rewards for rgvlead scholars

Seniors who graduate as RGV LEAD Scholars qualify for these rewards:

GRADUATION HONORS

RGV LEAD Scholars will receive an RGV LEAD honor cord and RGV LEAD Scholar certificate to signify their accomplishments.

SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

RGV LEAD Scholars are eligible to compete for one of the RGV LEAD Scholarships ... thousands of dollars for college! (This is in addition to the savings of earning college credits in high school as RGV LEAD Scholars.)

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT

Completion of the college-level courses included in RGV LEAD Scholars' college-and-career-focused programs of study may satisfy "advanced measure" requirements for the Distinguished Achievement Program.

STATE FINANCIAL AWARD PROGRAMS

Many state grant and loan programs are available to students who graduate as RGV LEAD Scholars; for example:

- TEXAS Grant
- Top 10 Percent Scholarship
- $1,000 Tuition Rebate for Certain Undergrads
- Texas B-On-Time Loan Program

To learn more, visit "Students," "Types of Financial Aid," on this website: www.collegeforalltexans.com.

RGV LEAD'S MISSION

RGV LEAD is in the business of education, partnering to engage students in college-and-career-focused learning opportunities to achieve a higher level of competence in the workforce.

STATEMENT OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

Participation in RGV LEAD's programs is open to all parties without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, veteran status, or disability.

STATEMENT OF FUNDING

Funding for RGV LEAD's programs comes from multiple sources, including school districts, colleges and universities, economic development organizations, and individual supporters. RGV LEAD is a Texas nonprofit and federal 501c3 corporation, and contributions to RGV LEAD are tax-deductible.

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BECOME A RIO GRANDE VALLEY LEAD SCHOLAR

Classes of 2015, 2016, and 2017

RGVLEAD scholars program

To graduate as an RGV LEAD Scholar, a student must meet all four of these requirements:

1. **EITHER** complete all courses required by the Recommended High School Program or the Distinguished Achievement Program **OR** complete all courses required by the Foundation High School Program with at least one Endorsement.*
2. Complete the high school portion of a six- or eight-year program of study that includes, in high school, a coherent sequence of two or more career and technical education courses for 3 or more credits.
3. Complete at least two college-level courses as part of the high school graduation plan. Each "college-level course" must meet all of the following requirements:
   a. Must be a career and technical education course taken for high school credit.
   b. Must be either an articulated course for which the student has earned a grade of 80 or better or a dual-credit course for which the student has earned a passing grade.
   c. Must be a course that is included in a college-and-career focused program of study graduation plan.
4. Complete a declaration of intent to be an RGV LEAD Scholar.

what are the recommended programs

The Recommended High School Program and Distinguished Achievement Program are rigorous academic programs that create a 26-credit high school graduation plan with choices of elective options, as follows:

- English: 4 credits
- Mathematics: 4 credits
- Science: 4 credits
- Social Studies: 4 credits
- Foreign Language: 2 or 3* credits
- Physical Education: 1 credit
- Fine Arts: 1 credit
- Speech: 0.5 credit
- Electives: 5.5 or 4.5* credits

*Distinguished Achievement Program (DAP)

(The DAP also requires "advanced measures." Check with your counselor.)

RGV LEAD Scholars must follow approved college-and-career-focused programs of study that include college-preparatory academics and career and technical education (CTE) courses. Taking the appropriate sequence of CTE courses with at least two being college-level courses will ensure that you meet the requirements to graduate as an RGV LEAD Scholar.

Your high school counselor can provide you with detailed information regarding the courses you will need to take.

who offers scholars program

These school districts are participating:

- **Cameron County:** Brownsville ISD, Harlingen CISD, La Feria ISD, Los Fresnos CISD, Point Isabel ISD, Rio Hondo ISD, San Benito CISD, Santa Maria ISD, Santa Rosa ISD, and South Texas ISD.
- **Hidalgo County:** Donna ISD, Edcouch-Elsa ISD, Edinburg CISD, Hidalgo ISD, La Joya ISD, La Villa ISD, McAllen ISD, Mercedes ISD, Mission CISD, Monte Alto ISD, PSJA ISD, Progreso ISD, Sharyland ISD, Valley View ISD, and Weslaco ISD.
- **Starr County:** Rio Grande City CISD, Roma ISD, and San Isidro ISD.
- **Willacy County:** Lasara ISD, Lyford CISD, Raymondville ISD, and San Perlita ISD.

how to qualify

Check with your high school counselor to see:

- which college-and-career-focused programs of study are available in your school district and
- which of your courses will qualify as college-level courses meeting the requirements for the RGV LEAD Scholars program.

NOTE: You may also meet the requirements for the RGV LEAD Scholars program by completing the requirements of the Foundation High School Program and at least one Endorsement. Talk with your high school counselor for additional information.

Classes of 2015, 2016, and 2017

RIO GRANDE VALLEY LEAD SCHOLAR