

### Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Texas Education Code, Section 28.025(b), allows a student to graduate under the Foundation High School Program without earning an endorsement if, after the student's sophomore year, the student and the student's parent/guardian are notified of the benefits of graduating with an endorsement and the student's parent/guardian gives written permission for the student to opt out of an endorsement. The benefits of graduating with an endorsement are below. The purpose of this correspondence is to ensure that parents/guardians are informed about the programs and opportunities afforded to students graduating under the FHSP with Endorsement.

Benefits of graduating under the Foundation High School Program with Endorsement include:

- **College readiness**. Many colleges and universities minimally require the FHSP with Endorsement for admission. In addition, students ranked in the top 10 percent of their graduating class from an accredited Texas public high school are eligible for automatic admission to most Texas public universities if they have completed the FHSP with Endorsement & Distinguished Level of Achievement.
- **Recognition**. The Foundation High School Program with Endorsement will be affixed to the Academic Achievement Record (AAR), or transcript, of students graduating under the FHSP with Endorsement.
- **Test results**. Research suggests that students who take additional English, math, social studies, and science courses make higher scores on the SAT® or ACT® college entrance exams. The FHSP with Endorsement requires four credits in each of these core courses.
- **Program participation**. The Early High School Graduation Scholarship Program provides tuition and fee assistance to students completing grades 9–12 early or with a significant number of college hours. The Texas Scholars program allows students who participate and graduate to be eligible for Graduation Honors and to compete for certain scholarships. Texas Scholars who qualify for financial assistance become eligible for a grant program passed by the Texas Legislature: the Texas Grant program. This may provide all tuition and fees for public colleges and universities in Texas; however, grant funds are administered on a first-comefirstserved

basis. Both the Early High School Graduation Scholarship Program and Texas Scholars program requires students to graduate under the FHSP with Endorsement or with Distinguished Level of Achievement.

iSVA Counseling

# Responsive Ed High School Graduation Plans

i**School**High





## 1) Distinguished FHSP

- Minimum of 26 credits; 4 math credits including Algebra 2, 4 Science credits, and Endorsement required.
- Enables students for automatic college admission under the Top 10% admissions law.
- Enables students to earn Top Honors award (Valedictorian).
- Ensure that you are a more competitive applicant at the most selective colleges and universities after high school.
- Better preparation for college-level coursework at community colleges and universities.
- Strong foundation to successfully complete an industry workforce credential or college degree.
- More financial aid options.
- Position you among those first in line for a TEXAS Grant to help pay for university tuition and fees.



## 2) Endorsement FHSP

- Minimum of 26 credits.
- 5 endorsement options that allow students to focus on a related series of courses
- Helps improve college readiness on post secondary entrance exams.



- Minimum of 22 credits which is the core of the Texas high school diploma.
- Must be classified as a Junior or Senior to move to this plan.
- Prepares students to join the workforce, technical school, military, or local community college.
- Students enrolling in community college will take an assessment (TSI) to determine college readiness in reading, writing, and math. Advanced high school courses which are not required under the foundation plan may lead to remedial courses in college which do not go towards a college degree.





# Foundation High School Program Endorsement Opt-Out Agreement

The Texas Education Code, Section 28.025(b), allows a student to graduate under the Foundation High School Program without earning an endorsement if, after the student's sophomore year, the student and the student's parent/guardian are notified of the benefits of graduating with an endorsement and the student's parent/guardian gives written permission for the student to opt out of an endorsement. The benefits of graduating with an endorsement are available in the Graduation Toolkit, produced in partnership by the Texas Education Agency, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and the Texas Workforce Commission.

STUDENT INFORMATION	
Student Name: <u>Cortney Johnson</u>	
Student Classification: 12th Grader Campus: iSVA	
District/Charter: Responsive Education	
PARENT OR GUARDIAN	
I have received written notice regarding the benefits to my child of graduating from high school with one or more endorsements and I grant permission for my child to graduate under the Foundation High School Program without earning an endorsement.  Signature of parent/guardian  Signature of parent/guardian	
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR	
I certify that <u>Cortney Johnson</u> (student name) meets the criteria below to pursue the Foundation High School Program without an endorsement.	
The student has completed his or her sophomore year of high school.	
The student and his or her parent/guardian have been advised by a school counselor of the specific benefits of graduating from high school with one or more endorsement.	
JO87	11/04/2022
Signature of school administrator	Date
Campus Director	
Title	