ATTACHMENT II
Text of Proposed Revisions to 19 TAC

Chapter 74. Curriculum Requirements

Subchapter C. Other Provisions

§74.23. Correspondence Courses and Distance Learning.

Credit toward state graduation requirements may be granted under this section only under the following conditions.

(1) The institution offering correspondence courses must be The University of Texas at Austin, Texas Tech University, or another public institution of higher education approved by the commissioner of education.

(2) Students may earn course credit through distance learning technologies [~~,~~] such as, but not limited to, satellite, Internet, two-way video-conferencing, online courses, the Texas Virtual School Network (TxVSN), and instructional television.

(3) The correspondence and distance learning courses must include the essential knowledge and skills as specified in §74.1 of this title (relating to Essential Knowledge and Skills) for such a course.

§74.28. Students with Dyslexia and Related Disorders.

(a) The board of trustees of a school district must ensure that procedures for identifying a student with dyslexia or a related disorder and for providing appropriate instructional services to the student are implemented in the district. These procedures will be monitored by the Texas Education Agency with on-site visits conducted as appropriate.

(b) A school district's procedures must be implemented according to the State Board of Education (SBOE) approved strategies for screening [~~,~~] and techniques for treating [~~,~~] dyslexia and related disorders. The strategies and techniques are described in " Dyslexia Handbook: Procedures Concerning Dyslexia and Related Disorders," a set of flexible guidelines for local districts that may be modified by SBOE only with broad-based dialogue that includes input from educators and professionals in the field of reading and dyslexia and related disorders from across the state. Screening should only be done by individuals/professionals who are trained to assess students for dyslexia and related disorders.

(c) A school district shall purchase a reading program or develop its own reading program for students with dyslexia and related disorders that is aligned with [~~, as long as the program is characterized by~~] the descriptors found in " Dyslexia Handbook: Procedures Concerning Dyslexia and Related Disorders." Teachers who screen and treat these students must be trained in instructional strategies which utilize individualized, intensive, multisensory, phonetic methods and a variety of writing and spelling components described in [~~the~~] " Dyslexia Handbook: Procedures Concerning Dyslexia and Related Disorders . " The [~~and in the~~] professional development activities specified by each district and/or campus planning and decision making committee shall include these instructional strategies .

(d) Before an identification or assessment procedure is used selectively with an individual student, the school district must notify the student's parent or guardian or another person standing in parental relation to the student.

(e) Parents/guardians of students eligible under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, §504, must be informed of all services and options available to the student under that federal statute.

(f) Each school must provide each identified student access at his or her campus to instructional programs required in subsection (c) of this section and to the services of a teacher trained in dyslexia and related disorders. The school district may, with the approval of each student's parents or guardians, offer additional services at a centralized location. Such centralized services shall not preclude each student from receiving services at his or her campus.

(g) Because early intervention is critical, a process [~~program~~] for early identification, intervention, and support for students at risk for [~~with~~] dyslexia and related disorders must be available in each district as outlined in [~~the~~] " Dyslexia Handbook: Procedures Concerning Dyslexia and Related Disorders."

(h) Each school district shall provide a parent education program for parents/guardians of students with dyslexia and related disorders. This program should include: awareness of characteristics of dyslexia and related disorders; information on testing and diagnosis of dyslexia; information on effective strategies for teaching dyslexic students; and awareness of information on modification, especially modifications allowed on standardized testing.

§74.29. Texas Advanced Placement Incentive Program.

(a) Purpose. The Texas advanced placement incentive program is created to recognize and reward students, teachers, and schools that demonstrate success in achieving the educational goals of the state. An award or a subsidy granted under this section shall be for the public purpose of promoting an educated citizenry.

(b) Types of awards.

(1) A school participating in the program shall be eligible to receive the following awards:

(A) a one-time, $3,000 equipment grant for providing a College Board advanced placement or International Baccalaureate course, based on need as determined by the commissioner of education; [~~and~~]

(B) up to $100 for each student who receives a score of three or better on a College Board advanced placement or International Baccalaureate test ; and [~~.~~]

(C) up to $450 to reimburse a teacher or pay for a teacher to complete approved College Board advanced placement or International Baccalaureate training.

(2) A teacher who teaches a College Board advanced placement or International Baccalaureate course shall be eligible to receive the following awards:

[~~(A) a subsidy of up to $450 per teacher for teacher training for College Board advanced placement or International Baccalaureate courses;~~]

(A) [~~(B)~~] a one-time award of $250 for teaching a College Board advanced placement or International Baccalaureate course for the first time; and

(B) [~~(C)~~] a share of the teacher bonus pool proportional to the number of courses taught that shall be distributed by the teacher's school. Fifty dollars may be deposited in the teacher bonus pool for each student enrolled in the school who receives a score of three or better on a College Board advanced placement or International Baccalaureate test.

(3) A student who receives a score of three or better on a College Board advanced placement or International Baccalaureate test may receive a reimbursement of up to $65 for the advanced placement or International Baccalaureate testing fee. The reimbursement shall be reduced by the amount of any subsidy awarded by the College Board or International Baccalaureate or under subsection (e) of this section.

(c) Award adjustment. The commissioner of education shall adjust and prorate by category the sum and number of awards to ensure the purpose of the program is realized.

(d) Application for, and use of, awards.

(1) To obtain an award, a school or teacher must submit to the State Board of Education (SBOE) a written application in a form, manner, and time prescribed by the commissioner of education. [~~The intended recipient of the award must submit the application.~~]

(2) A school must give priority to academic enhancement purposes in using any award received under this section. An award may not be used for any purpose relating to athletics.

(3) The principal of each school participating in the program shall convene, at least annually, a team composed of not more than five members, with not fewer than three teachers, to include at least one teacher participating in the program and at least one teacher who teaches students in preparation for their participation in the program, for the purpose of determining the use of funds awarded under subsection (b) of this section.

(e) Subsidies for College Board advanced placement or International Baccalaureate tests.

(1) A student is entitled to a subsidy for the fee he or she pays to take a College Board advanced placement or International Baccalaureate test if the student demonstrates financial need according to guidelines adopted by the College Board.

(2) The Texas Education Agency (TEA), with SBOE approval, may pay each eligible applicant an equal amount of up to $25.

(f) Funding of awards and subsidies.

(1) An award or a subsidy granted under this section is subject to the availability of funds. An award or a subsidy may be funded by donations, grants, or legislative appropriations.

(2) The commissioner of education may solicit and receive a grant or donation for the purpose of making awards under this section. The TEA shall account for and distribute any donation, grant, or legislative appropriation.

(3) The TEA shall apply to the program any available funds from its appropriations that may be used for this purpose.

(4) An application for funding may be filed with TEA at a date determined by the commissioner of education.

[~~§74.34. Additional Requirements for Economics Classes, Grades 9-12.~~]

[~~(a) A school district and an open-enrollment charter school shall incorporate instruction in personal financial literacy into any course meeting a requirement for an economics credit, using the materials approved by the State Board of Education for this purpose in accordance with Texas Education Code, §28.0021.~~]

[~~(b) A school district may add elements at its discretion but must include the following areas of instruction:~~]

[~~(1) understanding interest and avoiding and eliminating credit card debt;~~]

[~~(2) understanding the rights and responsibilities of renting or buying a home;~~]

[~~(3) managing money to make the transition from renting a home to home ownership;~~]

[~~(4) starting a small business;~~]

[~~(5) being a prudent investor in the stock market and using other investment options;~~]

[~~(6) beginning a savings program and planning for retirement;~~]

[~~(7) bankruptcy;~~]

[~~(8) the types of bank accounts available to consumers and the benefits of maintaining a bank account;~~]

[~~(9) balancing a checkbook;~~]

[~~(10) the types of loans available to consumers and becoming a low-risk borrower;~~]

[~~(11) understanding insurance; and~~]

[~~(12) charitable giving.~~]

[~~(c) A school district or open-enrollment charter school may apply to the commissioner of education for an extension in complying with the requirements of this section for the 2006-2007 school year.~~]