Multi-Disciplinary Studies

Explore Your Future with the Foundation High School Program

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Figuring out what you want to do when you grow up is a challenge, but boy is it worth it! With the Foundation High School Program’s endorsement options, you have the opportunity to explore classes and fields of study that interest you today so you can find your dream job tomorrow. In many of these courses, you will even get to experience what it’s like to work in the jobs that interest you.

Remember: you have options, probably more than you have ever considered. With the Multi-Disciplinary endorsement you can explore more than one career or academic pathway, so your options remain more flexible. Many occupations require you to build knowledge from more than one endorsement. For example, Nurses are classified primarily under the Public Service endorsement, but also have a strong Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) component. Other multi-disciplinary occupations include Historians, Animal Scientists, Biomedical Engineers and more.

So go exploring! Research your endorsement and career interest options before deciding which paths to pursue. The decisions you make about your education today will affect how well you enjoy your job in the future, how much money you earn, your future lifestyle, and so much more. So think it through, plan your future, and have fun!

Can You Imagine Yourself in this Job?

Computer Programmer

Jobs projected in Texas by 2024: 20,820

You will need: a Bachelor’s degree plus work experience

Typical starting pay is: $49,027 a year

Typical average pay is: $86,658 a year

Turnover: Low

# What is the Foundation High School Program?

The ***Foundation High School Program*** is a detailed plan of 22 credits that you and all your classmates will have to earn in order to graduate from high school. See page 4 for details.

An ***endorsement*** is an option you can add to your high school diploma to show your knowledge and/or skills gained in one of five broad subject matter areas: STEM, Arts and Humanities, Business and Industry, Public Services, and Multidisciplinary Studies. To get an endorsement, you must complete a logical sequence of specific courses approved by your district.

***If you have questions about which endorsement would be best for you, talk to your school Counselor!***

Can You Imagine Yourself in This Job?

Real Estate Appraiser

Jobs projected in Texas by 2024: 8,250

You will need: a Bachelor’s degree

Typical starting pay is: $36,567 a year

Typical average pay is: $65,339 a year

Turnover: Very Low

## Resources

So … you think you might want to select the Multi-Disciplinary Studies Foundation High School Program endorsement option? Awesome! Browse through some of the data for job titles found under the Multi-Disciplinary Studies endorsement in this booklet to help you decide if this is the right educational and career path for you. For more information on jobs in this career field, you can:

1. Call our 24-hour Hotline at 1-800-822-PLAN (7526)
2. Go to Texas Career Check and click “Explore Careers” at [www.texascareercheck.com](http://www.texascareercheck.com)
3. Visit the LMCI website to see what available products may best serve your needs: [www.texasworkforce.org/labormarket](http://www.texasworkforce.org/labormarket)

We hope that by learning all you can about potential careers in the fields that interest you, you will be empowered to find a career that you love, and that also pays for you to live the way you want once you are living on your own. So enjoy this booklet, explore some options, and don’t hesitate to talk to your parents, family, friends, teachers, counselors, and us at the Texas Workforce Commission if you have questions about your career goals.

## Career Clusters

Multi-Disciplinary occupations can be found in all of the following Achieve Texas career clusters.

* Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources
* Architecture and Construction
* Arts, A/V Technology, and Communications
* Business Management and Administration
* Education and Training
* Finance
* Government and Public Administration
* Health Science
* Hospitality and Tourism
* Human Services
* Information Technology
* Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security
* Manufacturing
* Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
* Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics

# Sample Multi-Disciplinary Occupations

Below are sample occupations under the Multi-Disciplinary Studies endorsement. Not all Multi-Disciplinary-related occupations are included here (there are hundreds), and some of those listed below may fall under other endorsements as well. Talk to your school Counselor for more information.

Accountants & Auditors

Actors

Aerospace Engineering & Operations Techs

Athletic Agents & Managers

Anesthesiologists

Agricultural & Food Science Technicians

Architectural & Civil Drafters

Biomedical Engineers

Audio-Visual & Multimedia Collection Specialists

Budget Analysts

Chiropractors

Cardiovascular Technologists & Technicians

Choreographers

Clergy

Computer & Information Research Scientists

Commercial Pilots

Computer Programmers

Dental Laboratory Technicians

Desktop Publishers

Economists

Diagnostic Medical Sonographers

Environmental Engineers

Epidemiologists

Emergency Management Directors

Fashion Designers

Forensic Science Technicians

Gaming & Sports Book Writers & Runners

Genetic Counselors

Health Educators

Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Workers

Information Security Analysts

Interpreters & Translators

Jewelers & Precious Stone & Metal Workers

Legal Secretaries

Library Technicians

Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses

Makeup Artists

Marriage & Family Therapists

Medical & Clinical Laboratory Technologists

Medical Transcriptionists

Multimedia Artists & Animators

Network & Computer Systems Administrators

Nursing Assistants

Nuclear Medicine Technologists

Office & Administrative Support Workers

Optometrists

Pharmacy Technicians

Personal Financial Advisors

Photographers

Producers

Proofreaders and Copy Markers

Physical Therapists

Paralegals & Legal Assistants

Postsecondary Educators (in various specialties)

Psychiatrists

Radiation Therapists

Respiratory Therapy Technicians

Surveyors

Skincare Specialists

Speech-Language Pathologists

Surgeons

Statistical Assistants

Tailors, Dressmakers, & Custom Sewers

Technical Writers

Veterinarians

Tax Examiners, Collectors, & Revenue Agents

Woodworkers

Web Developers

Zoologists & Wildlife Biologists

## Keep in Mind

The career titles listed above are just a fraction of the possible occupation opportunities available within this endorsement area, so be sure to visit TWC’s AutoCoder website to find other job titles that may interest you: <http://autocoder.lmci.state.tx.us>.

* Just enter a job title or a description in the appropriate search box, and you will get a list of the most common title matches.
* Click on the title that best matches the job that interests you, and a catalog of other, closely-related (or interchangeable) job titles will appear.

# Your Foundation High School Program Graduation Requirements

This table shows what every Texas student needs to graduate. Every student must earn the 22 credits under the “Foundation-Only” column. Your parents or guardians will need to give the school district written permission to allow you not to earn an endorsement. Otherwise you must pick an endorsement and earn 26 credits to graduate. Remember that your school district has the authority to establish requirements in addition to those listed here. Check with your school Counselor for more information.

| **Subjects and courses required for Foundation-Only Credits** | **Foundation-Only Credits** | **Foundation + Endorsement Credits** | **Distinguished Level Credits** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **English**   * English I, II and III * Advanced English course | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| **Mathematics**   * Algebra I * Geometry * Advanced Math course | 3 | 4 – All Foundation requirements, plus additional advanced Math course | 4 – All Foundation requirements, plus Algebra II specifically |
| **Science**   * Biology * Integrated Physics and Chemistry * Advanced Science course | 3 | 4 – All Foundation requirements, plus additional advanced Science course | 4 – All Foundation requirements, plus additional advanced Science course |
| **Social Studies**   * U.S. History * U.S. Government (1/2 credit) * Economics (1/2 credit) * World History or Geography | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| **Physical Education** | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| **Languages Other Than English**   * Two credits in the same language * OR Two credits from Computer Science I, II, and III | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| **Fine Arts** | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| **Electives**   * Classes available for electives will be based upon the endorsement options selected by the student. | 5 | 7 | 7 |
| **Speech**   * Demonstrated proficiency | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Total Credits** | **22** | **26** | **26** |

Students can earn one or more **Performance Acknowledgments**, in addition to any graduation program they follow, for any of the following areas: Dual Credit course; Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate exam performance; Bilingualism and biliteracy; Earning a nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certification or license; PSAT, ACT-PLAN, SAT, or ACT score. Talk to your school Counselor for specific guidelines.

# Your Multi-Disciplinary Studies Endorsement Options

Students interested in earning the Multi-Disciplinary endorsement have several options. Once you’ve met your Foundation graduation requirements, you will need to successfully complete additional advanced courses in math and science (one each), plus electives, and choose **one** of the three options below to earn your remaining Multi-Disciplinary endorsement credits.

1. Complete four advanced courses that prepare a student to enter the workforce successfully.
   1. These can be dual-credit classes taken on college campuses (as long as the course is not a remedial/developmental level class)
   2. These four classes can be within one endorsement area or several endorsement areas.
2. Complete four credits in each of the four foundation high school subject areas. Must include:
   1. English IV
   2. Chemistry
   3. Physics
3. Complete four credits in AP (Advanced Placement), IB (International Baccalaureate), or Dual-Credit in the following areas:
   1. English
   2. Mathematics
   3. Science
   4. Social Studies
   5. Economics
   6. Languages other than English
   7. Fine Arts

Can You Imagine Yourself in These Jobs?

Technical Writer

Jobs projected in Texas by 2024: 5,040

You will need: a Bachelor’s degree

Typical starting pay is: $46,501 a year

Typical average pay is: $70,009 a year

Turnover: Average

Computer & Information Systems Manager

Jobs projected in Texas by 2024: 23,540

You will need: a Bachelor’s degree plus work experience

Typical starting pay is: $97,256 a year

Typical average pay is: $148,608 a year

Turnover: Very Low

Clinical, Counseling, & School Psychologists

Jobs projected in Texas by 2024: 9,570

You will need: Doctoral or professional degree

Typical starting pay is: $42,083 a year

Typical average pay is: $64,126 a year

Turnover: Low

# The Real Deal

## Using Labor Market Statistics to Filter through Career Options

It is important to think about how much money you’ll earn in any given occupation. But you should consider many other labor market statistics to help you make informed choices.

Check out the information and numbers below for a few jobs in the Multi-Disciplinary Studies fields to see other important statistics you can discover on the Texas Career Check website. Use this information to help you determine what’s important to you in a career.

Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians

You will: Conduct tests on pulmonary or cardiovascular systems of patients for diagnostic purposes. May conduct or assist in electrocardiograms, cardiac catheterizations, pulmonary functions, lung capacity, and similar tests.

* About 77 percent of jobs are in hospitals.
* Workers typically need a 2-year associate degree at a junior or community college; most employers also require a professional credential.
* Technologists and technicians with multiple professional credentials, trained to perform a wide range of procedures, will have the best prospects.

Projected Texas employment for 2024: 6,530

Education needed: Associate Degree or higher

2015 Average Annual Wage: $53,879

Turnover: Average

Surveyors

You will: Make exact measurements and determine property boundaries. Provide data relevant to the shape, contour, gravitation, location, elevation, or dimension of land or land features on or near the earth’s surface for engineering, mapmaking, mining, land evaluation, construction, and other purposes.

* About 7 out of 10 jobs were in architectural, engineering, and related services. Depending on specialization, may require as little as an Associate degree or as advanced as a Master’s.
* Surveyors who have a Bachelor’s degree and strong technical skills should have favorable job prospects.

Projected Texas employment for 2024: 5,340

Education needed: Bachelor’s Degree

2015 Average Annual Wage: $62,048

Turnover: Low

Web Developers

You will: Design, create, and modify Web sites. Analyze user needs to implement Web site content, graphics, performance, and capacity. May integrate Web sites with other computer applications. May convert written, graphic, audio, and video components to compatible Web formats by using software designed to facilitate the creation of Web and multimedia content.

* Excellent job prospects are expected.
* Workers can enter this field with many different levels of formal education, but relevant computer skills are always needed.

Projected Texas employment for 2024: 13,810

Education needed: Associate Degree or higher

2015 Average Annual Wage: $68,807

Turnover: Very Low

Can You Imagine Yourself in this Job?

Jeweler

Jobs projected in Texas by 2024: 4,790

You will need: Post-secondary vocational training

Typical starting pay is: $23,968 a year

Typical average pay is: $43,124 a year

Turnover: Low

Want more information on jobs? Check out [www.TexasCareerCheck.com](http://www.TexasCareerCheck.com)   
to learn about hundreds more  
Multi-Disciplinary careers!

Explore Your Future!

# Texas Workforce Commission

Labor Market and Career Information

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[www.texasrealitycheck.com](http://www.texasrealitycheck.com)

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email: [lmci@twc.state.tx.us](mailto:lmci@twc.state.tx.us)

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

Relay Texas: 800-735-2989 (TTY) and 711 (Voice).