

Stephen F. Austin High School

“Tradition Of Excellence Since 1881”

AUSTIN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



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Understanding your Grade Point Average (GPA)

Calculating your GPA can be challenging and confusing. The Austin Independent School District uses three independent formulas when calculating a student's GPA.

1. Cumulative GPA (weighted and unweighted)
2. GPA used to determine class rank
3. GPA used to determine annual Trustee Scholar Award recipients

TEAMS is the internal software system used by AISD. Among other functions, Austin High uses TEAMS to generate student transcripts, track student credits, and calculate each student's GPA. TEAMS is the official record of student credits.

1. Cumulative GPA Formulas in TEAMS

- a. Cumulative GPA (TEAMS): calculation uses all semester averages on the transcript; it includes weighted (5.0 scale) and unweighted (4.0 scale) courses. This is the GPA on the transcript and is reported to colleges.
- b. Unweighted or Total GPA (TEAMS): calculation uses all semester averages on the transcript; all course values are calculated using the 4.0 scale. This GPA is for information only when an unweighted GPA is needed.

2. GPA Formula used to determine class rank

The GPA formula used to determine rank includes only the semester average for all **core courses** in the student's graduation plan plus the top 2 credits of a Language Other Than English (LOTE) courses. This rank GPA is used for class ranking for 10th-12th grades at the conclusion of the Fall and Spring semesters. A letter is sent via US Postal Service to the student address listed in the TEAMS system for students included in the top 10% in each class.

Rank GPA does not include repeated courses. The first completed passing grade in a core course will be used in the rank GPA formula. Core courses generally include: English (four credits); Math (4 credits); Social Studies (3 credits); Science (4 credits), and: LOTE (2 credits). In the instance that a student exceeds the core requirement within a given core category, the highest grades will be used in the GPA formula.

It is important to note that class rank is a snapshot of a fluid process of adding to and updating the high school transcript. Semester averages may change as teachers update their gradebooks, ACC transcripts are submitted, dual credits are added, and outside credits are completed.

Class rank is set two times each school year on a date specified by the District Registrar's Office and **uses the data available on that date**. Thus, while the rank GPA may change due to updates to the transcript, once class rank is set for a semester it remains set until the next ranking period.

3. The Annual Trustee Scholars' Award Formula

This award is distributed once a year to students who are in the top 10% of their class for that school year only. The GPA calculations for this award include only *current* school year grades. Due to the timing of the awards, the current school year grades include the Semester 1 average, 4th and 5th Six Weeks grades of only the school year in which the award is granted.

This award should not be confused with rank GPA which evaluates multiple year credits.

Frequently Asked Questions:

1. Why is my GPA on my transcript generated by the TEAMS system different than my GPA generated by the Naviance platform?

Students and school districts use an external platform - Naviance to manage the college application process. It is important to note that Naviance uses yet another formula to define student GPAs.

Cumulative GPA (TEAMS): calculation uses all semester averages on the transcript; it includes weighted (5.0 scale) and unweighted (4.0 scale) courses. This is the GPA on the transcript and is reported to colleges.

Unweighted or total GPA (TEAMS): calculation uses all semester averages on the transcript; all course values are calculated using the 4.0 scale. This GPA is for information only when an unweighted GPA is needed.

Cumulative GPA (Naviance): is the unweighted TEAMS GPA as described above.

Weighted GPA (Naviance): is the cumulative TEAMS GPA as described above.

2. Who receives notice of my class rank?

Austin HS is a non-ranking school. Pursuant to Texas Education Code Sec. 51-803 class rank will only be provided to students (or any Texas public universities/colleges that students authorize) in the top 10% of their graduating class. All transcripts sent via Naviance does not include rank.

3. Can I request my class rank if I am outside of the top 10% of my class?

Austin High is a non-ranking campus. Class rank is reported only to Texas public colleges and universities for those students in the top ten percent of their class. You may request your class rank for information only purposes by sending an e-mail to Dr. Bedford (melvin.bedford@austinisd.org) and copying the registrars (ruth.garcia@austinisd.org and patricia.ballin@austinisd.org).

4. How large is a typical class size?

Generally, our class size ranges from approximately 480 – 530 students per class.

5. Are “Core Courses” the same as courses required for graduation?

No. Courses required for graduation are more inclusive than core courses.

6. Where can I read the ASID policy regarding GPA?

In the SSIG: <https://www.austinisd.org/sites/default/files/dept/ssig/docs/SSIG-2021-22.pdf>.