



# **Brazosport Independent School District**

## **Credit-by-Exam Handbook 2022-23**

## **Introduction**

Since 1995, the Texas Education Code has allowed districts to use Credit by Exam (CBE) assessment for acceleration or credit for primary and secondary students.

BISD has joined with the University of Texas in Austin to provide a consistent and quality program for acceleration as well as alternate means to earn credit. All examinations are vigorously field-tested, externally validated, and audited to ensure that assessments thoroughly test the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) in the applicable grade level or subject area and that all exams are compliant with state statute regarding the development, validation, and auditing of credit-by-examination tests.

## **Frequently Asked Questions on Credit by Exam**

### **1. How can a student earn credit by exam?**

Students are able to earn credit by exam in a few different ways:

#### **Credit by Examination (K-5)**

A student in grades 1-5 must be accelerated one grade if the student scores 80 % or higher on each CBE including language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies for the grade level the student wishes to advance past. Additionally, in order to qualify for acceleration, the student must be recommended by a school district representative (usually the campus principal) and the student's parent or guardian must give written permission.

In accordance with BISD Policy EHDC (Local), a child who is five years old at the beginning of the school year may be assigned initially to grade 1 rather than kindergarten. Criteria for acceleration may include:

- Scores on readiness tests that may be administered by appropriate district personnel
- Recommendation of the kindergarten or preschool the student has attended.
- Chronological age and observed social and emotional development of the student
- Other criteria deemed appropriate by the principal and superintendent.

#### **Credit by Examination with Prior Instruction (6-12)**

Students in grades 6-12 may earn credit by exam if they received prior instruction in a subject area, but did not receive credit for other reasons, such as a failing grade or excessive absences. To receive credit, these students must score a 70 % or higher on a CBE assessment from the University of Texas for that content and grade level area exam.

#### **Credit without Prior Instruction (6-12)**

For grades 6-12, students may receive credit based solely on their score on the CBE exam. A school district must give students who score 80% or higher on the board-approved exam credit for the assessment subject area. Students can also receive credit without prior instruction by scoring a three on an advanced placement (AP) exam or a scaled score of 50 or higher on exams administered through the College-Level Examination Program (CLEP). Tex. Educ. Code § 28.023(c), (c-1), (h).

**2. Will it cost me anything for my child to take a CBE?**

No. A school district is prohibited from charging a fee for credit by examination for acceleration.

**3. How will the test score on a CBE affect my high school grade point average?**

Numeric grades on the exams for which the student earns credit will be recorded and will be used to calculate the student's grade point average (GPA). EIC (Local)

**4. How many times can my child attempt to pass a CBE?**

According to Texas Administrative Code §74.24 Credit by Exams (c)(6), a student may not attempt to earn credit by examination for a specific high school course more than two times.

**5. If my child receives credit-by-exam for an EOC course, does he or she have to take the STAAR EOC?**

If a student is given credit on the basis of an examination on which the student scored 80% or higher, the school district must enter the examination score on the student's transcript, and the student is not required to take an applicable end-of-course assessment instrument for the course. (TAC §74.24)

**6. Where can I find study guides for the CBE exams?**

University of Texas Credit by Exam Study Guides are available on the University of Texas Credit by Exam Website at <https://highschool.utexas.edu/cbestudyguides>.

**7. Where can I find a complete list of what CBE exams are available?**

A complete list of all available CBE exams can be found on the University of Texas Credit by Exam Website at <https://utexas.app.box.com/v/uths-cbe-available>

**8. How do I go about requesting a CBE exam?**

Step one is to set up a meeting with your campus school counselor to review all available options and complete the appropriate application form found in this manual. Once the application is completed and all forms signed, campus counselors will download and complete [a registration spreadsheet](#) that includes information about the student in order for the student to be registered to test. The counselor or campus testing coordinator will then share the registration spreadsheet with the assessment office for upload. The assessment office will then register the student to test. Registration confirmation can take up to ten working days. The tests will then be administered during regular school hours on the student's home campus on the testing dates indicated for 2022-23.

**9. How many tests can I take at a time?**

Students may only register for **ONE** test per testing session date. The tests are challenging and lengthy and taking more than one per testing date is not recommended. Special circumstances should be directed toward the assessment office.

## 10. What are the testing dates and application deadlines for 2022-2023?

Testing dates and application deadlines for 2022-23 are as follows:

<b>Registration Window</b> (Registration spreadsheets must be submitted by 4:00 PM on the last day of the window):	<b>Testing Date*</b>
July 1, 2022 - August 5, 2022	Friday, August 26, 2022
August 8, 2022 - September 2, 2022	Friday, September 23, 2022
September 5, 2022 - September 30, 2022	Friday, October 28, 2022
October 3, 2022 - October 28, 2022	Friday, November 18, 2022
November 1, 2022 - January 6, 2023	Friday, January 27, 2023
January 9, 2023 - February 3, 2023	Friday, February 24, 2023
February 6, 2023 - March 3, 2023	Friday, March 24, 2023
March 6, 2023 - April 7, 2023	Friday, April 28, 2023
April 10, 2023 - April 28, 2023	Friday, May 19, 2023

\*Changes to testing dates can be made on a case by case basis based upon campus need, but should be reasonable and as near to the indicated testing date as feasibly possible.

## 11. When will results of the CBE test arrive?

Results will arrive in 10-15 working days after the test is administered.

## 12. How will I get my results?

Your campus counselor or campus testing coordinator will provide you with your results once they are available.

## 13. Who is the best person to call if I have further questions about CBE exams?

You can contact your home campus school counselor, campus testing coordinator, or call the Brazosport ISD Office of Assessment at 979-730-7000. Ask for Randy Wuensche at extension 16103.



Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Local ID# \_\_\_\_\_ CBE Test Title:: \_\_\_\_\_

To be completed by the campus counselor **after** notification of testing results

Grade/Course/Subject Tested	Date Tested *	Reason for Exam		Score %	Meets Requirements To Receive Credit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 80% or higher on an exam with no prior instruction</li> <li>• 70% or higher on an exam with prior instruction</li> </ul>
		Acceleration (No Prior Instruction)	Recovery (Prior Instruction)		
					<b>Yes No NS</b>

\*Indicate "NS" if student failed to take a test for which the student was registered.

Counselor Initials

- \_\_\_\_\_ The CBE results have been reported to the parent/guardian/adult student.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The appropriate coding changes have been made in the district's student information system
- \_\_\_\_\_ CBE results have been shared with the campus registrar/records keeper for input on transcript

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NOTE: When testing has been completed and results have been recorded, this application should be placed in the student's cumulative folder.