

2021-2022



Livingston Junior High
Course Description Guide

Vision Statement

LISD is committed to children's success by making their needs our priority.

Ad Vitam Paramus

"We are preparing for life"

School Song

Hail, Livingston High School, Hats off to you,
Ever you'll find us loyal and true;
Firm and undaunted always we'll be
Hail to the school we love,
Here's a toast to thee.

School Colors

Green and White

School Website

www.livingstonisd.com

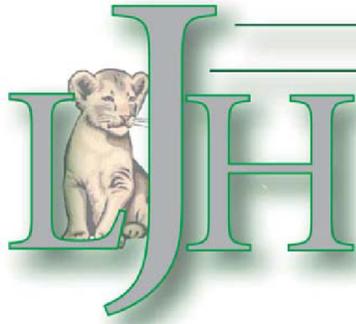
LIVINGSTON JUNIOR HIGH
COURSE CATALOG
2021-2022

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS
1801 Hwy 59 Loop North
Livingston, TX 77351
(936) 328-2120 (936) 328-2139 fax

Livingston Junior High Administration PrincipalJared Nettles
Associate PrincipalJanie Snyder
Assistant PrincipalWilliam Woods
Assistant Principal.....Denise Tucker

Livingston Junior High Counseling and Guidance

Counselor.....Robbie Vinson
Counselor's Secretary/Registrar.....Carol Cardona



Dear LJH Students and Parents,

The Livingston Junior High Counseling Department welcomes students and families to the academic planning process for the 2021-2022 school year.

It is an exciting time to welcome back returning and new students into our LJH family as the time to begin planning for the 2021-2022 school year has arrived. The purpose of this letter is to provide parents and students some important information regarding the course selection process.

Here at Livingston Jr. High, we hope to offer a variety of electives that will fit every student's interests and needs. This Course Selection Guide will provide details of what can be expected for each class. Please take care in selecting what classes are best for you. We ask that you mark alternative choices for electives as some electives may change as qualified staff to teach them are made available. It is best practice to visit with your parents, teachers, and counselor for guidance to insure you make the best selections possible. Parent involvement in the selection process often results in higher satisfaction rates for the student and limits the request for schedule changes. Next year's teacher hiring decisions are based on what courses students select now, a schedule change request next year may not be granted.

The information in this booklet contains LJH information on course planning for Junior High and High School, STAAR information, registering for classes, course descriptions and other information that is beneficial to students. Additionally, it covers academic policies and procedures for the 2021-2022 school year.

The school counseling program provides services that promote the academic, career, and social development for all students. Our goal is to empower students to reach their maximum potential and become caring, productive, and responsible citizens.

We look forward to the wonderful things that next year brings and opportunities that will foster college readiness and career development. Parents please let us know if we can assist you with anything you may need help with throughout this process and any others. Student success is our number one priority.

Sincerely,
Livingston Junior High Counseling Department

Index

LJH Three Year Planner	5
STAAR State Assessments.....	6
Registering for Next Year's Classes.....	6
Credit by	
Examination.....	7
Special Programs	8
Extracurricular Programs	10
Eligibility for Interscholastic Competition	12
Course Offerings	
❖ 6 th	13
❖ 7 th	16
❖ 8 th	21
College Prep Checklist	
❖ 7 th	27
❖ 8 th	28
Preparing for High	
School.....	29

STAAR ASSESSMENTS

The state of Texas requires that students in grades 6-8 are required to achieve a level of Approaches Grade level or above on the state assessments each year. Students will take assessments such as the STAAR, in the following subjects:

Junior High STAAR Exams	
6 th Grade	Math
	Reading
7 th Grade	Math
	Reading
8 th Grade	Math
	Reading
	Science
	Social Studies
	Algebra 1 EOC (If they are taking Algebra 1 for high school credit upon completion of the course.)

Successful performance on the reading and math assessments in grade 8 is required by law in order for the student to be promoted to the next grade level. If a student is taking Algebra 1 as an 8th grader they must pass the Algebra 1 EOC to graduate from high school.

Registering for Next Year’s Classes

This bulletin serves as an overview of students’ requirements for promotion, including course descriptions. This bulletin also outlines procedures for changing courses and possible consequences of changes.

Students will select courses for the next school year during the spring semester. It is important that students review this booklet with parents and/or guardians and consider the following:

- ❖ Regular or Advanced classes (including GT)
- ❖ Electives
- ❖ 8th graders earning high school credit
- ❖

Requests for Schedule Change

Request for changes will only be accepted during the first two weeks of a semester based on availability of classes and discretion of the counselor. No schedule changes request will be accepted after the second week of each semester.

Classes are designed and created for the school year depending upon class requests taken in the spring of the previous year. If a student does not turn in a class request form, they will be assigned electives by the administration. Whether these assigned electives can be changed, depends solely on class size and availability in the fall.

NOTE: Eighth grade athletes that do not return a schedule request form requesting Athletics will not automatically be placed in Athletics. It is not assumed that because a student was in Athletics in 7th grade he/she will want it in 8th grade. Therefore, when the fall season begins a student may experience a delay in having a schedule changed to Athletics and risk the possibility of missing the first game.

Counselor Contact Information

If you should have any questions or concerns about these courses, please contact the counseling office at 936-328-2120 ext. 6014. The counseling office fax number is 936-328-2360.

Credit By Examination

Registration & Testing Schedule for 2021-2022

June 1-4, 2021 - Registration Deadline is May 14, 2021

August 2-4, 2021 - Registration Deadline is June 11, 2021

All registration must be completed and submitted to the counselor office at least 30 days prior to the published testing dates. Some additional dates will be provided during each semester to accommodate testing of new students.

Procedures: In order to receive credit in a course, a student shall:

- ❖ Obtain information from the counselor.
- ❖ Complete the application with parent approval, as applicable.
- ❖ Receive approval from the campus principal or designee.

For Acceleration

The State Board of Education (SBOE) provides that school districts offer students the opportunity to pass certain courses through credit by examination. The high school credit by examination for acceleration program is for a highly capable student who feels he or she already possesses the knowledge and skills taught in an academic subject and who has not previously received instruction in that subject. See the counselor for specific information about courses and requirements.

Performance Criteria for Acceleration: To receive credit for the course, the student must score an 80 percent or higher on the district's designated criterion-referenced test covering the requirements in Chapters 74 and 75 of the Texas Administrative Code and District objectives of the course.

Granting and Recording Credit: Test scores will be posted to the Academic Achievement Record (transcript) or Cumulative Folder and credit will be awarded for grades of 80 or higher. No advanced course designations will be given.

Special Programs

Gifted/ Talented (G.T.)

Students are selected for the K-12 program based on their instructional needs. All students in grades Kindergarten, 2nd and 4th grades are screened each year. Screening is done in the spring of the school year. Students in grades 1st, 3rd, and 5-12 are screened on an individual basis as a result of nomination. Screening will occur once a semester. However, a student may only be tested once a year. Students may be nominated by parents, teachers, counselors, administrators, or by the student himself/herself. A “student profile” will be used to identify students for the program. Criteria to be used on the profile will include: student ability, gifted characteristics identification, creativity test, and cognitive abilities. Students are offered a choice of classes to serve as their GT enrichment opportunity. Students will be required to take two of the approved courses each year in order to remain in the GT program. Appropriate courses are decided by the District Committee. Courses will include advanced studies in the core classes, as well as at least one course that is offered to only GT students.

Special Education

Students experiencing difficulties in school may be referred for services in special education. Before a student can receive special education and/or related services for the first time a S.I.P. meeting - (Student Intervention & Planning Team) must be held. Then, if warranted, an initial evaluation may be conducted. Decisions regarding the provisions of special education services are made by an Admission, Review, and Dismissal (ARD) committee. If a student is determined to be eligible for services in accordance with the Texas Education Agency guidelines, an individualized education plan is developed. Instructional settings may include (a) general education classroom with accommodations, (b) resource classroom, (c) self-contained classroom, or (d) FACES class. Related services necessary for the student to benefit from special education may also be provided with appropriate evaluation.

Students with Disabilities–Section 504

The Rehabilitation Act of 1973, reauthorized in 2008, commonly referred to as “Section 504,” is a non-discrimination statute enacted by the United States Congress. The purpose of the Act is to prohibit discrimination and to ensure that students with disabilities have educational opportunities and benefits equal to those provided to other students. An eligible student under Section 504 is a student who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits them in a major life activity such as learning, self-care, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, reading, concentrating, breathing, working and performing manual tasks. See the campus 504 Coordinator for more information about services for qualifying students.

Dyslexia

The purpose of the dyslexia program is to identify and intervene with students having difficulty with reading, writing, or spelling in order to help them learn strategies to compensate and to become successful readers. The program is designed for trained specialists to provide alternative learning strategies to those students with development reading disorders. The basic curriculum for LJH's dyslexia program is the Dyslexia Intervention Program. Instruction is given in the Reading Improvement class which replaces an elective course. Our Dyslexia teacher works closely with regular education teachers and special program teachers in order to provide an appropriate education for dyslexic students. Students must be identified prior to receiving services.

English As A Second Language

For students whose first language is a language other than English, the native language serves as a foundation for English language acquisition. Cognitive skills transfer from one language to another, and students will apply these skills and other academic proficiency to the second language. The following general proficiency levels are: Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced and Advanced High. Literacy development across the content areas builds academic skills in a second language and accelerates the learning of both English language skills and higher-order thinking skills.

Advanced Academics Enrollment Information

The purpose of the advanced coursework is to equip all middle school students with the strategies and tools they need to succeed in active, high-level learning, thereby ensuring that every student develops the skills, habits of mind, and concepts they need to succeed in college.

Advanced courses are based on the following two important premises: the first is the expectation that all students can perform at rigorous academic levels. This expectation is reflected in curriculum and instruction throughout the school such that all students are consistently being challenged to expand their knowledge and skills to the next level. The second important premise of advanced courses is the belief that we are preparing every student for higher intellectual engagement by starting the development of skills and opportunity to help all students acquire the knowledge, concepts, and rigor needed to engage in a higher level of learning.

LJH is deeply committed to equitable access to rigorous academic experiences. We are committed to the principle that all students deserve an opportunity to participate in rigorous and academically challenging courses and programs. All students who are prepared and willing to accept the challenge of a rigorous academic curriculum will be given the opportunity for advanced courses.

Summer School

Livingston Junior High School Summer School is offered to 8th grade students in Reading and Math. Information will be sent out to all students in the spring. For more information, please contact your student's counselor.

Summer school is a state requirement for any student who does not successfully pass all sections of their grade level STAAR test. The Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (STAAR) test is given during the spring of each school year.

Extracurricular Programs

At Livingston Junior High School, we believe that a strong relationship between students and staff promotes a strong self-image and confidence to maintain excellence in life. These relationships help to promote student success in all areas of their life, therefore supporting the premise of teaching the total child. This belief is supported by research which shows that students highly involved in school activities tend to be more successful academically than those students who are not. Livingston Junior High School, therefore, provides a wide range of extracurricular activities to appeal to all student interests.

Athletics

The sports in which a student may participate are basketball, football, track and field, and volleyball. Each sport has guidelines specifically designed to enhance the performance of its student athletes. Involvement is voluntary; therefore, students are expected to follow rules developed by the Athletic Department. The student, in order to participate in any athletic program, must have the following documentation on file and updated yearly: completed physical form, pertinent medical history, acknowledgement of UIL rules, emergency procedure card, and insurance information.

Band

Band membership is open to students with a desire to experience and learn how to play a musical instrument. Students rehearse daily during class. During the fall semester, students perform at various holiday concerts. During the spring semester, students participate in UIL Solo and Ensemble, Concert, and Sight-reading contests. The Junior High band will attend some Junior High football games. Eighth graders participating in high school marching band will be required to practice after school with the High School band program.

Cheerleading

Livingston Junior High cheerleaders are responsible for promoting school spirit. They cheer at various games and pep rallies, and paint spirit signs throughout the year. Tryouts are held in the spring of each school year. Candidates must meet the qualifications in the cheerleader guidelines available from the sponsor. Practices are held after school.

Choir

Choir is a visible performing group. In addition to developing musical skills, singing enhancements, and vocal technique, choir teaches life-long skills such as team work, commitment, and responsibility. The Concert Choir competes in TMEA and UIL events as well as various concerts and performances throughout each semester.

National Junior Honor Society

National Junior Honor Society is an honor that is open to all students at Livingston Junior High that meet the requirements of scholarship, leadership, service, character, and citizenship. You must have an overall average in your core classes of a 93 or above, plus additional qualifications. A formal induction for those students qualifying is held in May.

Drill Team

Drill Team is designed to teach students a variety of dance techniques in a range of choreographed dances. Students work together helping others learn dances as well as assist in improving knowledge and expression of dance skills. Throughout the year, students will perform at Livingston Junior High football games, basketball games, pep rallies, and other outside events. In addition, students will also work together as a team in organizing and participating in fundraising events during the school year. Drill Team is open to any student who is interested and willing to attend practices and games.

Student Council

The Livingston Junior High Student Council is a distinguished and enjoyable organization designed to serve the school and the community. Students involved in the organization have an excellent opportunity to take an active role in becoming a leader at Livingston Junior High. Goals of Student Council include promotion of the following: citizenship, scholarship, leadership, human relations, and cultural values. The student council members are involved in community service projects in the fall and spring semesters, along with sponsoring school activities. Members consist of elected officers and class representatives. Livingston Junior High Student Council is for all students dedicated to serving their school and community.

Theater Arts

Theater Arts is a visible performing group. In addition to developing acting skills to portray characters students will also be given opportunities to learn to construct meanings from improvised and scripted scenes from theater, film, television and electronic media productions.

UIL Academic Events

The UIL Academic Meet is held in the spring of each year. Students in grades 6-8 may participate. Tryouts and practices begin in the fall. Events include ready writing, spelling, listening skills, modern oratory, oral reading, impromptu speaking, science, number sense, mathematics, calculator, and maps, graphs, and charts.

ELIGIBILITY FOR INTERSCHOLASTIC COMPETITION

Students in grades 7 through 12 may participate in extracurricular activities on-campus or off-campus at the beginning of the school year only if they have earned the cumulative number of

credits in state-approved courses as indicated below, with the exception of special education students whose status is defined by the ARD committee and their own IEP's.

- ❖ Beginning in 7th grade and continuing through 8th and 9th grade: must have been promoted from previous grade, not placed.
- ❖ Beginning the second year of high school (Grades 9 through 12): must have earned five (5) state credits.
- ❖ Beginning in the third year of high school: must have earned ten (10) state credits or must have earned five (5) state credits during the preceding 12 months.
- ❖ Beginning in the fourth year of high school: must have earned 15 state credits or must have earned five (5) state credits during the preceding 12 months.

Credits earned in summer school or in correspondence may be used to determine eligibility.

A student who fails a level course with a grade lower than 70, becomes ineligible seven (7) days after the last day of the six-weeks period during which the grade lower than 70 was earned. A student who fails an advanced or AP level course must complete an eligibility waiver request with the principal. Students may regain eligibility if the student is passing all classes at the three-week progress report.

Students who assist the sponsor or coach, such as student manager, must meet all academic eligibility requirements even though they do not participate in the performance or contest.

A student receiving a course grade of "I" (Incomplete, pending completion of required work) is considered ineligible until the "I" is replaced with a passing grade for that grading period.

6th Grade Required Course Offerings

The courses in this section are available to current 5th grade students who are coming 6th graders. Students will select courses in each of the required areas (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies, P.E, and Odyssey).

English Language Arts (ELA)

ELA 6 (0630) – 2 Semesters

In grade 6, students refine and master previously learned knowledge and skills in increasingly complex presentation, reading selections, and written compositions. The course uses the writing process to produce different forms of writing while varying sentence structure and using complex punctuation. Students edit writing based on knowledge of grammar, usage, spelling, punctuation, and other conventions of written language. Students use knowledge of Greek and Latin roots and prefixes and suffixes in reading. Students recognize how style, tone, and mood contribute to the effect of the text.

Advanced ELA 6 (0633) – 2 Semesters

In grade 6, students refine and master previously learned knowledge and skills in increasingly complex presentation, reading selections, and written compositions. The course uses the writing process to produce different forms of writing while varying sentence structure and using complex punctuation. Students edit writing based on knowledge of grammar, usage, spelling, punctuation, and other conventions of written language. Students use knowledge of Greek and Latin roots and prefixes and suffixes in reading. Students recognize how style, tone, and mood contribute to the effect of the text. This course is designed to prepare students for advanced courses in high school. This is in addition to grade-level expectations in regular ELA classes.

Advanced ELA GT 6 (0635) – 2 Semesters

This course is designed for currently identified GT students only. In grade 6, students refine and master previously learned knowledge and skills in increasingly complex presentation, reading selections, and written compositions. The course uses the writing process to produce different forms of writing while varying sentence structure and using complex punctuation. Students edit writing based on knowledge of grammar, usage, spelling, punctuation, and other conventions of written language. Students use knowledge of Greek and Latin roots and prefixes and suffixes in reading. Students recognize how style, tone, and mood contribute to the effect of the text. This course is designed to prepare students for advanced courses in high school. This is in addition to grade-level expectations in regular ELA classes. In addition to the knowledge and skills taught in grade 6 ELA, students are taught the foundation for building academic student learning projects. All students are required to participate in the National History Day Competition.

Mathematics

Mathematics (0640) – 2 Semester

The course consists of emphasis on the four basic operations with both decimals and fractions, study of geometry and measurement as well as being introduced to Algebraic concepts at the intuitive level and

increase skills in computation, quantitative literacy, and problem solving.

Advanced Mathematics (0643)

The course consists of emphasis on the four basic operations with both decimals and fractions, study of geometry and measurement as well as being introduced to Algebraic concepts at the intuitive level and increase skills in computation, quantitative literacy, and problem solving. This course is designed to extend the math curriculum in preparation for advanced courses in high school.

Math Strategies (0645) – 2 semesters

This course is designed to build math skills of students who do not perform as well on state testing as they should. This course will reinforce concepts that are mastered as well as increase knowledge on concepts that a student may be having difficulty mastering.

Social Studies

World Cultures (0660) - 2 Semesters

This course will expand the students' understanding of history by studying the people and events that began in the major western and non-western ancient civilizations. Geography will also be significant in the development of the human study. There will be a continuous emphasis on the everyday lives, problems, and accomplishments of people and their roles in developing social, economic, and political structures, as well as in establishing and spreading ideas that helped transform the world forever.

Science

Science (0650) - 2 Semesters

Students in this course will complete field and lab investigations while emphasizing science progress skills and knowledge.

They will also complete content including physical, life, and earth sciences.

Physical Education

Physical Education (Boys 0670/Girls 0671) - 2 Semesters

Students in this course will complete field and lab investigations while emphasizing science progress skills and knowledge. They will also complete content including physical, life, and earth sciences.

6th Grade Elective Courses

Art

Art (0696) - This course is a one-semester course. Four basic strands - perception, creative expression / performance, historical and cultural heritage, and critical evaluation - provide broad, unifying structures for organizing the knowledge and skills students are expected to acquire. Students express their thoughts and ideas creatively, while challenging their imagination, fostering reflective thinking, and developing disciplined effort and problem solving skills. By analyzing artistic styles and historical periods students develop respect for the traditions and contributions of diverse cultures.

Music

Band (0699, 0681, 0680) - This course is a two -semester or year long course. This course is a continuation and progression of sixth grade band. Basic music theory is developed further. Four basic strands - perception, creative expression / performance, historical and cultural heritage, and critical evaluation - provide broad, unifying structures for organizing the knowledge and skills students are expected to acquire. Daily class period is used for practice. Students buy or rent their own instrument. Band experience develops leadership, responsibility, cooperation, self-discipline, and diligence. Students participate in contests during the spring. Some extra rehearsals are required as necessary. Students must be tested for an instrument before the end of the current school year.

Choir (0694) - This course is a one-semester course. The purpose of the choir

class is to increase understanding and appreciation of choral music through ensemble performances. There are four strands to the learning process in choir. They are perception, creative expression, historical / cultural heritage, and critical evaluation. These four strands provide broad, unifying structures for organizing the knowledge and skills students are expected to acquire at this level.

Theater

Introduction to Theater Arts (0690) – This course is a one-semester course. Students will explore the world of theatre arts. They will become familiar with various acting techniques, as well as a broad spectrum of theatre styles. This is a performance-based class.

Family and Consumer Science

Exploring Careers (0692) – This course is a one-semester course. Achieving proficiency in decision-making and problem solving is an essential skill for career planning and lifelong learning. Students use self-knowledge, educational, and career information to set and achieve realistic career and educational goals.

Computer

Computer Technology Applications (0682) – This course is a one-semester course. This class develops technology skills with applications to personal and business situations focusing on word processing. This class will prepare students for the 8th grade computer competency test.

7th Grade Required Course Offerings

English Language Arts (ELA)

ELA 7 (0730) – 2 Semesters

In grade 7, students refine and master previously learned knowledge and skills in increasingly complex presentations, reading selections, and written compositions.

Seventh grade students continue to read classic and contemporary selections and informational texts. Students use knowledge of Greek and Latin roots, prefixes and suffixes in reading. Students recognize how style, tone, and mood contribute to the effect of the text. Seventh grade students are able to select and use different forms of writing for specific purposes such as to inform, persuade, or entertain. Students produce final pieces of written composition on a regular basis. The student shall be provided the opportunity to integrate computer technology, concepts, and skills into the language arts curriculum.

Advanced ELA 7 (0733) – 2 Semesters

In grade 7, students refine and master previously learned knowledge and skills in increasingly complex presentations, reading selections, and written compositions. Seventh grade students continue to read classic and contemporary selections and informational texts. Students use knowledge of Greek and Latin roots, prefixes and suffixes in reading. Students recognize how style, tone, and mood contribute to the effect of the text. Seventh grade students are able to select and use different forms of writing for specific purposes such as to inform, persuade, or entertain. Students produce final pieces of written composition on a regular basis. The student shall be provided the opportunity to integrate

computer technology, concepts, and skills into the language arts curriculum. This course is designed to prepare students for advanced courses in high school. This is in addition to grade-level expectations in regular ELA classes.

Advanced ELA GT 7 (0734) – 2 Semesters

This course is designed for currently identified GT students only. In grade 7, students refine and master previously learned knowledge and skills in increasingly complex presentations, reading selections, and written compositions. Seventh grade students continue to read classic and contemporary selections and informational texts. Students use knowledge of Greek and Latin roots, prefixes and suffixes in reading. Students recognize how style, tone, and mood contribute to the effect of the text. Seventh grade students are able to select and use different forms of writing for specific purposes such as to inform, persuade, or entertain. Students produce final pieces of written composition on a regular basis. The student shall be provided the opportunity to integrate computer technology, concepts, and skills into the language arts curriculum. This course is designed to prepare students for advanced courses in high school. This is in addition to grade-level expectations in regular ELA classes. In addition to the knowledge and skills taught in grade 7 Social Studies, students are taught the foundation for building academic student learning projects. All students are required to participate in the National History Day Competition.

as increase knowledge on concepts that a student may be having difficulty mastering.

Mathematics

Mathematics (0740) – 2 Semester

The course consists of a basics program in fundamental mathematics. It involves intensive study in the four fundamental operations with whole numbers, integers, rational numbers, decimals and percentages. Also, included are basic concepts of geometry and the metric system. Throughout mathematics in grades 7-8, students use processes together with technology, (at least four-function calculators for whole numbers, decimals, and fractions), computer technology, and other mathematical tools such as manipulative materials to develop conceptual understanding and solve problems as they do mathematics.

Advanced Mathematics (0743)

The course consists of a basics program in fundamental mathematics. It involves intensive study in the four fundamental operations with whole numbers, integers, rational numbers, decimals and percentages. Also, included are basic concepts of geometry and the metric system. Throughout mathematics in grades 7-8, students use processes together with technology, (at least four-function calculators for whole numbers, decimals, and fractions), computer technology, and other mathematical tools such as manipulative materials to develop conceptual understanding and solve problems as they do mathematics. This course is designed to extend the math curriculum in preparation for advanced courses in high school.

Math Strategies (0745) – 2 semesters

This course is designed to build math skills of students who do not perform as well on state testing as they should. This course will reinforce concepts that are mastered as well

Social Studies

Texas History (0760) - In grade 7, students will study the history of Texas from the early times to the present. Students will be studying the full scope of Texas History including: prehistory of Texas, Explorations, Spanish Missions, Texas Revolution, Republic of Texas, Annexation, Texas & the Civil War, Reconstruction, Ranching, Railroads, Oil & Gas Industry, World War II. The focus in each era is on key individuals, events, and issues and their impact. Students will use numerous resources to study the rich and diverse cultural background of Texas as they identify the different racial and ethnic groups that settled in Texas to build a republic and then a state.

Science

Science (0750) - In grade 7, the study of science includes conducting field and laboratory investigations using scientific methods, critical-thinking, problem-solving, and using instruments and calculators to collect and analyze information to explain a phenomenon. Students should be able to relate and apply technology and scientific information to daily life. With the use of computer technology, concepts, and skills, the student shall be able to interpret scientific data and information from graphs and tables, formulate a hypothesis and draw a conclusion.

Physical Education

Physical Education

Physical Education (Boys 0770/Girls 0771) - Students in this course will complete field and lab investigations while emphasizing science progress skills and knowledge. They will also complete content including physical, life, and earth sciences.

Girls Athletics (0773) - Unlike physical education, girls' athletics requires high intensity conditioning and physical training with in-depth skills development in volleyball, basketball, and track. This course emphasizes participation in team sports, leadership, and sportsmanship. Involvement is voluntary; therefore, students are expected to follow rules developed by the Athletic Department. In order to participate in any athletic program, the student must have a completed athletic packet on file with a current physical. This course will count toward the P.E. requirement.

Boys Athletics (0772)-

Unlike physical education, boys' athletics requires high intensity conditioning and physical training with in-depth skills development in football, basketball, and track. This course emphasizes participation in team sports, leadership, and sportsmanship. Involvement is voluntary; therefore, students are expected to follow rules developed by the Athletic Department. In order to participate in any athletic program, the student must have a completed athletic packet on file with a current physical. This course will count toward the P.E. requirement.

7th Grade Elective Courses

Art

Art (0796) - This course is a one-semester course. Four basic strands - perception, creative expression / performance, historical and cultural heritage, and critical evaluation - provide broad, unifying structures for organizing the knowledge and skills students are expected to acquire. Students express their thoughts and ideas creatively, while challenging their imagination, fostering reflective thinking, and developing disciplined effort and problem solving skills. By analyzing artistic styles and historical periods students develop respect for the traditions and contributions of diverse cultures.

Music

7th Grade Band (0780) - This course is a two-semester or year long course. 7th Grade Band is a continuation of learning fundamentals of a band instrument (woodwind, brass or percussion) in a concert band setting. Students will increase their understanding and comprehension of playing techniques, music reading and theory, concert etiquette and listening skills. Students may have required musical performances (contest and concerts) and additional rehearsals outside the school day throughout the year.

Choir (0795) - This course is a two-semester or year long course. This choir is a "performing arts" class. The nature of performing arts classes requires time for public performances. Performances are essential to the learning process. There are some events in which this choir will participate in that are extracurricular. Students are expected to attend performances and rehearsals scheduled outside of class time in order to fulfill the minimum class requirements.

Theater

Theater Arts (0790) – This course is a one-semester course. Students will explore the world of theatre arts in this one semester class. They will become familiar with various acting techniques, as well as a broad spectrum of theatre styles. This is a performance-based class.

Technical Theater Arts (0789) – This course is a one-semester course. In Technical Theatre I, students are introduced to the basics of behind-the-scenes theatre. Students will explore scenic painting, lighting, sound and effects, scenery, costumes, makeup and special effects, and stage combat choreography. Backstage safety is heavily emphasized as students learn to find their creative designer.

Family and Consumer Science

Career Portals (0791) – This course is a one-semester course. Achieving proficiency in decision-making and problem solving is an essential skill for career planning and lifelong learning. Students use self-knowledge, educational, and career information to set and achieve realistic career and educational goals

Computer

Computer Technology Application (0782) – This course is a one-semester course. This class develops technology skills with applications to personal and business situations focusing on word processing. This class will prepare students for the 8th grade computer competency test.

Other

Yearbook (0888) -

This course is a two-semester or year long course. Students learn and develop the skills needed to produce a yearbook: evaluating news, fact gathering, photography, writing of headlines and captions, graphic design and layout, proofing, editing, advertising, basic publication management skills, and creative writing. This course requires considerable time outside school hours as well as leadership and teamwork abilities. Students must apply and be approved.

Intro to Robotics/Coding- This course is a one-semester course. Students will be introduced to the concepts of coding by transferring academic skills into components of design in a project –based environment. It is an introductory course that empowers students to engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem-solving, and fun!

Junior Cadet Leadership Corps. (JCLC) (0798)- This course is a two-semester or year long course. Junior Cadet Leadership Corps. (JCLC)/ is a program put forth by the United States Armed Forces in junior high schools across the nation to train students in Leadership and Military Science. The program prepares junior high students for leadership roles while making them aware of their rights, responsibilities, and privileges as an American citizen. It provides instruction and rewarding opportunities which will benefit the student, community and nation. Cadets wear uniforms at regular intervals and are responsible for the daily duties of cadet administration. Extracurricular activities include: Color guards, community parades, drill and rifle teams, Techniques of Communication, Leadership, Cadet Challenge, Leadership Lab, First Aid, Map reading, History, Citizenship, and the role of the US Army.

Required 8th Grade Course Offerings

English Language Arts (ELA)

ELA 8 (0830) – 2 Semesters

Eighth grade students refine and master previously learned knowledge and skills in increasingly complex presentations, reading selections, and writing. Students are able to select and use different forms of writing for specific purposes such as to inform, persuade, or entertain. Students read, write, listen, speak, and view to learn more about the world around them and to create, clarify, critique, and appreciate ideas and responses. Significant blocks of time are provided for reading both independent and instructional level material for varied purposes such as collecting information, learning about and appreciating the writer's craft. The student shall be provided the opportunity to integrate computer technology, concepts and skills into the language arts curriculum.

Advanced ELA 8 (0833) – 2 Semesters

Eighth grade students refine and master previously learned knowledge and skills in increasingly complex presentations, reading selections, and writing. Students are able to select and use different forms of writing for specific purposes such as to inform, persuade, or entertain. Students read, write, listen, speak, and view to learn more about the world around them and to create, clarify, critique, and appreciate ideas and responses. Significant blocks of time are provided for reading both independent and instructional level material for varied purposes such as collecting information, learning about and appreciating the writer's craft. The student shall be provided the opportunity to integrate computer technology, concepts and skills into the language arts curriculum. This course is designed to prepare students for advanced courses in high school. This is in addition to grade-level expectations in regular ELA classes.

Advanced ELA GT 8 (0834) – 2 Semesters

This course is designed for currently identified GT students only. Eighth grade students refine and master previously learned knowledge and skills in increasingly complex presentations, reading selections, and writing. Students are able to select and use different forms of writing for specific purposes such as to inform, persuade, or entertain. Students read, write, listen, speak, and view to learn more about the world around them and to create, clarify, critique, and appreciate ideas and responses. Significant blocks of time are provided for reading both independent and instructional level material for varied purposes such as collecting information, learning about and appreciating the writer's craft. The student shall be provided the opportunity to integrate computer technology, concepts and skills into the language arts curriculum. This course is designed to prepare students for advanced courses in high school. This is in addition to grade-level expectations in regular ELA classes. In addition to the knowledge and skills taught in grade 8 Social Studies, students are taught the foundation for building academic student learning projects. All students are required to participate in the National History Day Competition.

Mathematics

Mathematics (0840) – 2 Semester

Transitional course designed to permit the student to move from concrete concepts of arithmetic to the abstract concepts of algebra. Emphasis is placed on fractions, decimal numbers, percents, and problem solving. Introduces basics of algebra - variables, solving equations, and integers.

Advanced Mathematics (0843)

Transitional course designed to permit the student to move from concrete concepts of arithmetic to the abstract concepts of

algebra. Emphasis is placed on fractions, decimal numbers, percents, and problem solving. Introduces basics of algebra - variables, solving equations, and integers. This course is designed to extend the math curriculum in preparation for advanced courses in high school.

Math Strategies (0845) – 2 semesters

This course is designed to build math skills of students who do not perform as well on state testing as they should. This course will reinforce concepts that are mastered as well as increase knowledge on concepts that a student may be having difficulty mastering.

Algebra 1 (0844) – 2 semesters, High

School Credit The student's math concepts will continue to build as their understanding expands through other mathematical experiences such as: algebraic thinking and symbolic reasoning; function concepts, relationship between equations and functions, tools for algebraic thinking, and underlying mathematical processes. One (1) HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT is awarded if the student earns a grade of 70 or above average at the end of the school year. Students who have a class average of 78 or below during the first nine weeks will be placed on probationary status. STAAR EOC for Algebra I will count for 15% of final course grade.

Social Studies

U.S. History (0860) - In grade 8, students study the history of the United States from the early colonial period through Reconstruction. Students will be able to describe the physical characteristics of the U.S., the impact on population distribution, and the settlement patterns in the past and present. Students are given the opportunity

to analyze the various economic factors that influence the development of colonial America and the early years of the Republic and identify the origins of the free enterprise system. The student shall be provided the opportunity to integrate computer technology concepts and skills into the social studies curriculum and organize and interpret information from outlines, reports, databases, and visuals including graphs, charts, timelines, and maps.

Science

Science (0850) - Eighth grade students will be able to plan and conduct field and laboratory investigations by using scientific methods, analyze data, critical-thinking, problem solving; and use tools to collect and analyze information. As students learn science skills, they are able to identify roles of both human activities and natural events in altering earth systems

8th Grade Elective Courses

Physical Education

Physical Education (Boys 0870/Girls 0871) - Students in this course will complete field and lab investigations while emphasizing science progress skills and knowledge. They will also complete content including physical, life, and earth sciences.

Girls Athletics (0873) - This course is a two-semester or year long course. Unlike physical education, girls' athletics requires high intensity conditioning and physical training with in-depth skills development in volleyball, basketball, and track. This course emphasizes participation in team sports, leadership, and sportsmanship. Involvement is voluntary; therefore, students are expected to follow rules developed by the Athletic Department. In order to participate in any athletic program, the student must have a completed athletic packet on file with a current physical. This course will count toward the P.E. requirement.

Boys Athletics (0872) - This course is a two-semester or year long course. Unlike physical education, boys' athletics requires high intensity conditioning and physical training with in-depth skills development in football, basketball, and track. This course emphasizes participation in team sports, leadership, and sportsmanship. Involvement is voluntary; therefore, students are expected to follow rules developed by the Athletic Department. In order to participate in any athletic program, the student must have a completed athletic packet on file with a current physical. This course will count toward the P.E. requirement.

Art

Art (089) - This course is a one-semester course. Four basic strands - perception, creative expression / performance, historical

and cultural heritage, and critical evaluation - provide broad, unifying structures for organizing the knowledge and skills students are expected to acquire. Students express their thoughts and ideas creatively, while challenging their imagination, fostering reflective thinking, and developing disciplined effort and problem-solving skills. By analyzing artistic styles and historical periods students develop respect for the traditions and contributions of diverse cultures.

Music

8th Grade Band (0880) - This course is a two-semester or year long course. Concert Band is a continuation of learning fundamentals of a band instrument (woodwind, brass or percussion) in a concert band setting. Students will increase their understanding and comprehension of playing techniques, music reading and theory, concert etiquette and listening skills. Students may have required musical performances (contest and concerts) and additional rehearsals outside the school day throughout the year. Students are encouraged to demonstrate and audition for placement into the advanced bands. Students could also participate in marching band with the high school band.

Choir (0895) - This course is a two-semester or year long course. This choir is a "performing arts" class. The nature of performing arts classes requires time for public performances. Performances are essential to the learning process. There are some events in which this choir will participate in that are extracurricular. Students are expected to attend performances and rehearsals scheduled outside of class time in order to fulfill the minimum class requirements.

Theater

Theater Arts (0890) – This course is a one-semester course. Students will explore the world of theatre arts. They will become familiar with various acting techniques, as well as a broad spectrum of theatre styles. This is a performance-based class.

Technical Theater Arts (0889) – This course is a one-semester course. In Technical Theatre I, students are introduced to the basics of behind-the-scenes theatre. Students will explore scenic painting, lighting, sound and effects, scenery, costumes, makeup and special effects, and stage combat choreography. Backstage safety is heavily emphasized as students learn to find their creative designer.

Family and Consumer Science

Career Portals (0891) – This course is a one-semester course. Achieving proficiency in decision-making and problem solving is an essential skill for career planning and lifelong learning. Students use self-knowledge, educational, and career information to set and achieve realistic career and educational goals.

Computer

Computer Technology Applications (0882) – This course is a one-semester course. This class develops technology skills with applications to personal and business situations focusing on word processing. This class will prepare students for the 8th grade computer competency test.

Other

Student Aide (0793/0799) – This course is a one-semester course. Students are allowed to be student aides for the front office or library. Students who would like to sign up for Student Aide positions need to have passing grades and conduct grades no

lower than Satisfactory. Students must have satisfied all other course requirements before they may be allowed to register for a student aide position. In other words, students must have room in their schedule for the class - student aides. Special circumstances will be considered individually.

Entrepreneurship (0813) – This course is a full year course. Students will learn the basics of planning and launching a business as well as attracting investors, marketing, and managing a business. Students will be required to create a new business, complete a business plan, and use business management tools to maintain their business.

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) (0822) – This course is a two-semester or year long course. To participate in this program a student must apply and be accepted into the AVID program. The AVID elective courses introduce students to the AVID philosophy. Students' progress from one grade level to the next and develop awareness of the values accompanying academic goals and success. The courses focus on building self-confidence and communication skills in working with peers and adults. Students are exposed to reading strategies and as they progress from one grade level to the next, students broaden their writing practice. Students transition from active learners to leaders. They will expand their knowledge of note taking, in relation to studying and test preparation. Students will be exposed to different field trips, guest speakers, and research to increase their knowledge of college and career options. Instructional Material: Materials provided through contract with AVID Center Prerequisites: Application to and Acceptance into the AVID Program.

Principles of Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources (0820) - This course is a two-semester or year long course. High School Credit This is the basic introductory agriculture course that each student is required to take before advancing on to another agriculture course. Students will learn about the importance of agriculture, food and natural resources, and how their lives are affected by these aspects. Students will learn the basics of animal science; plant and soil science; natural resources; and agriculture mechanization, as well as be exposed to the many career possibilities in each of these fields. Students will also learn and demonstrate how to run meetings properly using parliamentary procedure, and practice developing various leadership and communication skills. Students will also learn about the FFA - the student organization for agriculture students, which provides endless opportunities for its members to develop their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success. One high school credit is awarded if the student earns a grade of 70 or above for this course.

Yearbook (0888) - This course is a two-semester or year long course. Students learn and develop the skills needed to produce a yearbook: evaluating news, fact gathering, photography, writing of headlines and captions, graphic design and layout, proofing, editing, advertising, basic publication management skills, and creative writing. This course requires considerable time outside school hours as well as leadership and teamwork abilities.

Robotics- This course is a two-semester or year long course. Students will be introduced to the concepts of robotics by transferring academic skills into components of design in a project –based environment. Students will learn numerous concepts that may include the building of prototypes to use simulation software to test their design. Additionally, career

exploration, employer expectations, and educational needs will be discussed.

Junior Cadet Leadership Corps. (JCLC) (0898)- This course is a two-semester or year long course. The Junior Cadet Leadership Corps (JCLC) is a program put forth by the United States Armed Forces in junior high schools across the nation to train students in Leadership and Military Science. The program prepares junior high students for leadership roles while making them aware of their rights, responsibilities, and privileges as an American citizen. It provides instruction and rewarding opportunities, which will benefit the student, community and nation. Cadets wear uniforms at regular intervals and are responsible for the daily duties of cadet administration. Extracurricular activities include: Color guards, community parades, drill and rifle teams, Techniques of Communication, Leadership, Cadet Challenge, Leadership Lab, First Aid, Map reading, History, Citizenship, and the role of the US Army.

College-Prep Checklist

7th Grade

- Take an interest inventory (one can be found on the GEAR UP website)
- List the clubs, organizations, and service projects you might like to join.
- Write an essay about your plans after high school.
- Talk with friends and family about your career interest.
- Tell your parents that you want to go to college, and talk about your plans together.
- Set goals and make plans for this year and beyond.
- Develop Plans for long-term projects that let you practice your research, time-management, and communication skills.
- Learn about advanced courses that prep you for high school and college.
- Take classes that help you learn STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) skills.
- Join a community service project and use the opportunity to explore new careers and build your future resume.
- Find ways to show (and grow) your leadership skills.
- Talk to older friends, siblings, or cousins who are already in college about their experiences.
- Chat with family members, relatives, and trusted adults about their career paths.
- Participate in a school or community service project over the holiday break.
- Study college websites and take virtual tours.
- Learn the basics about financial aid for college.
- Work with your parents to learn about financial literacy and how it can help with future plans (like saving, planning, needs vs. wants).
- Check out college and career fairs.
- Begin researching info that may help you transition from middle to high school.
- Start learning about the different endorsements and pathways offered at your high school.
- Ask about ways to earn high school credit starting in 8th grade.
- Take stock of your attitudes and behaviors. Are you making good decisions about your future?
- Register early for summer programs at school or local colleges.
- Take advantage of opportunities to learn about high school and college credits.
- Vow to make every year count when it comes to class rank, GPA, and course selections.
- Plan your electives carefully.
- Do your best on benchmark and STAAR end-of-course exams.
- Take advantage of tutors and extra study sessions.
- Learn why cyber safety is so important, and think carefully about what you post online through social media.
- Follow up on summer programs at school or local colleges—learn something new this summer!
- Take advanced courses in the summer (if possible).
- Find a community project that needs volunteers.

8th Grade

Take an interest inventory (one can be found on the GEAR UP website)

Write an essay about your plans for the year.

Talk with friends and family about your career interest.

Tell your parents that you want to go to college, and talk about your plans together.

Set goals and make plans for this year and beyond.

Continue learning about endorsements so you're able to select the best one for you before high school.

Look at your schedule and ask teachers if any of your classes would be considered "advanced courses."

Develop Plans for long-term projects that let you practice your research, time-management, and communication skills.

Ask your counselor about advanced courses you can take in 9th grade.

Take classes that help you learn STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) skills.

Join a community service project and use the opportunity to explore new careers and build your future resume.

Find ways to show (and grow) your leadership skills.

Talk to older friends, siblings, or cousins who are already in college about their experiences.

Chat with family members, relatives, and trusted adults about their career paths.

Participate in a school or community service project over the holiday break.

Study college websites and take virtual tours.

Learn the basics about financial aid for college.

Work with your parents to learn about financial literacy and how it can help with future plans (like saving, planning, needs vs. wants).

Start a savings account if you don't have one already. Talk to your parents about them setting up a college savings account, too!

Check out college and career fairs.

Researching info that may help you transition from middle to high school.

Take stock of your attitudes and behaviors. Are you making good decisions about your future?

Register early for summer programs at school or local colleges.

Take advantage of opportunities to learn about high school and college credits.

Get advice from your counselor about creating a four-year plan for graduation and select your endorsement.

Vow to make every year count when it comes to class rank, GPA, and course selections.

Plan your electives carefully.

Do your best on benchmark and STAAR end-of-course exams.

Take advantage of tutors and extra study sessions.

Review the must-know rules of cyber safety, and be aware of the online image you're creating when you interact through social media.

Follow up on summer programs at school or local colleges—learn something new this summer!

Take advanced courses in the summer (if possible).

Find a community project that needs volunteers.

Preparing For High School

Graduation Requirement Plans	
Subject Area	FHSP with Endorsement
English	4
Math	4
Science	4 one of the science credits must be Biology
Social Studies & Economics	3 Includes US History, Govt, Econ, World Geography or World History
Foreign Language	2 (Level I &II of same language)
Fine Arts (music, art, theatre, choir)	1
Speech (Communications Applications)	½
Health	½
Physical Education (P.E. or Athletics or up to 1 credit substitution for marching band, ROTC.)	1
Technology	1
Endorsement Electives	8
Total	29 With Designated Endorsement Pathway

LHS Graduation Requirements

Students graduating from a Texas high school must complete graduation requirements outlined by the state and receive a passing score on five End of Course (EOC) Exams including Algebra I, Biology, U.S. History, English 1 and English 2. High school courses taken in grade 8 will earn credit toward graduation. Three (3) math credits must be earned in grades 9-12.

* Foundation High School Plan are minimum requirements to graduate from a Texas High School. Students may opt to graduate on these plans after their 16th birthday and completion of 10th grade if approved by parents and school officials.

Texas Public University/College Automatic Admission

Students graduating in the top ten percent of our school's graduating class are granted automatic admission into a Texas public four-year university or college for two years following graduation. The University of Texas' automatic admission only includes the top 7%. To qualify for this automatic admission, students must complete one of the following two criteria:

- ❖ Complete the FHSP with Endorsement and Performance Acknowledgements, Recommended or Distinguished Achievement program

- OR
- ❖ Satisfy the ACT College Readiness Benchmarks or earn at least a 1500 out of 2400 on the SAT

ACT's College Readiness Benchmark					
College Course Area	Test	EXPLORE Score	PLAN Score	ACT Score	COMPASS Score
English Composition	English	13	15	18	69
Social Sciences	Reading	15	17	21	88
Algebra	Mathematics	17	19	22	65
Biology	Science	20	21	24	n/a

College Admission Eligibility Requirements (House Bill 3826)

The state legislature amended the current admission eligibility requirements for students applying to any general academic teaching institution, including those institutions with open enrollment policies. Effective September 1, 2007 and thereafter, only applicants who have completed the FHSP (Foundation), Recommended or Distinguished graduation plans are eligible to apply for college admission. This also applies to students eligible for automatic admission by graduating in the top ten percent of their class. In addition, this law further states that institutions of higher learning shall admit any applicant who is the child of a public servant killed or having sustained a fatal injury in the line of duty. Applicants need to meet the minimum requirements of the institution.

Certificate Award/4-Year Special Service Student (Senate Bill 673)

Students receiving special education services can opt to participate in the graduation ceremony after their fourth year of high school. A certificate of attendance will be issued instead of a diploma to allow students to participate in commencement exercises with their same age peer/class cohort. The statute limits student participation to only one graduation ceremony.

College Enrollment/Financial Aid/Scholarships

Higher education and technical skills are important for most careers in our highly complex world. Information to aid in planning for post-secondary education, universities, technical schools or military service is available through the Livingston High School Counselors Office. Free information on college preparation for middle and high school students, easy-to-understand descriptions of the different types of student financial aid available, insights to popular careers, plus links to every college website in Texas are available at **www.CollegeforTexas.com**. Student and parent orientations are provided each spring during registration to address high school course selection related to post-secondary education. Students and parents may also contact their high school counselor for further information.

Some important information to consider when planning secondary (high school) coursework and post-secondary (college and technical school) entrance is listed below:

- ❖ Students ranked in the top 10% of their graduating class are eligible for automatic admission to any public university in Texas.
- ❖ Specific requirements are addressed in the previous section on “Honor Graduates.”
- ❖ Colleges and universities have course entrance requirements that may be above those required for graduation from high school. Some colleges and universities in Texas now require students to graduate under RHSP as an admission requirement.
- ❖ SAT or ACT college entrance examinations are required for admission to four-year colleges and universities. Consult college catalogs and/or websites to determine which test to take and deadlines. Registration forms and prep materials are available in the counseling office or on the SAT/ACT websites. It is the student’s responsibility to determine testing dates and registration deadlines, register for the test and pay any registration or related fees for the test. High school seniors should take these exam(s) before January if they intend to apply for financial assistance. For Information on SAT Registration and deadlines, visit the College Board website at www.collegeboard.com. For information on accommodations, visit the College Board website at www.collegeboard.com/ssd/student/time/html. For information on ACT registration and deadlines, visit the ACT website at www.act.org.

Students are encouraged to select their college early in their senior year. Once accepted by a college, students are generally notified of summer orientation programs. Students are encouraged to attend these orientations.

Students attending Texas public colleges and universities can use the Apply Texas Application, which is available on-line at **www.applytexas.com**. Current information on specific college/university entrance application and entrance requirements should be requested from the college or university. Students who intend to live on campus should obtain an application for housing early in the fall of their senior year.

All students should fill out the FASFA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) during their senior year. This form is available on-line at www.fafsa.ed.gov. This form must be on file in the financial aid office of the college or university you plan to attend to determine if you are eligible for state, federal or institution financial aid in the form of grants, scholarships and/or loans. Scholarship information is posted on the LHS website in the "Counselor's Page". Parents are encouraged to contact their employers regarding scholarships they may offer to children of their employees.

Towards Excellence, Access & Success Grant Program (Texas Grant)

The purpose of the program is to provide grant money to enable well-prepared eligible students to attend public and private nonprofit institutions of higher education in Texas.

Who can compete for an award? A student who:

- ❖ Is a Texas resident;
- ❖ Has financial need;
- ❖ Has applied for any available financial aid or assistance;
- ❖ Enrolls at least 3/4 time in an undergraduate degree or certificate program;
- ❖ Has not been convicted of a felony or a crime involving a controlled substance; and
- ❖ Meets one of the following two requirements:
 - ❖ Completed the recommended or distinguished achievement high school curriculum or its equivalent; graduated from a public or accredited private high school in Texas no earlier than Fall 1998; and enrolled in an eligible college or university within 16 months of graduation; or
 - ❖ Received his/her first associate's degree in May 2001 or later and enrolls in a higher-level undergraduate program within 12 months of receiving the AD.

Awards will be made through the financial aid office of the college. Persons interested in the program should contact the college financial aid office to verify deadlines and procedures.

Students who qualify on the basis of their high school curriculum and who continue in college and meet program academic standards can receive awards for up to 150 credit hours or for six years or until they receive their bachelor's degree, whichever occurs first. In the first year of college, the academic standards are set by the institution. In subsequent years, the requirements are completion of at least 75% of the hours taken in the prior year, plus an overall college GPA of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.

Students who qualify on the basis of an Associate's Degree and who continue in college and meet program academic standards can receive awards for up to 90 semester credit hours or for four years, or until they complete a baccalaureate degree, whichever occurs first. The academic standards are completion of at least 75% of the hours taken in the prior year, plus a cumulative GPA in college of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.

The award amount depends on the tuition and fees to be paid by the student. In general, it is an amount equal to the student's tuition and required fees at public institutions. Private institution awards are based on the public university amount.

Student Education Benefits Program

This program allows public colleges to lower tuition and/or fees for eligible students. The state has programs for some students who meet one of the following: in foster care before age 18, adopted prior to age 14, valedictorians, blind, deaf, early high school graduates. The state also has programs for children of: disabled or deceased peace officers, deceased veterans, POWs or MIAs, parents receiving TANF for the student when he/she was a high school senior. Students should contact a college financial aid officer for instructions.