

ENDORSEMENT BASICS

by **TEXAS ONCOURSE**

What's an Endorsement?

An endorsement is a set of classes that allows a student to dig into an area of interest to them. It's similar to a college major, allowing the student to learn more about a particular subject area.

Endorsements connect to different career paths and are meant to help students get familiar with the sorts of ideas, skills, and abilities related to those careers.

Students choose one or more endorsements out of five possibilities. During high school, they'll complete a certain number of courses to earn credit toward their endorsement. When they graduate, their endorsement(s) will be reflected on their transcript and diploma.

The endorsements are:

 Arts and Humanities  Business and Industry

 Multidisciplinary Studies  Public Service

 Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math

Endorsements give students an early taste of different career options so that they are more prepared after graduating high school for college and career!

Endorsements in Detail



Arts and Humanities

Do you get excited about learning a new language? Do you dig studying the past and considering how it might impact the future? Do you follow what's going on in the world around you? Do you dream about being on stage or behind the scenes of the school play? Then the Arts and Humanities endorsement might be for you!

Career options include political scientist, art director, economist, lawyer, choreographer, and translator.



Business and Industry

Do you get excited by the idea of starting your own business or playing the stock market? Want to work on construction sites or build websites and IT networks? Does the thought of being a CEO or manager sound cool? Then the Business and Industry endorsement might be for you!

Career options include medical administrative assistant, event planner, construction manager, airline pilot, and financial manager.



Multidisciplinary Studies

If you have too many interests to pick just one endorsement, or you're still deciding what your future might look like, then the Multidisciplinary Studies endorsement might be for you! It will help you graduate as a well-rounded student, ready to go in whatever direction you want.

Career options related to this endorsement include psychologist, security screener, and even CEO!



Public Service

Do you get excited about helping other people or making the world a better place? Want to serve your country or be a police officer? Do you love to teach or work with children? Then the Public Service endorsement might be for you!

Career options include registered nurse, paralegal, emergency management director, teacher, human resources specialist, and marriage and family therapist.



Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math

Do you get excited about building robots, making your own computer games or programs, or crunching numbers to make sure your fantasy football team is dialed? Does the thought of engineering sound cool? Do you do well in math and science classes? Then the STEM endorsement might be for you!

Related careers include software developer, statistician, petroleum engineer, geoscientist, biochemist, and pharmacist.

Important Endorsement Facts



Not all endorsements are offered at all high schools. To find out what endorsements are available at a school, start by checking your district's webpage.



Students choose an endorsement upon entering ninth grade. You can change your endorsement, and you can pursue more than one!



Students can opt out of an endorsement after 10th grade with the written permission of a parent or guardian and advisement from their school counselor.



If you want to graduate from high school with the distinguished level of achievement, one requirement is graduating with an endorsement. You must earn the distinguished level of achievement to be eligible for Texas' Top 10% Automatic Admission law.

More Information and Support

Texas OnCourse has tons more resources for you!

MiddleGalaxy

When you run missions to outer space in this game, you also learn about different jobs in Texas, the skills you need to do those jobs, and the sorts of interests that people in those jobs usually have.

MapMyGrad

On this interactive website, you can take a quiz to see what endorsement may interest you. You can explore lots of different jobs and careers. And you can create a draft graduation plan that includes the classes and endorsements at the high school you plan to attend.

Share Your Road

This website is a treasure trove of career stories from real-life Texans. On Share Your Road, lots of different Texas professionals share what their work life is like. They also talk about how they got to where they are and the obstacles they overcame in doing so.

Visit texasoncourse.org/students-and-families for more!

As Texas' definitive resource for college and career preparedness, Texas OnCourse equips middle and high school students for postgraduation success. With Texas OnCourse, all Texas graduates, no matter where they come from or where they're headed, have a plan for what's next. Texas OnCourse is an initiative from The University of Texas at Austin, in partnership with other institutions of higher education, the Texas Education Agency, the Texas Workforce Commission, and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. For more information about Texas OnCourse, visit texasoncourse.org.

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