

i ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

OUR MISSION

Texas Connections Academy @ Houston (TCAH) is a leader in virtual education excellence that provides unparalleled individualized learning experiences designed to prepare and inspire each student to maximize his or her potential and prepare and inspire them to succeed in an ever-changing world.

OUR HISTORY

TCAH is a Texas Online School (TOLS) that offers 100% virtual instruction to public school students across Texas in grades 3-12 who are not physically present on a campus during instruction. The TOLS program is authorized by Texas Education Code (TEC) Chapter 30A, and administered through Texas Education Agency (TEA). The school was founded during the 2009-10 school year as a 3-8 school, and became a public high school in 2011-2012. TCAH is a performance contract school and is accredited through HISD.

OUR PROGRAM

Texas Connections Academy offers grades 9-12 with over 3500+ students. Here are some important facts about our program:

- 50% of the teaching staff have advanced degrees.
- Our school has an active chapter of the National and Junior National Honor Society along with numerous opportunities for field trips and organized college campus visits.
- As a nationwide network of virtual schools, Connections Academy provides national clubs to include Broadcast, Chess, Debate, Math Olympiads, and Robotics. Our school does not participate in traveling clubs or University Interscholastic League (UIL).
As an online school, our students have the advantage of participating in highly competitive events as elite athletes. TCAH students are nationally ranked athletes, professional working actors, entertainers, entrepreneurs, activists, community volunteers, and those participating in advanced academic endeavors.
Our students are consistent finalists for National Merit.



ADVANCED COURSE OPTIONS

Texas Connections Academy core curriculum prepares students for college and beyond. Students have access to AP, Pre-AP, and Dual Credit.

TCAH offers **dual credit programs** through Houston Community College, San Jacinto Community College, Austin Community College & Lone Star Community College for the 2020-21 school year that will include online and face to face courses so that students from across the state can benefit from this opportunity.

AP courses include: English Language and Composition, English Literature and Composition, Human Geography, US History, US Government, Macroeconomics, Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Computer Science, Statistics, Biology, and Spanish Language.

Pre-AP courses include: Algebra I and II, Biology, Chemistry, English 1 & 2, Geometry, Pre-Calculus, World History.

CONTACT INFORMATION

ConnectionsAcademy.com

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SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Lea Ann Lockard

PRINCIPAL(S):

Ben Chaplin 3-8

Brita Lindsey 9-12

MANAGER OF SPECIAL POPULATIONS:

Angela Vinson

SENIOR MANAGER OF

COUNSELING: KT Trimbur-Glenn

ASSISTANT MANAGER OF

COUNSELING: Elisha McDonald

TOP 5 IN STATE ELITE SCHOOL ACCEPTANCES

Texas A&M University
Texas State University
University of Texas
Baylor University
University of Houston

TOP 5 OUT OF STATE ELITE SCHOOL ACCEPTANCES

University of North Carolina @ Chapel Hill
Brigham Young University
Princeton University
The Ohio State University
University of Oregon

Due to the nature of the learning environment at Texas Connections Academy, course standards were maintained during the pandemic and students continued to meet rigorous requirements. End of Course Exams were waived by the Texas Education Agency for any student passing the course.



GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Texas Connections Academy operates on a semester system utilizing Carnegie units. One semester class equals one-half of a high school credit. Students in middle school have the opportunity to take courses for high school credit. The typical course load is seven classes per semester.

26 units of credit are required for graduation. Specific requirements include:

Area/Subjects	#Units for Graduation
Language Arts	4
Math	4
Science	4
Social Studies	4
Health	.5
Physical Education	1
World Language	2
Fine Arts	1
Other Elective	5.5
Total	26

Additional Information:

Math courses must include:

- Algebra 1
- Geometry
- Algebra 2

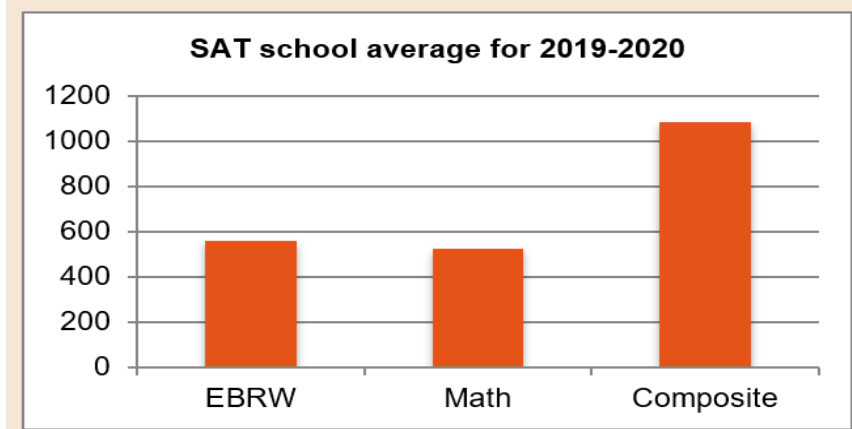
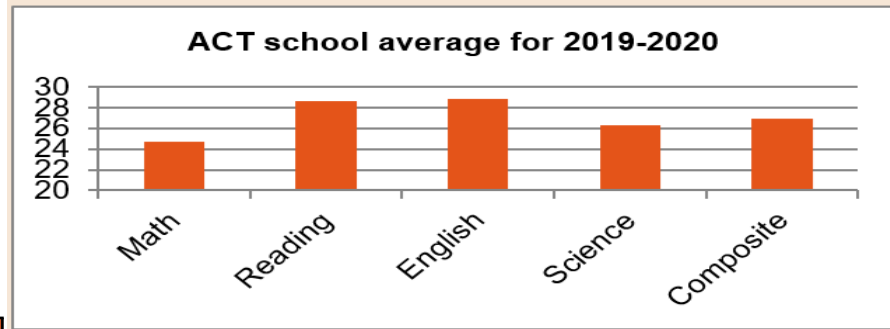
Science courses must include:

- Biology
- Chemistry and/or Physics

Social Studies courses must include:

- World Geography
- World History
- US History
- Government (0.5)
- Economics (0.5)

AVERAGE TEST SCORES



AP Results for 2019-20

264 students took AP exams during the 2019-20 school year with 64% scoring a 3 or higher. TCAH students who live outside of Houston, TX must schedule AP exams at a local high school and pay which has created a barrier for some students to have access to the AP exam.



GRADE SCALE

Student transcripts reflect weighted grades if the student took Pre-AP or Advanced Placement courses. The numerical grading scale is as follows:

Grade Point Range	Grade	Grade Points	Pre-AP/AP Grade Points
90 – 100	A	4.00	5.00
80 – 89	B	3.00	4.00
75 – 79	C	2.00	3.00
70 – 74	D	1.00	2.00
<70	F	0	0