

UT High School Frequently Asked Questions

General

1. What is the UT K-16 Education Center?

The UT K-16 Education Center (formerly the Distance Education Center) is a unit in Continuing Education at the University of Texas at Austin. It oversees programs such as LUCHA, the migrant student program, the UT Testing Center, and the UT High School Program . Additionally, the UT K-16 Education Center writes the curriculum for the distance education courses as well as the Credit by Examinations. These courses and exams are available to students who want to accelerate and/or recover credit.

2. What is The University of Texas High School? How is it different from the virtual school? How is it different from being home schooled?

The University of Texas High School (UTHS) is a state accredited high school program that offers students the opportunity to earn state credit and an accredited diploma from home. All coursework is done by the student working independently from a home computer. Students enrolled in the UTHS cannot be enrolled in another school as the UTHS would be the school of record.

The virtual school is for school districts, not individuals. School districts may purchase a site license to provide online course options for their students.

The UTHS is sometimes confused with being home-schooled, as students in the UTHS program are doing their coursework from home. The difference, though, is that students enrolled in the UTHS Program are in a real school, a school with accreditation, a school with a Texas district number and a college board code. A UTHS Program student works on courses at home, but it is not home-schooling.

Students in the UTHS must complete Texas graduation requirements including passing the exit-level TAKS exam.

3. Is the UTHS accredited?

Yes, in 1998 the UTHS was authorized by the Texas State Board of Education to provide a high school curriculum and to award diplomas.

4. Who is eligible to enroll in the UTHS?

Any student that has successfully completed the 8th grade may enroll in the UTHS. If you were home-schooled for the 8th grade, you must pass 8th grade Credit by Exams in order to demonstrate 8th grade proficiency. (See CBE section below for more

information.) For students who have been out of school for many years, contact the UTHS for more information.

5. What if I live out of the country?

You can still enroll in the UTHS if you live in another state or country.

6. Is there a maximum age?

No. As we are not a public school, students over the age of 21 can enroll in our school. We have had students in their thirties and forties enroll to complete their diploma.

7. What type of students enroll in the UTHS?

The UTHS has a variety of students: both traditional high school aged students and adult learners. Many of the traditional aged students that enroll in our school are unable to attend school because of their performing arts or athletic training schedules, others are unable to attend school because of health problems, and still others are behind in school or would like to accelerate their graduation. Additionally, we have many students that simply prefer flexible scheduling and working from home. Our adult students enroll with the UTHS in order to complete the diploma that they began 5 – 20 years ago and never finished.

8. What type of students are successful?

Students are successful if they are able to work independently and are self-motivated. Additionally, successful students adhere to a schedule/timeline they create that coincides with the time allotted for completing the course. Successful students are committed to devoting time and effort to the course(s).

9. What is the difference between the UTHS and a Texas public school?

Public schools are publicly funded based on daily attendance. We do not receive any public money, but rather, are funded through the course tuition that students pay. Since we are not a public school, students over the age of 21 can register – so, too, can students from other cities, states, and countries.

The UTHS is similar to Texas public schools in that students must satisfy the same graduation requirements (number of credits, courses, TAKS exam) before a diploma can be issued.

10. How do I enroll in the UTHS?

We need three things in order for you to begin: completed enrollment form, high school transcripts (or final 8th grade report card in the case of new ninth graders), and an

enrollment fee. These items may be sent by mail or FAX to UTHS; you cannot submit the UTHS enrollment form online. (Mailing address and FAX number are on the enrollment form.) There is also a place on the enrollment form to write in your credit card information.

11. How will I know if I am accepted?

If you are ready to begin the UTHS Program and have completed the 8th grade, you will be accepted once you have submitted an enrollment form, transcript, and registration fee. There is no reason a student would not be accepted.

12. Once I have submitted the enrollment form and transcript, what happens next?

Once you have submitted the three things for enrollment (see above), we will create a graduation plan for you. We will mail you this graduation plan – and letter of acceptance – within two weeks. If you would like for UTHS to FAX or email your plan to you (in addition to mailing it), be sure to include a note telling us this (with email address or FAX number).

Once you receive the graduation plan, you can begin enrolling in courses.

13. How do I get my official transcript from my current school?

This will depend on the school from which you are withdrawing. Some schools will give you an unofficial copy upon withdrawal. (Unofficial is fine.) Other schools will require you to request a transcript in writing. There are some schools that will prefer for UTHS to request your transcript (from the old school). In this case, be sure that you attach a note to your enrollment instead of a transcript; the note should ask UTHS to request the transcript for you and should include the contact information for the old school.

14. How do I withdraw from my current school?

Contact your current school. They will ask you to fill out a withdrawal form and have a parent sign it. The school from which you are withdrawing will likely ask where you will attend next; please indicate that you will be attending The UT High School Program.

15. What courses will transfer into the UTHS?

All courses listed in the TEA list of state approved courses will transfer. For the most part, this means all courses for which you earned credit at a public school or accredited private school.

16. How do you transfer in letter grades? Change to numerical?

If your school lists letter grades (and not percentages or number grades) on your high school records, we will transfer in those letter grades as follows:

A+ = 99
A = 95
A- = 91

B+ = 89
B = 85
B- = 81

C+ = 79
C = 75
C- = 71

17. Will the UTHS accept home school credits?

No. As we are approved by the TEA we can transfer in only those credits earned at another state approved institution. If you were home-schooled for any or all of high school, please submit a home-school transcript (listing courses studied). UTHS will then allow for you to show readiness and earn credit for those subjects that you studied at home by taking a Credit by Exam (CBE) for each of these courses. You must pass a CBE with a 70% or higher to earn state credit for those subjects studied at home.

18. What is the cost of the UTHS?

The cost of the program will depend on the number of credits you have remaining to graduate. Currently, for a student to complete all 26 credits (required for ninth graders that began high school in 2007-08) the cost would be about \$9000; this figure does not include the cost of textbooks or proctoring fees (which will vary).

19. Is financial aid available? Is there a payment plan?

Unfortunately, financial aid is not available. All University aid and federal aid are for college students enrolled in college courses and programs. As far as a payment plan, payment for each course is due at the time of registration for that course; in other words, you pay as you go. Payment is not due up front in a lump sum for an academic year or an entire graduation plan, but, rather, you pay for each course as you take it. Credit cards are accepted.

20. Are students ranked in the graduating class? Top 10%

Currently we do not rank our students. When you apply to a university, you will not have a ranking. If you graduate from UTHS, you are graduating from an (accredited) TX school that does not rank.

21. What colleges/universities do UTHS graduates attend?

Colleges and universities that UTHS students have been accepted to include: The American University of Paris, Baylor, Colorado State University, Johnson and Wales Culinary School, Pennsylvania State University, Smith College, Southern Methodist University, Southwestern University, Texas Christian University, Texas State University, Texas Tech University, University of Arkansas, University of California at Santa Barbara, University of California Berkley, University of Colorado, University of Southern California, University of Texas at Arlington, University of Texas at Austin, University of Texas at San Antonio, University of Utah, and University of Virginia.

22. Would graduating from the UTHS help me get into UT?

Unfortunately, UTHS graduates do not receive any special consideration. Graduates from the UTHS are considered for admission to the University in the same way as graduates from other non-ranking TX schools. It should be noted that admission to the University has become extremely competitive in recent years.

23. What happens if I transfer back to a public school?

All credits should transfer to another TX school since we are state accredited. Please let us know that you need to withdraw so that we can keep your UTHS student file current. If you need a transcript from UTHS, you may request one from the Academic Advisor. (Note: If less than four courses have been completed with UTHS, we will not issue a formal transcript, but, rather, we will issue grade reports for the individual courses you have completed. These can then be forwarded to the new/next institution in the same way as a transcript.)

24. What is required for graduation?

For students entering high school in 2007 or later, 26 credits are required under the Recommended Plan for graduation. For a student who entered high school earlier than 2007, fewer credits may be required. The state of TX allows students to graduate under the minimum plan (with the approval of the student's parent and school – in this case UTHS); the minimum plan requires 22 credits. See the list of courses for each of these graduation plans under Graduation Requirements.

25. Do you have a graduation ceremony?

Since UTHS graduates live all over the state and even out of state, we do not have a graduation ceremony.

26. Can I preview a course?

Our website has a link from the home page to course demonstrations, or “demos.” Please see www.utk16.org and click on the box with the words “Course Demo.” Directions on how to access the demo will follow. The demo is a preview of our ASKME online

courses. The ASKME format is used in our math and science courses. Our other online courses follow a more traditional format.

Courses

1. What courses are offered?

We offer 52 half-credit courses including: English 1-4, Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, Pre-Calculus, Integrated Physics and Chemistry, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, World Geography, World History, U.S. History, Government, Economics, PE, Health, Communication Applications, BCIS, Spanish 1-3, Art, and electives.

2. What is the difference between online courses, ASKME courses, and CD courses?

Online courses are accessed through a specific web site with a secure log on and password. Activities and graded assignments are submitted through the internet. ASKME courses are online courses that use video tutorials in place of textbooks.

CD courses have the course content on a CD-ROM which is mailed to the student upon enrollment. Some of the graded assignments in these courses must be submitted by regular mail.

Each course is available in only one format. Please see web site for course descriptions.

All courses are written by subject matter experts who have classroom teaching experience in Texas schools and cover the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills as required by the Texas Education Agency.

3. What electives do you offer?

Depending upon the graduation plan a student follows, elective courses may include the following: Pre-Calculus, Math Models A, Physics, Spanish 3, Art, and Individual and Family Life (IFL).

4. How do you offer PE online?

PE 1A is a textbook driven course that includes information on physical fitness and health. Students do not need access to a gym or special equipment; however, some physical activity is required to assess heart rate, flexibility, etc.

Our other PE courses are individual sports: bowling, cycling, golf, and racquetball. These sports are grouped in pairs to equal a half credit. Students learn game rules and strategies, and then must participate in the sport at a local bowling alley, golf course, gym, etc.

5. I am an athlete; can my training count for PE credit?

Students involved in youth or pre-professional sports such as tennis, figure skating, gymnastics, equestrian events, etc. may count 90 hours of **instructional** time as a half credit of PE. Documentation must be provided by the instructor/coach. Students may count up to two credits of PE for graduation (1.5 to satisfy the PE requirements; .5 as an elective).

6. Do the science courses include science labs?

Each of our science courses includes lab work to meet the Texas Education Agency 40% lab requirement. Labs are designed to be done at home, and lab kits may be purchased from EdMap, our textbook provider. Lab kits range in price from \$15.00 to \$140.00. A list of the items required in the lab kit can be found on our web site in the syllabus for each course (<http://www.utexas.edu/cee/dec/k16/index.php?page=hscourses>).

7. How are the courses organized?

Courses are organized into units consisting of introductory information (objectives, reading assignments, teacher comments), activities (un-graded practice exercises), graded assignments, and a final exam. The activities provide information and practice for success on the graded assignments. The final exam covers content from the activities and the graded assignments. The final exam review covers all concepts that will be found on the final exam. For the final course average, the graded assignments will count 75% and the final exam will count 25% (Student must make at least a 70 on the final exam to receive credit. If the student does not make a 70 on the final exam, a grade of “X” will be entered for the final course grade.

8. How long does it take to complete a course?

Courses are designed to be equivalent in length to a semester course in a Texas public school or about 90 hours of work. From the date of enrollment, students have 9 months to complete the course. This is actually twice as long as a semester in a public school. Students progress through the course at their own pace – students who are working or have limited time may use the entire 9 months; students who want to advance may work through the course much faster.

9. What is the least amount of time it could take to complete a course?

If a student were to dedicate 40 hours per week to a course, the graded assignments could be completed within a few weeks. However, additional time would be needed for instructor grading and the final exam process (requesting exam, exam processing and

mailing to the testing site, taking the exam, testing site returning the exam, and two weeks for the instructor to grade the exam). The least amount of time could be 6-8 weeks.

10. Is there a due date for each assignment?

There are no specific due dates for each assignment; however, all assignments and the final exam must be completed within the 9 month period. We suggest that students create a timeline for each course to provide some structure. For example, if a course has 10 graded assignments and you wish to complete the course in 10 weeks, then you must submit one graded assignment each week. If the course has 20 graded assignments and you wish to complete the course in 10 weeks, then you must submit two graded assignments each week.

11. Do I have to purchase a textbook?

The online math, science, Health, and Communication Applications courses do not require the purchase of a textbook; all other courses require textbooks. Science courses require the purchase of a lab kit.

12. Where can I get a textbook? lab kit?

EdMap, our textbook supplier, maintains an inventory of textbooks and lab kits for our courses. You may access their web site at: <http://www.shop-edmap.biz/utx/>

You may purchase textbooks from other vendors, but please be certain that the ISBN numbers are the same. Our courses are written to specific editions of a textbook, and although the title might be the same, a different edition might not contain the same content on the same pages as in the edition we selected to use.

Textbook requirements for each course are listed in the course syllabus found on the web site under high school courses.

13. How long do I have to finish the course?

You have nine months from the date you enroll to complete the course including the final exam. We suggest that you do not wait until the course is going to expire to take the final exam, in case you need to take a re-exam. If your course has expired when you request a re-exam, you will be required to pay a re-instatement fee in addition to the re-exam fee.

14. What if I don't finish the course in time?

Your course will expire and a grade of "Q" will be entered. There is no academic penalty, and the course will not show on your transcript. If you want to complete the course, you will need to either pay a re-instatement fee or register for the course again.

15. How much interaction is there with the instructor?

All communication with an instructor is done through the course message center, similar to e-mail. Instructors respond to questions through the message center within 48 hours. Instructors also provide written feedback on assignments.

16. What happens if I need more help?

Students may seek additional help from friends, relatives, and/or tutors. Although students may receive help on graded assignments, they must learn the concepts as they will be required to demonstrate mastery on the final exam. Final exams must be taken at a proctored testing site in your area. To receive credit for a course, the student must make at least a 70 on the final exam.

17. What modifications/ accommodations are available?

Online courses offer students the ability to progress through the course at their own pace thus providing for additional time when necessary. Additionally, students may receive additional support on activities and graded assignments. With appropriate documentation, accommodations on final exams such as extended time, private testing setting for reduced distractions, etc. may be arranged. If a student needs modifications or accommodations, it is recommended that you discuss this with the UTHS principal or academic advisor prior to enrolling.

18. How many courses should I take at one time?

To graduate within four years, students must complete at least 12 of our half-credit courses each 12 months. This can be done in a variety of ways: four courses every four months (similar to a trimester – working through the summer); six courses every six months (similar to semesters in a public school); two courses every two months, etc.

With open enrollment, as soon as you complete one course you can enroll in the next one. Online, self-paced courses offer great flexibility; however, students must be careful to stay on some sort of a schedule to remain on target for graduation.

19. How many courses do I need to take in order to be considered a full-time student?

To be considered a full-time student, you must remain enrolled in four courses at a time.

20. What is the order in which I should take the courses?

Most courses may be taken in any order; however, we recommend that you follow a sequence for English courses (English 1, English 2, English 3, English 4); math courses (Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, Pre-Calculus); and foreign language courses

(Spanish 1, Spanish 2, Spanish 3). Normally, students take U.S. History in their junior year; Government and Economics in their senior year.

As part of the graduation plan that will be created for each student, we include a suggested course sequence. This is only a suggestion; courses may be taken in a different order, and students may enroll in more or less courses at one time.

21. Do you offer AP courses?

We do not offer AP courses. Students interested in college credit should enroll in dual credit courses. For more information on dual credit, read the section on Dual Credit.

22. Does Driver's Education count?

If a student has received credit for driver's education and transfers into the UTHS, the credit will count. Credit cannot be awarded for commercial driver's education courses.

23. How can I get a Verification of Enrollment form?

Contact the UTHS by e-mail or phone to request a VOE. A student must be enrolled in at least four courses to be considered a full-time student.

Course Exams

1. How many tests are there for each course?

Each course has only one exam, the final exam. The final exam is comprehensive, covering all of the important concepts in the course. Students should review all activities, graded assignments, and the exam review before attempting the final exam. Students must make a 70 or better on the final exam to receive credit for the course.

2. Where do I take the final exam?

The final exam must be taken at a proctored testing site in your area; most local colleges or universities have a testing center. Educational Services can assist you in finding an approved testing site in your area. Educational Services is the K-16 Education Center department that handles course and exam enrollments as well as testing.

3. What if I fail the final exam?

If you fail the final exam, you may request a re-exam. When you take a re-exam, you will be given a different form of the exam. To prepare for your re-exam, you may request to review your original exam in a proctored setting. This allows you the opportunity to see what you missed and will give you a better idea what to study.

If you fail the final the exam a second time, you may take a Credit by Exam to recover credit for the course. The grade you receive on the CBE will become the final grade. You may attempt a Credit by Exam twice.

Failing grades for either the course or the Credit by Exam are not recorded on your transcript.

4. How do I request a re-exam?

When you receive the failure notice from Educational Services by mail, you will also receive a Request for a Re-exam form. You cannot request a re-exam until a failing grade has been posted. For more information, you may contact Educational Services. There is a fee for the re-exam.

5. How do I request to review my exam?

You request to review your exam by contacting Educational Services. The exam will be pulled from our files, processed, held for review at our testing center or mailed to a proctored testing site. There are strict guidelines for reviewing the exam which will be provided to the proctor.

6. Do I get a failing grade if I don't complete a course?

When you do not complete a course, the course expires and a grade report is not generated; therefore, the grade is not recorded on your transcript. It is not necessary to inform us that you are dropping a course unless it is within the 30 days after registration in which case you might be eligible for a partial refund.

Credit by Exams /Exams for Acceleration

1. What is a Credit by Exam (CBE)?

A CBE is an exam that can be taken to recover credit in a course in which a student has already received instruction. The student could have failed the course, lost credit due to lack of attendance, not completed the course for some reason, or received instruction through home-schooling. According to legislative guidelines, to recover credit a student must make at least a 70 on the exam.

K-16 Education Center CBEs cover a semester course (.5 credit). The exams are based on the required Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills and include questions varying in difficulty level. The exams are comprehensive.

CBEs must be taken within 60 days of registration. If the time expires before the exam is taken, the student must re-enroll to take the exam. All CBEs must be taken at a proctored testing site in your area.

If a student does not make the required grade on the first attempt, he/she can enroll in a CBE re-exam. You may request to review your first exam by contacting Educational Services. The exam will be pulled from our files, processed, held for review at our testing center or mailed to a proctored testing site. There are strict guidelines for reviewing the exam which must be followed by the proctor.

2. What if I want to test out of something (Exam For Acceleration)?

To place out of a course, students can take an Exam for Acceleration (EA). According to legislative guidelines, to place out of the course and receive credit, a student must make at least a 90 on the exam.

K-16 Education Center EAs cover a semester course (.5 credit). The exams are based on the required Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills and include questions varying in difficulty level. The exams are comprehensive.

EAs must be taken within 60 days of enrollment. If the time expires before the exam is taken, the student will have to re-enroll for the exam. All EAs must be taken at a proctored testing site in your area.

If a UTHS student does not make the required grade on the first attempt, he/she can enroll in an EA re-exam. You may request to review your first exam by contacting Educational Services. The exam will be pulled from our files, processed, held for review at our testing center or mailed to a proctored testing site. There are strict guidelines for reviewing the exam which must be followed by the proctor.

3. Is there a study guide for CBEs/EAs?

Students who wish to take a CBE or EA should take time to learn/review the concepts listed in the Study Guide for each exam. The Study Guides can be found on our web site by clicking on Credit by Exams/Study Guides/ course title.

4. How do I register for a CBE or an EA?

CBE/EA enrollment forms for individual students are found in the Download Zone of our web site. The form must be printed and either faxed or mailed to Educational Services. CBE/EA registration cannot be done online.

Dual Credit Courses

1. Can I take dual credit courses?

Yes. Once you are a junior you may take courses for dual credit (college and high school credit).

2. Where can I take a dual credit course?

You have a couple of options: (1) You may take college courses online with UT (through University Extension, called UEX) or (2) you may take college courses at your local community college (assuming your local community college allows high school students to take courses – most do).

3. How do I enroll in dual credit courses?

At least one month before it is time to register at the college, contact your UTHS Academic Advisor and let her know that you would like to take college level courses for dual credit. Then, check with the college at which you are going to take courses; that institution will have requirements for you to fulfill as a high school student. This will vary depending on the institution. You may have to have your UTHS Academic Advisor sign your college registration form as your high school counselor; additionally, the college may require you to bring a high school transcript with you when you register for the college course.

Note: UEX has rolling admissions but it is likely that your local community college operates on a traditional academic calendar.

4. Which courses can I take as dual credit courses?

Courses that are commonly taken as dual credit courses are college courses equivalent to English 4, government, economics, US history, and electives such as psychology. Additionally, students may also take courses equivalent to high school speech, chemistry, biology, theatre, and all studio art courses (painting, ceramics, drawing, photography). If you are taking courses through UEX, you should register for the following:

English 4 A & B (1 credit) = Rhetoric 306 AND English 316 K (British)

US Government (.5) = Government 310 L

Economics (.5) = Economics 304 K OR 304 L

US History (1) = History 315 L

Elective: Psychology (.5) = Psychology 301

If you are taking courses at your local community college, the college course number will vary depending on the school at which you are taking courses.

5. How much do college courses cost?

The cost for courses taken at one's local community college will vary; many community colleges allow students to take up to two courses per term at reduced rates. (Please check

directly with your community college.) Current prices for UEX courses can be found at: <http://web.austin.utexas.edu/courses/dec/college/searchcollege.cfm>

6. How will credit be awarded?

This will depend on the course, but, for the most part, courses count one for one: each semester course at the college level (3 -4 college semester hours) will transfer into the high school and translate into a semester course at the high school level (.5 high school credit). There are a couple of exceptions to this general rule. For more information, contact the UTHS Academic Advisor.

On your high school transcript, the course will be denoted as a dual credit course. You must earn a B or higher on the college course to have it count for high school credit.

7. How can I get a transcript of my dual credit course?

You must check with the registrar of the college at which you took the course; UTHS will not have a transcript for your college course. If you took the course through UEX, contact the main campus registrar at UT Austin.

TAKS (Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills)

1. Will I need to take the TAKS tests?

Yes. Because of our TEA accreditation, you are required to pass the exit level TAKS tests before a diploma will be awarded by UTHS. If you have already passed exit level exams prior to transferring to UTHS, you do not need to take them again.

2. Where will I take the TAKS tests?

Students take the exams at local area schools that have agreed to test out of school students. If you live out of state, we will work with you to find an appropriate testing proctor.

3. When will I take the TAKS tests?

You will take TAKS at the same time as all other students in TX as this is the only time each year that the tests are made available. Generally, juniors test for the first time in the spring; in October seniors who still need to take part or all of TAKS will be tested. Summer testing dates are also available.

4. How do I register for TAKS?

Approximately two months before the exam is administered, students will receive a letter from the UTHS reminding them that TAKS testing time is approaching with instructions

for registration. The student will go online and register as an out of school student to test at a local school. Registration for TAKS usually closes about one month before the actual test administration.

5. How do I prepare for TAKS?

There are test preparation books with practice tests at TX bookstores. Additionally, study guides and released tests are available online from TEA's website. You can download them at:

<http://www.tea.state.tx.us/student.assessment/resources/guides/study/index.html>

6. What courses should I complete before taking TAKS?

In order to be successful on the exit level TAKS, it is recommended that you complete: English 1 – 3A, U.S. History A, IPC, Biology, Algebra 1 and Geometry.

7. What if I do not pass all four of the TAKS exams?

You will need to re-test for only the section (subject) of the exam that you did not pass.

Graduation Requirements

1. How many credits/courses will I need to graduate?

The number of courses required for graduation depends on the Texas Education Agency graduation plan that was in effect the year you entered 9th grade. For students who entered the 9th grade between 1994 and 2005, the Recommended Plan requires 24 credits; for students entering as a 9th grader in 2007 and thereafter, the Recommended Plan requires 26 credits. Students, upon request, may graduate under the Minimum Plan of 22 credits. For detailed descriptions, see the Graduation Plans at the end of the FAQs.

2. What is the recommended plan? The minimum plan?

For students who plan to apply to a four-year university, the recommended plan would be more appropriate as most universities will want to see that you graduated with the additional math and science courses. For students who know with certainty that they are not going on to a four-year university – or not going on to college at all, the minimum plan is fine—though a parent or guardian must agree. Details for both graduation plans are at the end of this section.

3. How is the GPA calculated?

Grade point average (GPA) is calculated when you graduate and it is listed on your UTHS transcript. UTHS calculates the GPA on a 4.0 traditional model where a student is

given four points for each “A” (three for each “B” / two for each “C” and so forth). The GPA is cumulative and includes all high school credit courses. UTHS does not calculate weighted GPAs (i.e. we do not grant more points for an honors course).

4. How do I take the SAT? ACT?

You must register for standardized tests used for college admission such as the SAT or ACT on your own. Registration is done online through the College Board and is easy. The College Board Code for UTHS is 440344. The College Board web site can be found at: <http://www.collegeboard.com/>

5. How will I get my diploma and final transcript?

Once your last grade is posted, a final transcript with graduation date and GPA will be created. The UTHS office will mail you three official copies of this transcript. At the time the transcript is created, your diploma will be ordered. Diplomas will be mailed to you and will arrive 2- 3 weeks after your final transcript.

6. What is the process for college applications? transcripts? letters of recommendation?

If you are applying to universities as a student in the UTHS program, be sure to indicate that you are a UTHS student. (The College Board Code for UTHS is: 440344.) Additionally, if you need forms and transcripts sent from your UTHS counselor with your university admissions applications, contact UTHS and let us know what you need sent. Be sure to give us at least two weeks notice as we have many students applying to college at the same time each year.

Note: Most college applications will require a letter of recommendation from someone other than your counselor. It is best to obtain a recommendation from someone who knows you well – past classroom teachers, community or religious leaders, for example. If there is no one in this capacity that you can ask, check with your online course instructor. Please understand that it is difficult for an instructor who has never worked in a classroom with you to write a detailed recommendation.

Graduation Plans

| | Recommended Plan 24 credits 1994-2005 | Recommended Plan 26 credits 2007- current | Minimum Plan 22 credits |
|----------------------------|---|---|---|
| English | 4 English 1-4 | 4 English 1-4 | 4 English 1-4 |
| Math | 3 Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2 | 4 Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, and one additional math | 3 Algebra 1, Geometry, and one additional math |
| Science | 3 IPC, Biology, Chemistry, Physics | 4 IPC, Biology, Chemistry, Physics | 2 Biology, IPC |
| Social Studies | 3.5 World Geography, World History, U.S. History, and Government | 3.5 World Geography, World History, U.S. History, and Government | 2.5 World Geography or World History, U.S. History, and Government |
| Economics | .5 Economics | .5 Economics | .5 Economics |
| PE | 1.5 PE | 1.5 PE | 1.5 PE |
| Health | .5 Health | .5 Health | .5 Health |
| Speech | .5 Communication Applications | .5 Communication Applications | .5 Communication Applications |
| Technology Applications | 1 BCIS (or other) | 1 BCIS (or other) | 1 BCIS (or other) |
| Foreign Language | 2 Two years of same language | 2 Two years of same language | None |
| Fine Arts | 1 Fine Art | 1 Fine Art | None |
| Academic Elective | None | None | 1 World Geography, World History, or an approved science course |
| Electives | 3.5 Electives | 3.5 Electives | 5.5 Electives |
| Total | 24 | 26 | 22 |

If you entered 9th grade before 1994, please contact the UTHS office for information on your graduation plan.