

# Languages Other Than English (LOTE) Credit Requirement

The foundation high school graduation program requires that students earn 2 credits in Languages other than English (LOTE). Students in Richardson ISD can choose to take Spanish, French, Japanese, or Latin. Spanish and French are offered in 7-12th grades, and Japanese and Latin are offered in 9-12th grades.

**There are three distinct pathways for students to earn their LOTE credits:**

## Standard Path

**Students take 2 LOTE credits in junior high or high school.**

## Advanced Spanish Path

**In 6th grade, native/heritage speakers of Spanish have the opportunity to take the 6th Grade Screener to enter the Advanced Spanish Program in junior high. Students who score 80% or higher are put on an advanced pathway:**

- 7th grade Spanish for Spanish Speakers 3
- 8th grade Spanish for Spanish Speakers 4
- 9th grade AP Spanish Language and Culture
- 10th grade AP Spanish Literature and Culture

The AP Program offers college-level courses and exams students can take in high school for college credit. The benefits of the AP program are students are more likely to enroll and stay in college, graduate in four years, earn college credit and placement, stand out to colleges on transcripts, and save money and time in college.

## Credit-by-Examination Path

**As an alternative to taking LOTE courses in junior high or high school, students may take a credit-by-examination (CBE) to earn their LOTE credits. Richardson ISD offers two types of credit-by-examination assessments for LOTE:**

### Verification of Credit Exam (VOC)

- Available in Spanish, Japanese, and French.
- Offered primarily to students without prior LOTE instruction in junior high and high school who wish to accelerate language levels in Spanish, French, or Japanese.
- Students can earn up to 2 LOTE credits.

### Avant Exam

- Available in Arabic, French, German, Hebrew, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin (Simplified & Traditional), Polish, Portuguese (Brazilian), Russian, Spanish, Spanish Monolingual, Amharic, Swahili, Urdu, and Vietnamese.
- Offered primarily to newcomers in junior high, and high school without prior LOTE instruction.
- Students can earn up to 4 LOTE credits.



Please see your school counselor, teacher(s), and/or principal(s) concerning additional questions or explanation of information.