

## Information from Senate Bill 1031, passed May 26, 2007

### End of Course Exams

Beginning in the school year 2011 – 2012, all entering 9<sup>th</sup> graders will have to pass End of Course exams in order to receive a high school diploma. These EOC exams will be offered for 12 secondary courses:

- Algebra I
- Algebra II
- Geometry
- English I
- English II
- English III
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- World Geography
- World History
- US History

Each EOC exam will count as 15 percent of a student's grade for that course. With the exception of the 3 English EOC exams, all EOC exams will be given in May. For students who do not perform well on the EOC exams, school districts will be required to provide acceleration.

### Requirements for a High School Diploma

In order to earn a high school diploma, students do not have to “pass” all EOC exams that they take. Instead, they must earn a cumulative score that is at least equal to the product of the number of EOC exams they take and 70 with each EOC exam scored on a scale of 100. A student must earn a score of at least 60 for the score to count towards the cumulative score.

For example:

- A student on the Recommended High School Program will take all 12 EOC exams. In order to receive a high school diploma, he/she must earn a total of 840 points out of 1200 possible on the 12 tests (with none of the individual scores being lower than 60).
- A student on the Minimum High School Plan might only take 8 EOC exams. In this case, he/she must earn a total of 560 points out of 800 (with none of the individual scores being lower than 60).

### Other Noteworthy SB 1031 Information

- School districts are not allowed to spend more than 10% of school time on district wide testing.
- TEA is charged with adopting a series of questions that will not determine a student's grade but will be used for reporting purposes. Some of these will questions will be used to determine a student's college readiness. Some of them will be used to determine if the student is ready for advanced high school courses.
- By September 1, 2008, all school districts must report to TEA their readiness for administering the tests on-line
- In addition to the EOC exams, school districts will test 8th and 10th graders with a college prep assessment at state cost. 11th graders will also have the opportunity to take one college admission test at state cost. TEA will develop a list of assessments that qualify for these two requirements.