



Middle School to High School

Academic Transition

Eagle Mountain-Saginaw Independent School District

Things to Know:

- Graduation Requirements
 - Courses
 - EOC
- Earning Credits
- Advanced Academics
- Freshmen Year Courses



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Which courses are required for my Graduation Plan?

EMS advises ALL students toward graduating with a Distinguished level of achievement

Foundation with Endorsement Plan =26 Credits

- English (4.0 Credits)
- Math (4.0 Credits) (Distinguished level includes Algebra II)
- Science (4.0 Credits)
- Social Studies (4.0 Credits)
- Physical Education (1.0 Credit)
- Fine Arts (1.0 Credit)
- Language Other than English (2.0 Credits)
- Electives (6.0 Credits)

Foundation Plan = 22 Credits

(This plan requires approval)

Foundation with Endorsement Plan = 26 Credits

Distinguished Level of Achievement = 26 Credits (Includes Algebra II)

- Required for automatic top 10% admission to colleges
- Required for students to receive state Financial Aid support for college

For more information, read the [TEA Graduation Toolkit](#)



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Other graduation requirements:

End of Course Exams

- English 1
- English 2
- Algebra 1
- Biology
- US History



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What are credits? Why are they important?

- A student earns 0.5 credit for completing a semester of a class with a minimum of a 70 average.
- A student earns 1.0 credit for completing a full year of a class with a minimum of a 70 average.
- A student must have 90% seat time (attendance) in order to get the credit. Students who miss more days than allowed will be required to make up the hours or repeat the class.
- Students must earn a certain number of credits to be promoted to the next grade:
 - 0.0 – 5.0: Freshmen
 - 5.5 – 11.5: Sophomore
 - 12.0 – 18.5: Junior
 - 19.0 Credits: Senior



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High School credit courses in Middle School

- Algebra 1
- Spanish 1
- AP Spanish
- Art 1
- Principles of Applied Engineering
- Principles of Human Services



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What are Advanced Academics?

- Advanced Academic courses at the high school level include Advanced, OnRamps, Advanced Placement (AP) and Dual Credit.
- Different types of courses are available at different grade levels, but all are focused on an advanced curriculum that will push the student to their full potential.
- Students are not required to take advanced courses in all content.
- Visit our [Advanced Academic](#) website for more information.



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How do I decide which Advanced Academics courses to take?

- Focus on your academic strengths.
- Seek input from teachers and counselors.
- Look at prior academic success.
- Consider future goals.
- Consider time commitment for extra curricular activities.
- Most importantly, are you willing to put forth the effort and attitude necessary to be successful?



What is the plan?

- Dec./Jan. – Work with middle school advisory teachers and counselors to begin four-year planning.
- Jan 26-29: High School counselors available through advisory to review Career Plans, answer questions, and finalize 9th grade request.



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Freshmen Requirements & Options

- English (choose 1)
 - English 1
 - Advanced English 1
 - Advanced English 1 GT
- Math (choose 1)
 - Algebra 1
 - Advanced Algebra 1
 - Advanced Algebra 1 GT
 - Geometry
 - Advanced Geometry
 - Advanced Geometry GT
- Science (choose 1)
 - Biology
 - Advanced Biology
 - Advanced Biology GT
 - IPC
- Social Studies (choose 1)
 - World Geography
 - Advanced World Geography
 - AP Human Geography
 - AP Human Geography GT



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Other requirements:

- World Language (2.0 credits)
 - Spanish
 - French
 - German
 - American Sign Language
- Fine Art (1.0 credit)
 - Art 1
 - AP Art History*
 - Band 1
 - Choir 1
 - Theatre 1
 - Technical Theatre 1
 - Dance 1
 - Charmers 1
 - Floral Design
- Physical Education (1.0 credit)
 - Foundations of PE
 - Adventure/Outdoor Education
 - Individual/Team Sports
 - Beginning Gymnastics
 - Dance 1
 - Athletics
 - Band (Fall Semester Only = ½ credit)
 - Color Guard (Fall Semester Only = ½ credit)
 - Charmers (Fall Semester Only = ½ credit)
 - JROTC



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Which elective courses can I choose?

- Athletics/PE
- Fine Arts
- Career & Technology Education
- Other Electives



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Athletics & PE



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- PE classes that may only be taken once include: Foundations of Personal Fitness, Adventure/Outdoor Education & Individual/Team Sports
- Multi-sport athletes may only be enrolled in one athletic class at a time and may not have any other PE class in their schedule.



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Fine Arts

Some performing arts courses require auditions for acceptance into the program. Check with program director for details.



- Band 1-4
- Jazz Band 1-4
- Color/Winter Guard 1-4
- Choir 1-4
- Select Choir 1-4
- Dance 1&2
- Drill Team 1-4
- Theatre Arts
 - Theatre 1-4
 - Theatre Production 1-4
 - Technical Theatre 1-4
- Art 1-4
 - Drawing
 - Sculpture
 - Photography
- AP Art History
- Floral Design
- AP Music Theory

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Career and Technical Education

- Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources*
- Architecture & Construction*
- Arts/AV Technology & Communication*
- Business Management & Administration
- Education & Training*+
- Finance
- Health Science*
- Hospitality & Tourism*+
- Human Services*+
- Information Technology*+
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security*
- Manufacturing*+
- Marketing
- Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM)*
- Transportation, Distribution & Logistics*+



Other Elective Options

- AVID
- Communications
- English
- Journalism
- Languages Other than English
- Military Science
- Social Studies
- Technology Applications



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Jr. & Sr. Level New Courses for 2021-22

- American Sign Language 3
- Electrical Technology 1&2



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Which resources can I use to choose my classes? How can I explore my interests?

- Discuss options with each core content teacher.
- View the EMS ISD Course Description Handbook found on the District and High School Counseling webpages.
- Check out [Texas Career Check](#) and other college and career exploration sites found on our [College and Career Readiness](#) page.



*Looking forward to
meeting you!*



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