open enrollment to all high school students for Advanced Placement (AP) courses. Teachers and counselors will continue to make course recommendations based upon standardized test data, previous course grades, and previous course performance.

Beginning in 2024-2025, all students who are enrolled in an AP course will be required to take the AP examination for the course. The District may pay the AP test fee for a student based on financial hardship upon written application by the student, parent, or guardian. Failure to take the required AP exam will have a substantial impact on exam exemptions and final course grade. All students in AP courses who fail to take the required AP examination will receive a grade of zero for their AHISD semester exam grade. There will continue to be a make-up date for AP exams in accordance with College Board policies.

Top Ten Graduates

The District will continue to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of the Top Ten graduates within each graduation cohort. The Top Ten graduates will be identified based upon their Rank in Class GPA after the final grades for the 8th semester of senior year have posted. These students will now be recognized at the Alamo Heights Graduation Ceremony each spring when all grades and exams are finalized rather than at Senior Awards.

Valedictorian and Salutatorian

The Valedictorian and Salutatorian shall be the eligible students with the highest and second-highest ranking based on Rank in Class (RIC) GPA, respectively. To be eligible for this local graduation honor, a student must have been continuously enrolled in the District high school for the four semesters immediately preceding graduation. The student meeting the local eligibility criteria for recognition as the Valedictorian shall also be considered the highest-ranking graduate for purposes of receiving the honor graduate certificate from the state of Texas.

Breaking Ties

In case of a tie in weighted numeric Rank in Class (RIC) grade averages, the District shall compute the weighted numeric grade average to the fourth decimal place to determine recognition as Valedictorian or Salutatorian. If the tie is not broken after applying this method, the District shall recognize all students involved in the tie as sharing the honor and title.

Honor Graduates

The District shall recognize as a Cum Laude honor graduate each student who has earned a weighted numeric Rank in Class (RIC) grade point average of 95.00-99.99 and has been continuously enrolled in the District high school for the two semesters immediately preceding graduation.

The District shall recognize as a Magna Cum Laude honor graduate each student who has earned a weighted numeric Rank in Class (RIC) grade average of 100.00-102.99 and who has been continuously enrolled in the District high school for the two semesters immediately preceding graduation.

The District shall recognize as a Summa Cum Laude honor graduate each student who has earned a weighted numeric Rank in Class (RIC) grade average of 103.00 and above and who has been continuously enrolled in the District high school for the two semesters immediately preceding graduation.

