

**A Report
on
Exemption of Courses
Related to Eligibility for
Extracurricular Activities**

**A Report to the 86th Texas Legislature
from the Texas Education Agency
January 1, 2019**

**Submitted to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the House of
Representatives, and the members of the 86th Texas Legislature**

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Senate Bill 1517, passed by the 80th Texas Legislature in 2007, amended Subsections (c) and (d) of the Texas Education Code (TEC), §33.081 regarding advanced or honors classes and added Subsection (d-1) to read as follows:

(d-1) Subsections (c) and (d) do not apply to an advanced placement or international baccalaureate course, or to an honors or dual credit course in the subject areas of English language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, economics, or a language other than English. The agency shall review on a biennial basis courses described by this subsection to determine if other courses should be excluded from the requirement that a student be suspended from participation in an extracurricular activity under Subsection (c). Not later than January 1 of each odd-numbered year, the agency shall report the findings under this subsection to the legislature.

The requirement that a student be suspended from participation in an extracurricular activity after a grade evaluation period in which the student received a grade lower than the equivalent of 70 on a scale of 100 is commonly referred to as the “No Pass, No Play” requirement. TEC, §33.081(d-1) outlines courses that are exempt from this requirement.

In May 2008, the State Board of Education (SBOE) adopted an amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 74, Curriculum Requirements, Subchapter C, Other Provisions §74.30, Identification of Advanced Courses, that modified the definition of advanced courses and aligned the rule with amended TEC, §33.081, which narrowed the number of courses that may be exempt from “No Pass, No Play” requirements.

In accordance with TEC, §33.081, the amendment to 19 TAC §74.30 changed references from “advanced” courses to “honors” courses throughout the rule, including the section title. TEC does not include fine arts in the list of honors and dual credit courses that are eligible for exemptions; therefore, fine arts courses other than College Board advanced placement courses and International Baccalaureate courses were removed from the list in administrative rule. In addition, language was added to explain that districts are neither required to nor restricted from considering courses as honors for the purpose of grade point average calculation. Section 74.30 of the TAC is provided in Appendix I.

The SBOE continues to review and revise the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) by subject on a schedule approved by the SBOE. The review and revision schedule is included in Appendix II. To date, the SBOE has adopted and implemented revisions to all subjects except health education and physical education. As part of the review and revision process, high school TEKS review committees appointed by the SBOE are asked to make recommendations regarding additional high school courses that should be considered for exemption.

In April 2017, the SBOE adopted amendments to the science TEKS to streamline the scope of these standards. Streamlined TEKS for high school science courses were implemented beginning with the 2018-2019 school year. Streamlining included a reduction in the content required to be mastered by students during an instructional year or prior to a relevant summative state assessment, when applicable. Streamlining is intended to produce fewer and clearer standards that are teachable in the time allotted without diluting the rigor of the standards. High school science courses were reduced in scope and the changes were not significant enough to warrant changes to science courses eligible for exemption. The SBOE is

scheduled to begin a full revision of the science TEKS in 2019. As part of the review and revision, high school TEKS review committees appointed by the SBOE will be asked to make recommendations regarding additional high school science courses that should be considered for exemption.

The SBOE adopted revised TEKS for elementary and middle school English and Spanish language arts and reading in spring 2017 for implementation beginning with the 2019-2020 school year. The SBOE adopted revised TEKS for high school English language arts and reading courses in June 2017 for implementation beginning with the 2020-2021 school year. As part of the review and revision process for English language arts and reading, high school TEKS review committees appointed by the SBOE were asked to make recommendations regarding additional high school courses that should be considered for exemption. The high school TEKS review committees indicated that the current list of English language arts and reading courses that qualify for exemption are still appropriate and did not recommend additional courses for consideration.

The SBOE adopted amendments to the social studies TEKS in November 2018 to streamline the scope of these standards. Streamlined high school social studies courses will be implemented beginning with the 2019-2020 school year. Like science, streamlining of the social studies TEKS included a reduction in the content required to be mastered by students during an instructional year or prior to a relevant summative state assessment, when applicable. High school social studies courses were reduced in scope, but the changes were not significant enough to warrant changes to social studies courses eligible for exemption.

The SBOE is scheduled to begin review and revision of the health education and physical education TEKS in spring 2019. Health and physical education are not among the subjects specified in statute to be reviewed regarding exclusion from the requirement that a student be suspended from participation in an extracurricular activity after earning a grade lower than the equivalent of 70 on a scale of 100.

Appendix I

§74.30. Identification of Honors Courses.

- (a) The following are identified as honors classes as referred to in the Texas Education Code, §33.081(d)(1), concerning extracurricular activities:
- (1) all College Board advanced placement courses and International Baccalaureate courses in all disciplines;
 - (2) English language arts: high school/college concurrent enrollment classes that are included in the "Community College General Academic Course Guide Manual (Part One)";
 - (3) Languages other than English: high school/college concurrent enrollment classes that are included in the "Community College General Academic Course Guide Manual (Part One)," and languages other than English courses Levels IV-VII;
 - (4) Mathematics: high school/college concurrent enrollment classes that are included in the "Community College General Academic Course Guide Manual (Part One) " and Precalculus;
 - (5) Science: high school/college concurrent enrollment classes that are included in the "Community College General Academic Course Guide Manual (Part One)"; and
 - (6) Social studies: Social Studies Advanced Studies, Economics Advanced Studies, and high school/college concurrent enrollment classes that are included in the "Community College General Academic Course Guide Manual (Part One)."
- (b) Districts may identify additional honors courses in the subject areas of English language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, economics, or a language other than English for the purpose of this section, but must identify such courses prior to the semester in which any exemptions related to extracurricular activities occur.
- (c) Districts are neither required to nor restricted from considering courses as honors for the purpose of grade point average calculation.

Source: The provisions of this §74.30 adopted to be effective September 1, 1996, 21 TexReg 4311; amended to be effective September 1, 1998, 23 TexReg 5675; amended to be effective June 23, 2008, 33 TexReg 4883.

Appendix II - Proposed TEKS and Instructional Materials Review and Adoption Schedule

Subject	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
*E & S Language Arts and Reading	<u>K-8 IM Reviewed</u> Issue Proc. 2020	<u>K-8 IM Adopted</u> HS IM Reviewed	<u>K-8 TEKS and IM Implemented</u> HS IM Adopted	<u>HS TEKS and IM Implemented</u>						<u>TEKS Reviewed</u>	<u>Revised TEKS Adopted</u> K-8 IM Reviewed	<u>K-8 TEKS and IM Implemented</u> HS IM Reviewed
*Science		<u>Streamlined TEKS Implemented</u>	<u>TEKS Reviewed</u> Issue Proc. 2022	<u>Revised TEKS Adopted</u> IM Reviewed	<u>IM Adopted</u>	<u>Revised TEKS and IM Implemented</u>						
Social Studies	<u>TEKS Reviewed</u>	<u>Streamlined TEKS Adopted</u>	<u>Streamlined TEKS Implemented</u>				<u>TEKS Reviewed</u> Issue Proc. 2026	<u>Revised TEKS Adopted</u> IM Reviewed	<u>IM Adopted</u>	<u>Revised TEKS and IM Implemented</u>		
*Math					<u>TEKS Reviewed</u> Issue Proc. 2024	<u>Revised TEKS Adopted</u> IM Reviewed	<u>IM Adopted</u>	<u>Revised TEKS and IM Implemented</u>				
*Fine Arts								<u>TEKS Reviewed</u> Issue Proc. 2027	<u>Revised TEKS Adopted</u> IM Reviewed	<u>IM Adopted</u>	<u>Revised TEKS and IM Implemented</u>	
Health/PE		<u>TEKS Reviewed</u> Issue Proc. 2021	<u>Revised TEKS Adopted</u> IM Reviewed	<u>IM Adopted</u>	<u>Revised TEKS and IM Implemented</u>							
Tech Apps				<u>TEKS Reviewed</u> Issue Proc. 2023	<u>Revised TEKS Adopted</u> IM Reviewed	<u>IM Adopted</u>	<u>Revised TEKS and IM Implemented</u>					
LOTE										<u>TEKS Reviewed</u> Issue Proc. 2029	<u>Revised TEKS Adopted</u> IM Reviewed	<u>IM Adopted</u>
Other		<u>ELPS Reviewed</u>	<u>ELPS Adopted</u> Pre-K Systems Reviewed	<u>Pre-K Systems Adopted</u>	<u>Pre-K Systems Implemented</u>							<u>ELPS Reviewed</u>
CTE			<u>STEM and Health Science TEKS Reviewed</u> <u>STEM and Health Science TEKS Adopted</u>	<u>Arts/A/V/Comm. and IT TEKS Reviewed</u> <u>Arts/A/V/Comm. and IT TEKS Adopted</u>	<u>Hospitality/Tourism and Human Services TEKS Reviewed</u> <u>Hospitality/Tourism and Human Services TEKS Adopted</u>	<u>STEM and Health Science Implemented</u> <u>Manufacturing and Architecture/Construction TEKS Reviewed</u> <u>Manufacturing and Architecture/Construction TEKS Adopted</u>	<u>Arts/A/V/Comm. and IT Implemented</u> <u>Educ./ Training, Govt/Pub Admin. and LPSCS TEKS Reviewed</u> <u>Educ./ Training, Govt/Pub Admin. and LPSCS TEKS Adopted</u>	<u>Hospitality/Tourism and Human Services Implemented</u> <u>AFNR and TDL TEKS Reviewed</u> <u>AFNR and TDL TEKS Adopted</u>	<u>Manufacturing and Architecture/Construction Implemented</u> <u>STEM and Health Science TEKS Reviewed</u> <u>STEM and Health Science TEKS Adopted</u>	<u>Educ./ Training, Govt/Pub Admin. and LPSCS Implemented</u> <u>Business Mgmt./Admin., Finance, and Marketing TEKS Reviewed</u> <u>Business Mgmt./Admin., Finance, and Marketing TEKS Adopted</u>	<u>AFNR and TDL Implemented</u> <u>Arts/A/V/Comm. and IT TEKS Reviewed</u> <u>Arts/A/V/Comm. and IT TEKS Adopted</u>	<u>STEM and Health Science Implemented</u> <u>Manufacturing and Architecture/Construction TEKS Reviewed</u> <u>Manufacturing and Architecture/Construction TEKS Adopted</u>

*Including CTE courses as appropriate

June 2017

LPSCS = Law, Public Safety, Corrections, & Security
 AFNR = Agriculture, Food, & Natural Resources
 TDL = Transportation, Distribution, & Logistics