

Elgin Independent School District Course Guide 2021 – 2022

ADDENDUM



Elgin ISD Changes Lives

**One Town
One Team
One Family**

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Academic Achievement and Grade Point Average

Class Rank

Class rank is the academic position a student has in relation to other students in the grade level. Class rank is reported comparing that student to the total number of students in the grade level. The position or rank shall be reported as “number () out of () students in graduating class.” The student with the highest rank average is number one in the grade level and the student with the lowest rank average is the last student in the grade level. For example, given 250 students in a grade level, the highest ranking student (number one) would be reported as number 1 out of 250 students; the lowest ranking student would be reported as number 250 out of 250 students. All other students are ranked in between highest (number one) and lowest (last). Example: Student A is ranked number 6 out of 250 students in the graduating class. Class rank is first reported the summer after a student’s freshman year.

A weighted GPA is used to determine class rank. Weighted class ranking encourages students to take more challenging academic courses in preparation for further learning after high school, as students will receive a higher weighted rank point for the more difficult level courses. Courses included in the weighted GPA computation are listed in the *Chart –Weighted GPA Courses*. While courses are weighted when figuring class rank, actual grades earned will appear on all report cards and transcripts.

The valedictorian and salutatorian shall be the eligible students with the highest and second highest ranking, respectively, as determined at the end of the fourth nine weeks (end of the year). To be eligible for such recognition, a student must:

1. Have been continuously enrolled in the District high school for the two full school years immediately preceding graduation;
2. Have completed the foundation program with the distinguished level of achievement; and
3. Be graduating after exactly eight semesters of enrollment in high school.

Academic Honors

Honor students’ rankings are calculated using grades through the end of the third nine-week grading period of the senior year¹. The students ranked as numbers one and two shall be selected to give honor addresses for graduation exercises. Senior class ranking for the purpose of determining Valedictorian and Salutatorian is calculated at the end of the final week of the four nine-week grading period.

Recognition for academic honors will be given to the following graduating seniors:

- Valedictorian – The highest-ranking fourth- year student
- Salutatorian – The second highest-ranking fourth-year student
- Honor Students – The top ten ranking students, including the valedictorian and salutatorian
- Summa Cum Laude – The top five percent of the class
- Magna Cum Laude – The top ten percent of the class
- Cum Laude – The top fifteen percent of the class

¹ Note dual credit course grades are calculated in students’ rankings through the end of the second nine-week grading period of their senior year

Chart - Grade Point Average (GPA) Scale

Two GPAs will be shown on the transcript: a weighted GPA and an un-weighted GPA. The weighted GPA is used to determine class rank and is listed as "GPA" on student transcripts. The un-weighted GPA is listed as "College 4-Point" on student transcripts. The college 4-point GPA is the cumulative average of semester grades, including courses that are taken more than once, regardless of credit awarded.

Each semester grade earns points based on the scale shown below:

Weighted GPA	College 4-point GPA
101 – 120	4 points
100 – 90	
89 – 80	3 points
79 – 75	2 points
74 – 70	1 point
69 – 0	0 points
The total points are divided by the total number of applicable semester grades.	

Weighted Courses Grading Policy

Student performance is evaluated on rigorous standards appropriate for the level and content of the course. Eligible courses receive weight when figuring class rank; however, actual grades earned will appear on all report cards and transcripts. In order to receive weighted points at the semester for an eligible weighted course, the student must be enrolled in the course for the entire second nine weeks of each semester and fulfill all requirements for the course, including taking the corresponding AP exam. If an advanced course is dropped within a semester, the un-weighted grade transfers to the new class.

If a student drops a dual credit course by the college census date, approximately two weeks after the start of the dual credit course, he or she can enroll in a corresponding Elgin High School course. If a student drops a dual credit course after the college census date, the student will be charged a \$50 fee and placed in an unweighted (regular level) course with a transfer grade of 65, unless the school receives official grade information from the college. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain official grade information from the dual credit professor. For college purposes, the last day students can drop a dual credit course with a "W" will be in accordance with the corresponding college calendar.

Chart – Weighted GPA Courses

The courses eligible for inclusion in the weighted GPA are semester grades earned for high school credit in the following subjects only: English, mathematics, science, social studies, languages other than English, and speech. The weighted GPA is calculated by multiplying each semester grade by a multiplier, as indicated in the chart below.

Weighted Multiplier	Courses Included Weighted GPA Computation*
Level 1 0.9	Eligible courses that have been modified by an ARD committee and determined to justify lower weight based on modified content. Any course used to meet the district speech requirement.
Level 2 1.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ English I-IV, ESOL I-II, College Preparation English ❖ Spanish I-II, <i>Spanish III-IV</i> ❖ Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Pre-Calculus, Advanced Quantitative Reasoning, Algebraic Reasoning, College Preparation Math, <i>Engineering Math, Math in Agriculture, Math Models, Robotics 2, Statistics</i> ❖ Biology, Chemistry, Physics, IPC, Environmental Systems, Advanced Animal Science, Advanced Plant and Soil, Anatomy and Physiology, <i>Food Science, Forensic Science, Medical Microbiology, Biotechnology I and II, Pathophysiology</i> ❖ World Geography, World History, US History, Economics, Government
Level 3 1.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Advanced English I-II ❖ Advanced Spanish I-III, Advanced Spanish for Spanish Speakers I-II (<i>III</i>) ❖ <i>Advanced Algebra I, Advanced Geometry, Advanced Algebra II</i> ❖ <i>Advanced Biology, Advanced Chemistry, Advanced Physics</i> ❖ <i>Advanced World Geography, Advanced World History</i>
Level 4 1.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ AP English III-IV, Dual Credit English III-IV, Dual Credit Humanities¹ ❖ AP Spanish IV- V, Dual Credit Spanish I-IV ❖ AP Calculus, Dual Credit College Algebra, Dual Credit College Math, Dual Credit Statistics, OnRamps Pre-Calculus, OnRamps Statistics ❖ AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Physics I, <i>Dual Credit Biology for Non Majors, Dual Credit Environmental Systems, Dual Credit Life on Earth, Dual Credit Scientific Research and Design</i> ❖ <i>AP European History, AP Government, AP Human Geography, AP Macro Economics, AP Micro Economics, AP Psychology¹, AP US History, AP World History, Dual Credit Economics, Dual Credit Psychology¹, Dual Credit Sociology¹, Dual Credit U.S. Government, Dual Credit US History II,</i> ❖ AP Computer Science <p>Note: Students enrolled in an AP course are required to take the corresponding AP examination in order to fulfill the requirements of the course and earn weighted points. Elgin ISD assumes the cost of all AP exams.</p> <p>Exception: If a dual credit speech course is taken to meet the district speech requirement, the course will be weighted at 0.9. If a student has already met the district speech requirement, then a dual credit speech course will have zero weight.</p> <p>¹The weight carried by these courses applies to the ranking GPA of the 2021-2022 incoming freshman and future incoming cohorts.</p>

Note italicized courses are not currently offered by EISD.

*Additional courses that are approved by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) in Chapter 74 of the Texas Administrative Code may be included for transfer students in the Elgin ISD weighted GPA and Rank calculations. When a student transfers grades for properly documented and eligible courses, the District shall assign weight to those grades based on the categories and grade weight system used by the District if similar courses are offered to the same class of students in the District. EIC (LOCAL)