

RICHARDSON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

INFORMATION: 2009 – 2010 Graduation Requirement Changes (Senior Students Only)

On August 3, 2009, in response to House Bill 3, passed by the 81st Texas Legislature, the RISD Board of Trustees approved limited changes to the graduation requirements for 2009 – 2010 senior students who are graduating under the Recommended High School Program. (*Note:* Students who are classified as a senior in the 2009 – 2010 school year but who entered ninth grade in the 2007 – 2008 school year or later have different graduation requirements.)

As a result of these changes, seniors on the Recommended Program are no longer:

- . required to earn .5 credit in Health;
- . required to earn 1.0 credit in technology applications;
- . required to earn 1.5 credits in P.E. (1.0 credits in P.E. now required)

These changes **do not** apply to students graduating on the Distinguished Achievement Program (DAP), students on the RISD High School Program, or students in grades 7 – 11 during the 2009 – 2010 school year.

What if I already have taken the courses no longer required for graduation under the Recommended Program?

Seniors who have already taken Health, Tech Apps, or the additional P. E. credit do not need to take any action. Although no longer required courses, these courses count as electives on the Recommended High School Program

What can I do if I have requested health, tech apps, or an additional PE class for the 2009 – 2010 school year and I want to take a different class?

Seniors who have requested health, tech apps or an additional PE class for the 2009-2010 school year (subject to the guidelines set out below) may:

- . Enroll in the class(es) and earn graduation elective credit; and/or
- . Request a course change (add/drop) at the high school senior registration.

What guidelines apply to class changes?

SPECIAL NOTE: The District recommends that senior students NOT make changes to their graduation plans from the 2009 – 2010 school year. A student who drops classes no longer required under the Recommended Program will not be eligible to graduate under the Distinguished Achievement Program (DAP). Dropping classes also could cause a delay in the student's graduation in the event a student needed to move from the Recommended to the High School Program. In addition, parents and students should carefully consider the effects of any changes to the student's classes on college applications as many colleges require specific courses as a part of the admissions process. However, the District recognizes that some students and parents may determine that changes do serve the student's best interests. If a student and his or her parents request changes for the 2009-2010 school year, the following guidelines will apply:

- . Students are encouraged to maintain any pre-enrollment schedules (validation sheets) already planned;
- . Parent authorization for change is required before schedule changes will be made;
- . A request to change courses (drop or add) at college-style registration will be considered on a space-available basis provided the student still is on track to earn a minimum of 24 credits to graduate;
- . A later request to change classes during the normal schedule change window requires campus principal and parent advance approval.
- . A student must be enrolled in a minimum of 5 class periods daily of instruction each semester;
- . If a student drops health, PE, or tech apps to enroll in any class in which quality points normally could be earned, the student WILL NOT earn quality points for purposes of GPA calculation for the 2009 – 2010 school year.

I will be a senior in 2009 – 2010, but I entered ninth grade in 2007 – 2008, what are my options?

A student who is classified as a senior during the 2009 – 2010 school year but who entered ninth grade in 2007 – 2008 or after must see his or her counselor because different graduation requirements will apply.

RICHARDSON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
2009 – 2010 Course Change Request Form – Seniors Only
 (Due to Graduation Requirement Changes Under House Bill 3)

STUDENT NAME: _____ SCHOOL: BHS LHHS PHS RHS
 (Please Print)

STUDENT ID#: _____ DATE: _____

Requested Course Changes

Course(s) To Be Dropped	Course(s) To Be Added (No quality points will be earned)
<input type="checkbox"/> Health	<hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black;"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Tech Apps _____ <div style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">(course name)</div>	
<input type="checkbox"/> P.E. _____ <div style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">(course name)</div>	

Student and Parent/Legal Guardian Certification and Signatures

My signature below confirms that I have read the attached **INFORMATION: 2009 – 2010 Graduation Requirement Changes (Senior Students Only)** and that I have had the opportunity to ask any questions of my(my student's) counselor regarding the potential effects these changing courses could have on my(my student's) graduation. I further confirm that it is my (my student's) intention to graduate under the Recommended High School Program and understand that dropping a health, tech apps, or PE class will disqualify me (my student) from graduation under the Distinguished Achievement or High School Programs. I further understand that dropping classes also could cause a delay in my/my student's graduation in the event I (my student) needed to move from the Recommended to the High School Program. No quality points will be earned for any course substituted for a course change allowed under these new senior graduation plan changes.

I authorize the course changes requested above.

 Signature -- Parent/Legal Guardian

 Signature – Senior Student

For School Use Only

 Signature – Counselor

 Date Signed

 Principal's Signature (if required)

 Date Signed

Comments: _____