

Pass / Fail Courses

2015-2016

Cypress-Fairbanks I.S.D. wants to encourage students to pursue their areas of special talents and aptitudes and to enrich their academic achievement through efforts both in and out of the public school setting. Academically-able and talented students frequently forfeit opportunities to study in their areas of talent and interest. To encourage these students to explore areas of interest in depth while they are in high school, the district is offering the following courses to students in grades 11 and 12 on a pass/fail basis.

Courses Allowed on a Pass/Fail Basis

- Athletics III-IV (44553, 44563)
- Band III-IV(75303, 75403, 75703, 75733, 75803, 76103, 76143, 76203, 76303, 76503, 76603, 76803, 76903)
- Orchestra III-IV (77303, 77403)
- Choir III-IV(78303, 78403)
- Dance III-IV (45303, 45403, 45503, 45703)
- Art III-IV (70903, 71003, 71213, 71243, 71403, 71763, 72503, 71773, 72543, 72633)
- Debate III-IV(06543, 06603)
- Oral Interpretation III (07043)
- Audio Video Production III- IV(06243, 06263)
- Independent Study in Speech (Level IV) (06803)
- Tech Theatre III-IV (74053, 74063)
- Theatre Production III-IV(74903, 75003)
- Theatre Arts III-IV (74303, 74403)
- Advanced Journalism/Newspaper II*-IV(08243, 08253)
- Advanced Journalism/Yearbook II*-IV(08343, 08353)
- Air Force JROTC III-IV(46343, 46363)
- Sociology (13400)
- Psychology(13600)
- Street Law (13700, 13703)
- Social Studies Research(13203)
- Special Projects in Social Studies (15630 Holocaust, 15400 Vietnam, 15440 History in Film)
- Spanish III-VI (61503, 61603, 61703, 61763, 61903)
- French III-VI(62403, 62503, 62603, 62903)
- German III-VI(63503, 63603, 63703)
- Latin III-IV(64303, 64403)
- American Sign Language III (64603)
- Creative Writing(09503)
- Algebra II(23303)
- Pre-Calculus(24203)
- CTE courses
 - (CTE dual credit courses)
 - Money Matters Dual Credit(52833)
 - Internetworking Technologies II Dual Credit (spring only) (93602)
 - (written at level of 4th Math/Science)
 - Statistics and Risk Management**
 - Advanced Animal Science**(92723)

NOTE: Algebra II and Pre-Calculus are restricted to seniors who have completed their math requirements (met state and district requirements).

- (3rd credit or more in a defined sequence)
 - Advanced Animation (spring only) (54432)
 - Advanced Architectural Design (spring only) (84432)
 - Advanced Construction Management (spring only)
 - Advanced Engineering Design and Presentation (spring only) (81312)
 - Advanced Fashion Design (spring only)
 - Internetworking Technologies II (not dual credit) (spring only) (93600)
 - Health Science (spring only) (94502)
 - Practicum in Ag, Food, and Natural Resources (spring only)
 - Practicum in Architectural Design (spring only)
 - Practicum in Business Management I (spring only)
 - Practicum in Construction Management (spring only)
 - Practicum in Manufacturing (spring only)
 - Practicum in Marketing Dynamics I (spring only) (96612)
 - Practicum in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (spring only)
 - Advanced Automotive Technology(93933)
 - Cosmetology II (94233)
 - Practicum in Culinary Arts(86113)
 - Practicum in Education/Training (RST II) (96323)
 - Practicum in Health Science
 - Practicum Human Services (ECP II) (96013)
 - Practicum in Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics
 - Problems and Solutions in Drafting
 - Problems and Solutions in Multi Media(83123)
 - Problems and Solutions in Tech Ed
 - Digital Electronics(84643)
 - Engineering Design and Development(84743)
 - Advanced Computer Science***
 - Computer Science- Problems and Solutions***(82833)

**For juniors/seniors who have already completed two credits in journalism*

***A student may not P/F these courses if taken as a fourth math/science credit on the RHSP*

****These courses may be taken P/F if the student did not skip a prerequisite.*

Who is eligible to take an advanced course on a pass/fail basis?

This option is available to highly motivated juniors and seniors who wish to take one or two (2) courses on the above list that are **beyond the requirements for graduation**. These two credits must be in addition to the 26 credits required for graduation on the Recommended Program or the 22 credits required for graduation on the Minimum Program. To take the third- or fourth-year courses in the four-year elective programs on a pass/fail basis, the student must have the credit for the first two courses in the elective program sequence. The students should also have an overall B or above average for other courses completed in the field of study. All students must meet the prerequisites of each course and have parent, teacher, and counselor approval. Students may take only 2 credits on a pass/fail basis, 1 as a junior and 1 as a senior.

Who really benefits from this option?

The student who will obtain the maximum benefit from this option is the student who

1. is both academically-able and is talented in or has a keen interest in one of the above courses of study;
2. will have more credits than the twenty-two (minimum transcript) or twenty-six (recommended transcript) required for graduation;
3. will have **more K-level academic courses than L-level courses** on the final transcript; and
4. earns mostly grades of A in ALL courses of study (has a GPA of 6.0 or higher).

The student described above will achieve a grade point average that is almost identical to the grade point average he/she would obtain if two K-level courses were attempted instead of enrollment in and completion of the pass/fail courses. This option works in this way because the total number of K-level courses is greater than the number of L-level courses. This option does not alter class rank for students with few or no K-level courses; in fact, a pass/fail course may lower a student's GPA if he/she takes all L-level courses and earns any grade lower than an A.

How are grades handled in a pass/fail course?

Students who are eligible and choose to take one of the advanced courses for a pass/fail grade

1. will receive numerical grades all year on the report card and
2. will receive a P (pass) or F (fail) on the transcript.

These courses will not be included in the computation of grade point averages and class rank.

What are the performance standards for these courses?

- Students must complete all of the assigned work just as if they were enrolled in the course for a numerical grade.
- Students must take all tests associated with the course unless exempt from the final exam through grades earned and attendance.
- To maintain eligibility to stay in the pass/fail course for the second semester, the student's semester average must be passing. Exception: If the student is in a K-level foreign language course, K-level eligibility standards must be maintained.

How will grades in a pass/fail course affect eligibility for extra-curricular activities?

The numerical grades earned in a pass/fail course will be used to determine eligibility for participation in all UIL or school-sponsored activities. In addition, numerical grades will also be used to determine honor roll each six-weeks; academic awards eligibility, including admission to organizations such as National Honor Society; criteria used in selection of students for various positions such as drill team officers, class officers; exam exemptions; entrance and exit in K-level courses, etc.

How do I enroll in a pass/fail course?

Students interested in taking one of the pass/fail courses must discuss this option with the teacher of the course on the **first day** the course meets. If the student meets all of the criteria, he/she must complete the appropriate form, have it signed by the parent and teacher, and return it to the counselor, no later than the end of the third week of the semester, for approval and a schedule change to reflect enrollment in a pass/fail course. For more information, discuss this option with your teacher or counselor.

Pass/Fail

Notes:

The following are exceptions to the pass/fail options for students in particular situations.

1. Seniors taking Algebra II to meet the requirements to earn the Recommended Program may not pass/fail the course. Algebra II is a Recommended Program required course.
2. Students who have exactly 26 credits (RHSP, FHSP with Endorsement) or 22 credits (MHSP, FHSP) may not pass/fail any course.
3. Students must have credit for the first two courses in the elective program sequence to pass/fail the third course. (Example: Student must have credit for Debate I and II to pass/fail Debate III.)

PASS / FAIL COURSE WORKSHEET

Student Name _____ ID# _____ Grade Level 11th or 12th
(circle one)

Directions: During the junior and senior years, students may take up to two credits of pass/fail coursework, one as a junior and one as a senior, if eligibility requirements are met. Seniors may take two credits pass/fail if one was not taken during the junior year. Identify the course(s) the student requests and the eligibility requirements by checking the appropriate boxes. **Complete this worksheet before signing Application and Approval to Enroll in a Pass/Fail Course.**

Section I: Mathematics Courses

- ☐ Algebra II ☐ Pre-Calculus

Eligibility Requirements

- ☐ Senior standing only
☐ All math requirements completed
 • Algebra I, Geometry, and a 3rd math for minimum graduation plan
 • Algebra I, Geometry, MMA, Algebra II all counting in GPA for recommended plan
☐ Parent, teacher, counselor approval

Section II: 3rd and 4th Year Foreign Language Courses

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish III | <input type="checkbox"/> French III | <input type="checkbox"/> German III | <input type="checkbox"/> Latin III |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish IV | <input type="checkbox"/> French IV | <input type="checkbox"/> German IV | <input type="checkbox"/> Latin IV |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish V | <input type="checkbox"/> French V | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish VI | <input type="checkbox"/> French VI | <input type="checkbox"/> ASL III | |

Eligibility Requirements

- ☐ Junior or senior standing
☐ Full credit earned for Level I and II of the same course
☐ More K than L-Level courses on transcript
☐ Mostly grades of "90-100" in all courses
☐ An overall "80-89" average in other courses in the field of study
☐ Meets all prerequisites of course requested
☐ Parent, teacher, counselor approval

Section III: Four Year Electives

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Athletics III-IV | <input type="checkbox"/> Audio Video Production III-IV |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Band III – IV | <input type="checkbox"/> Independent Study in Speech (Level IV) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Orchestra III - IV | <input type="checkbox"/> Theatre III-IV (Arts, Production, Tech) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Choir III – IV | <input type="checkbox"/> Art III – IV |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dance III – IV | <input type="checkbox"/> Oral Interpretation III |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Debate III-IV | <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Journalism II* – III |
| | - Newspaper (Level III-IV) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Air Force JROTC III-IV | <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Journalism II* – III |
| | - Yearbook (Level III-IV) |

Eligibility Requirements

- ☐ Junior or senior standing
☐ Full credit earned for Level I and II of the same course
☐ More K than L-Level courses on transcript
☐ Mostly grades of "90-100" in all courses
☐ An overall "80-89" average in other courses in the field of study
☐ Meets all prerequisites of course requested
☐ Parent, teacher, counselor approval

Section IV: CTE Courses

Dual Credit Courses

- ☐ Money Matters (Workforce Dual Credit)
- ☐ Internetworking Technologies II Dual Credit (spring only)
- ☐ Practicum in Health Science (EMT) (spring only)

Advanced CTE courses counting as 4th Math/Science

- ☐ Statistics and Risk Management**
- ☐ Advanced Animal Science**

Eligibility Requirements

- ☐ Junior or senior standing
- ☐ Successfully completed 1st and 2nd courses in sequence
- ☐ Meets all prerequisites of course requested
- ☐ Parent, teacher, counselor approval

3rd credit or more in a defined sequence

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Animation (spring only) | <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Automotive Technology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Architectural Design (spring only) | <input type="checkbox"/> Cosmetology II |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Construction Mgt. (spring only) | <input type="checkbox"/> Practicum in Culinary Arts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Engineering Des & Pres (spring only) | <input type="checkbox"/> Practicum in Education/Training (RST II) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Fashion Design (spring only) | <input type="checkbox"/> Practicum Health Science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Internetworking Technologies II (not dual credit) (spring only) | <input type="checkbox"/> Practicum in Human Services (ECP II) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health Science (spring only) | <input type="checkbox"/> Practicum in Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Practicum in Ag, Food & Natural Resources (spring only) | <input type="checkbox"/> Problems and Solutions in Drafting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Practicum in Architectural Design (spring only) | <input type="checkbox"/> Problems and Solutions in Multi Media |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Practicum in Business Management I (spring only) | <input type="checkbox"/> Problems and Solutions in Tech Ed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Practicum in Manufacturing (spring only) | <input type="checkbox"/> Digital Electronics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Practicum in Marketing Dynamics I (spring only) | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering Design and Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Practicum in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (spring only) | <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Computer Science *** |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Practicum in Construction Mgt. (spring only) | <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Science-Problems and Solutions *** |

Eligibility Requirements

- ☐ Junior or senior standing
- ☐ Successfully completed 1st and 2nd courses in sequence
- ☐ Meets all prerequisites of course requested
- ☐ An overall average of 75 or above in all courses
- ☐ Parent, teacher, counselor approval

Section V: Other Electives

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sociology | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Studies Research |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Psychology | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Projects in Social Studies (History in Film, Holocaust, Vietnam) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Street Law | <input type="checkbox"/> Creative Writing |

Eligibility Requirements

- ☐ Junior or senior standing
- ☐ An overall average of 75 or above
- ☐ Parent, teacher, and counselor approval



Due to Counselor
by Jan. 22nd.

Application and Approval to Enroll in a Pass/Fail Course

Student Name _____ Date _____

ID# _____ Grade
Level _____ 11th or 12th
(circle one)

I am requesting enrollment in the following pass/fail course(s):

1) _____

2) _____

I have spoken to my counselor to determine eligibility, and I understand how a pass/fail course will affect my eligibility for UIL and other school-approved activities as well as my class rank.

Student's Signature

Date

Teacher or Department Chair's Signature

Date

Parent's Signature

Date

Counselor's Signature

Date