

# Texas Education Agency Graduation Toolkit



## Distinguished Level of Achievement

### Choices Determine Options

Most of the high-skill, high-wage, and in-demand jobs available now and in the future require education and training beyond a high school diploma. Whether you intend to pursue an industry workforce credential from a community or technical college or a traditional four-year degree from a university, the choices you make in high school will determine your future options.

To best prepare yourself now for the transition to postsecondary education and career entrance, choosing and taking the right classes is essential.

### Distinguished Level of Achievement

The distinguished level of achievement requires:

- A total of four credits in math, including Algebra II;
- A total of four credits in science; and
- Successful completion of an endorsement in your area of interest.

A student must earn the distinguished level of achievement to be admitted to a Texas public university under the Top 10 percent automatic admission law.

### Why it matters — Benefits

The distinguished level of achievement opens a world of educational and employment opportunities for you beyond high school. The distinguished level of achievement does the following:

- **Allows you to compete for Top 10% automatic admissions eligibility at almost any Texas public university;**
- **Makes you a more competitive applicant at selective colleges and universities;**
- **Prepares you for college-level coursework at community/technical colleges and universities;**
- **Lays a strong foundation for successful completion of an industry workforce credential or college degree.**

\* The University of Texas at Austin can limit automatic admission to fewer students than the top 10%. Check with your counselor to learn about the percent of students eligible for automatic admission at UT Austin.