

# Plano Independent School District

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OUR  
—PLANO ISD—  
LEARNING COMMUNITY WILL  
EDUCATE, INSPIRE & EMPOWER  
EVERY STUDENT  
TO ACTIVATE THEIR UNIQUE POTENTIAL  
IN A DYNAMIC WORLD.



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PLANO ISD MISSION

Prepared by  
Assessment, Research, and Program Evaluation Division

**Annual Credit by Exam Report  
2020-2021**



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# 2020-21 Credit by Exam Annual Report

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## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Texas State Board of Education (SBOE) implemented new rules, effective August 2018, requiring school districts to provide annual reports on the exams offered to students for acceleration.

Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §74.24. Credit by Examination requires school districts provide students in Grades 1-12 the opportunity for acceleration for each primary school grade level and for credit for secondary school academic subjects. School districts are required to provide four windows of opportunity for the acceleration exams. A student may take a specific examination only once during each window. The four test windows are:

- Quarter 1 – January 1 and March 31
- Quarter 2 – April 1 and June 30
- Quarter 3 – July 1 and September 30
- Quarter 4 – October 1 and December 31

The testing window must be designed to meet the needs of all students. The dates must be publicized. *19 TAC 74.24(a)(1)*

A district shall provide opportunities for a student who is homeless or in substitute care who transfers to the district after the start of the school year to be administered credit by examination at any point during the school year. *19 TAC 74.24(a)(2)*

A school district shall not charge for an examination for acceleration for each primary school grade level or for credit for secondary school academic subjects. *19 TAC 74.24(a)(3)*

## PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THE EVALUATION

The purpose of this report is to comply with the annual student performance on the Credit by Exams (CBEs). The data used for the report is from January 1, 2020 thru February 28, 2021.

The key areas addressed in this report are:

- Credit by Examination
  - Grades 1 – 5 Acceleration for a grade level
  - Grades 6 – 12 Credit for Advancement of a course
    - With No Prior Instruction
    - With Prior Instruction
- Information required is as follows:
  - The number of students who took each examination
  - The number of students who scored 70% or above on each examination
  - The number of students who scored 80% or above on each examination; and
  - The average score for all students who took the examination for each examination

## **Credit by Examination**

Credit by Exam provides a way for students to receive credit and advance a grade or a course. Students must be registered and attending a Plano ISD school in order to be eligible to test.

Students in Kindergarten through grade 8 may test to move ahead one grade level. For students testing during quarter 1 and quarter 4, placement in the next grade level or course will not occur until the start of a school year. High school students may earn credit in a course that they have not taken or under certain circumstances may earn credit for a course which they took but for which they did not receive credit.

## **Acceleration for Grades 1 – 5**

A district shall accelerate a student one grade level if the student meets the following requirements:

- The student scores 80% or above on a criterion referenced test for the grade level to be skipped in each of the following areas: language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies;
- A campus representative recommends that the student be accelerated; and
- The student's parent or guardian gives written approval of the acceleration.

## **Acceleration for Grades 6 – 12**

A student in Grades 6 – 12 may take a Credit by Exam for acceleration purposes. However, the following restrictions apply:

- Applications must be submitted to the school counselor before the date of the application deadline.
- Students must complete and earn credit for all prerequisite courses before attempting the next course in the sequence.
- Students may only attempt acceleration two times for the same course.
- Placement in a new course will only occur at the start of a school year (or semester for semester courses) regardless of when a CBE for acceleration is taken.

## **TESTING GUIDELINES**

### **Credit with No Prior Instruction**

A student in Grades 6 – 12 must be given credit for an academic subject in which he or she has had no prior instruction if the student scores:

- a three or higher on a College Board advanced placement examination that has been approved for the applicable course;
- a scaled score of 50 or higher on an examination administered through the College-Level Examination Program for the applicable course; or
- 80% on any other criterion-referenced test approved by the school district board of trustees for the applicable course.

## Credit with Prior Instruction

To participate in the Credit by Exam with prior instruction, the student must have been enrolled in a formal course as evidenced by:

- a transcript from an accredited or non-accredited institution;
- other documentation that establishes evidence of a formal course;
- a syllabus listing daily assignments;
- an explanation of the time parameters of the course;
- documentation of the student's performance throughout the course; or
- documentation of alignments to the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills.

A student in Grades 6 – 12 must be given credit for an academic subject in which he or she has had prior instruction if the student scores 70% or above on the Credit by Exam assessment administered.

## Credit and Scores Earned Through Credit by Exam

- No grade points are awarded for grades earned through Credit by Exam. Only course credit can be earned.
- Units of credit and grades earned through Credit by Exam shall be recorded on the permanent academic record for grades 6-12 but will not be included in the calculations of GPA or rank-in-class. Scores below the required minimum for credit will not be posted.
- Students are not allowed to forfeit the Credit by Exam credit. Once the credit is earned, students cannot sit in the course for any reason, including for local credit or because of low performance in the subsequent course.
- There is no testing for Honors, AP, or IB designated courses.

## EXAM INFORMATION

Plano ISD utilizes three vendors, University of Texas, Texas Tech University, and AVANT, whose exams meet the criteria set by the State Board of Education (SBOE) that the examination:

- is aligned to all assessable TEKS for the course;
- has not been published and is not publicly available;
- will only be administered in a secure environment under standardized conditions by a school district or institution of higher education; and
- has been evaluated to ensure:
  - test scores can be interpreted as indicators of what the test is intended to measure; and
  - consistency of test results across testing conditions.

## University of Texas – CBEs

The following exams are purchased from University of Texas:

- English I
- English II
- English III
- English IV

## Texas Tech University – CBEs

The following exams are purchased from Texas Tech University:

- Algebra I
- Algebra II
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Economics
- Environmental System
- Geometry
- Government
- Integrated Physics and Chemistry
- Math 8
- Physics
- Pre-Calculus
- US History
- World Geography
- World History

## AVANT – Foreign Language CBEs

The following exams are purchased from AVANT:

- Amharic
- Arabic
- Armenian
- Chin (Hakha)
- Chinese (Simplified)
- Chuukese
- Czech
- Filipino
- French
- German
- Haitian-Creole
- Hawaiian
- Hmong
- Hindi
- Ilocano
- Italian
- Japanese
- Kannada
- Korean
- Marathi
- Marshallese
- Polish
- Portuguese
- Russian
- Samoan
- Somali Maay Maay
- Somali Maxaa
- Spanish
- Tamil
- Telugu
- Turkish
- Urdu
- Vietnamese
- Yup'ik

## District Personnel Developed Exams

District personnel create the following exams:

- American Sign Language
- Health
- Foundations of Personal Fitness
- Math 6 Honors
- Math 7 Honors
- Professional Communications

## REGISTRATION PROCESS

### Submittal of Applications - Laserfiche

Students receive a paper application from the counseling department that will list the available courses, with applicable test dates. Students will submit the completed, signed application to the counseling office. Counselors will submit the application requests electronically in Laserfiche with counselor approval, prior instruction, and accommodations required for the application.

1. Students complete both sections of the paper CBE application and submit it to their counselor by the published deadline.
2. The counselor completes and submits the application in Laserfiche.
3. Once the application has been submitted, the parent receives a confirmation email regarding the submission of the application.
4. ARPE – CBE personnel receive the application in Laserfiche.
5. At the close of the deadline, ARPE – CBE downloads a report of all applications submitted for testing for the test window.
6. ARPE – CBE orders the requested exams from the appropriate vendor.
7. ARPE – CBE merges all of the information for the students testing in order to create the confirmation letters.
8. Two weeks prior to the test window, ARPE – CBE sends a pdf copy of all letters to Instructional Technology to upload into the Plano ISD Mobile App.
9. The students receive the confirmation letter, which provides information for each student with exam specific information. Students will receive a separate email from UT or TTU for the exam provided by the vendor. The student will be required to create a student account for UT or TTU in order to access the exam.

## CREDIT-BY-EXAM SCORE DISTRIBUTION REPORT

### University of Texas Exams

Credit by Exam Assessments	Number Tested	Number of Students Below 70%	Number of Students Between 70%-79%	Number of Students At or Above 70%	Number of students At or Above 80%	Average Scores
English I	6	0	1	6	5	84
English II	3	1	1	2	1	51
English III	3	2	0	1	1	72
English IV	28	2	1	26	25	79

### Texas Tech University Exams

Credit by Exam Assessments	Number Tested	Number of Students Below 70%	Number of Students Between 70%-79%	Number of Students At or Above 70%	Number of students At or Above 80%	Average Scores
Algebra I	81	29	6	52	46	72
Algebra II	174	7	17	167	150	89
Biology	11	7	2	4	2	63
Chemistry	40	8	6	32	26	79
Economics	29	11	8	18	10	69
Environmental Systems	5	0	0	5	5	86
Geometry	235	56	35	179	144	74
Government	200	17	36	183	147	82
Integrated Physics and Chemistry	1	1	0	0	0	51
Math 8	11	7	2	4	2	64
Physics	67	2	4	65	61	89
US History	4	1	1	3	2	78
World Geography	23	5	8	18	10	73
World History	3	2	0	1	1	66

## AVANT Exams

<b>Credit by Exam Assessments</b>	<b>Number Tested</b>	<b>Number of Students Below 70%</b>	<b>Number of Students Between 70%-79%</b>	<b>Number of Students At or Above 70%</b>	<b>Number of students At or Above 80%</b>	<b>Average Scores</b>
Amharic I	2	0	0	2	2	100
Amharic II	2	0	0	2	2	95
Amharic III	2	0	1	2	1	81
Arabic I	22	2	0	20	20	95
Arabic II	24	6	0	17	17	87
Arabic III	18	5	3	13	10	78
Arabic IV	16	11	0	5	5	68
Chinese I	107	2	0	105	105	98
Chinese II	110	1	0	109	109	99
Chinese III	133	2	1	131	130	97
Chinese IV	55	10	0	45	45	86
Filipino I	1	0	0	1	1	100
Filipino II	1	0	0	1	1	100
Filipino III	1	0	0	1	1	100
Filipino IV	1	0	0	1	1	100
French I	14	1	0	13	13	97
French II	18	0	2	18	16	97
French III	19	2	0	17	17	87
French IV	9	3	0	6	6	72
German I	4	0	0	4	4	100
German II	6	1	1	5	4	88
German III	3	1	0	2	2	89
German IV	3	1	0	2	2	80
Haitian-Creole I	1	0	0	1	1	99
Haitian-Creole II	1	0	0	1	1	91
Haitian-Creole III	1	1	0	0	0	69
Haitian-Creole IV	1	1	0	0	0	0

<b>Credit by Exam Assessments</b>	<b>Number Tested</b>	<b>Number of Students Below 70%</b>	<b>Number of Students Between 70%-79%</b>	<b>Number of Students At or Above 70%</b>	<b>Number of students At or Above 80%</b>	<b>Average Scores</b>
Hebrew I	12	0	0	12	12	100
Hebrew II	12	0	0	12	12	100
Hebrew III	12	0	0	12	12	98
Hebrew IV	10	0	0	10	10	94
Hindi I	22	1	0	21	21	95
Hindi II	21	1	1	20	19	94
Hindi III	21	2	0	19	19	92
Hindi IV	19	3	0	16	16	84
Japanese I	10	0	0	10	10	100
Japanese II	11	0	0	11	11	100
Japanese III	10	0	0	10	10	97
Japanese IV	8	1	0	7	7	89
Korean I	12	0	0	12	12	100
Korean II	12	0	0	12	12	100
Korean III	11	0	0	11	11	100
Korean IV	8	0	0	8	8	99
Marathi I	7	0	0	7	7	100
Marathi II	7	0	0	7	7	99
Marathi III	5	0	0	5	5	94
Marathi IV	5	1	0	4	4	73
Portuguese I	7	0	0	7	7	100
Portuguese II	7	0	0	7	7	99
Portuguese III	8	1	0	7	7	95
Portuguese IV	6	1	0	5	5	90
Russian I	4	0	0	4	4	100
Russian II	4	0	0	4	4	100
Russian III	4	0	0	4	4	100
Russian IV	3	0	0	3	3	89

<b>Credit by Exam Assessments</b>	<b>Number Tested</b>	<b>Number of Students Below 70%</b>	<b>Number of Students Between 70%-79%</b>	<b>Number of Students At or Above 70%</b>	<b>Number of students At or Above 80%</b>	<b>Average Scores</b>
Spanish I	99	2	0	97	97	98
Spanish II	117	8	0	109	109	94
Spanish III	114	21	4	93	89	87
Spanish IV	85	36	0	49	49	72
Tamil I	4	1	0	3	3	85
Tamil II	3	0	0	3	3	96
Tamil III	5	2	0	3	3	71
Tamil IV	3	3	0	0	0	15
Telugu I	18	2	0	16	16	90
Telugu II	16	2	0	14	14	87
Telugu III	16	7	0	9	9	62
Telugu IV	16	15	1	1	0	31
Turkish I	8	0	0	8	8	98
Turkish II	8	1	0	7	7	89
Turkish III	7	5	0	2	2	55
Turkish IV	5	3	0	2	2	55
Urdu I	1	0	0	1	1	100
Urdu II	1	0	0	1	1	100
Urdu III	1	0	0	1	1	99
Urdu IV	1	0	0	1	1	91
Vietnamese I	19	1	0	18	18	92
Vietnamese II	16	1	0	15	15	92
Vietnamese III	14	5	0	9	9	77
Vietnamese IV	7	4	0	3	3	53
World Speak Spanish I	3	0	0	3	3	97
World Speak Spanish II	3	0	0	3	3	88
World Speak Spanish III	3	2	0	1	1	52

## District Personnel Developed Exams

<b>Credit by Exam Assessments</b>	<b>Number Tested</b>	<b>Number of Students Below 70%</b>	<b>Number of Students Between 70%-79%</b>	<b>Number of Students At or Above 70%</b>	<b>Number of students At or Above 80%</b>	<b>Average Scores</b>
ASL I	2	1	1	1	0	61
ASL II	3	1	2	2	0	69
Foundations of Personal Fitness	192	2	12	190	178	90
High School Health	233	7	30	226	196	85
Honors Math 6	71	27	23	44	21	70
Honors Math 7	129	41	36	88	52	73
Professional Communications	261	9	24	248	224	84