

## Graduation Requirements

In pursuit of its mission to ensure that all students reach their learning potential and are prepared for postsecondary and career opportunities, the Board of Education has established the following graduation requirements.

To receive a high school diploma from the district, students must meet or exceed the district's academic standards and measures required by this policy or complete the requirements and goals listed on a student's Individualized Education Program (IEP), which may include modified academic standards

### College and career readiness

The Colorado State Board of Education has adopted state graduation guidelines that identify college and career readiness measures in English and Math. The Board has selected its own measures from these state graduation guidelines.

### English

Students must complete at least one of the following measures and meet or exceed the measure's corresponding cut score or criteria to demonstrate college and career readiness in English.

Measure	Cut Score/Criteria
Accuplacer assessment	Score of at least 62 on Reading Comprehension.
ACT assessment	Score of at least 18 on English.
ACT Compass assessment	Score of at least 79 on English.
ACT WorkKeys assessment that demonstrates English readiness, as identified on the accompanying exhibit.*	Score of at least 3 (Bronze level).
Advanced Placement (AP) exam that demonstrates English readiness, as identified on the accompanying exhibit.*	Score of at least 2.

Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB)	Score in at least the 31st percentile.
International Baccalaureate (IB) exam that demonstrates English readiness, as identified on the accompanying exhibit.*	Score of 4.
SAT assessment	Score of at least 430 on English.
Concurrent enrollment course that demonstrates English readiness, as approved by the district and included in the student's academic plan of study or Individualized Career and Academic Plan (ICAP).	Grade of at least a _____. [Insert required grade as defined by the board's concurrent enrollment policy or applicable agreement.]
Industry certificate that demonstrates academic and intellectual learning in the subject area of English.	Receipt of the industry certificate and approval by the district-designated team.  [NOTE: The district should create an accompanying regulation to define its process for qualifying industry certifications.]
District capstone project that demonstrates academic and intellectual learning in the subject area of English.	Completion of the district capstone project and approval by the district-designated team.  [NOTE: The district should create an accompanying regulation to define its process for district capstone projects.]

## Math

Students must complete at least one of the following measures and meet the measure's corresponding cut score or criteria to demonstrate college and career readiness in Math.

Measure	Cut Score/Criteria
Accuplacer assessment	Score of at least 61 on Elementary Algebra.
ACT assessment	Score of at least 19 on Math.
ACT Compass assessment	Score of at least 63 on Math.
ACT WorkKeys assessment that demonstrates Math readiness, as identified on the accompanying exhibit.*	Score of at least 3 (Bronze level).
Advanced Placement (AP) exam that demonstrates Math readiness, as identified on the accompanying exhibit.*	Score of at least 2.
Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB)	Score in at least the 31st percentile.
SAT assessment	Score of at least 460 on Math.
Concurrent enrollment course that demonstrates Math readiness, as approved by the district and included in the student's academic plan of study or Individualized Career and Academic Plan (ICAP).	Grade of at least a _____. [Insert required grade as defined by the board's concurrent enrollment policy or applicable agreement.]
Industry certificate that demonstrates academic and intellectual learning in the subject area of Math.	<p>Receipt of the industry certificate and approval by the district-designated team.</p> <p>[NOTE: The district should create an accompanying regulation to define its process for qualifying industry certifications.]</p>

## Exceptions to the Board's required measures and cut scores/criteria

If a student has demonstrated college and career readiness by completing an assessment or other measure that is not included in this policy but is included in the state graduation guidelines, the principal or principal's designee may determine that such assessment or other measure is acceptable and meets the district's graduation requirements.

## Courses and Units of Credit required for graduation

### Essential Courses

English	4.0 Credits (English I, English II, English III, English IV) **
Math	3.0 Credits (Algebra I, Geometry, Elective) **
Science	3.0 Credits (Earth Science, Biology, Elective) **
Social Studies Gov't/Civics **)	3.0 Credits (World History/Geography, American History,
Physical Education	1.5 Credits (includes a semester of health)
Fine Arts	1.0 Credit (Art, Music, Drama)
Financial Literacy Management)	1.0 Credit of Financial Literacy (Ag Econ/Business Econ/Wealth
CTE	3.0 Credits (Agriculture or Business)
Speech	.5 Credit
** Core Classes	
Total Essential Courses	20 Credits

*In addition to above courses, a student must complete one of the following career pathways*

### 1. Honors Endorsement Pathway (Collegiate Readiness)

This pathway provides the highly motivated student opportunities for challenging coursework and additional recognition for their hard work. The student will:

- Complete 27 credits for graduation
- 8 credits will be Honors/AP/Collegiate level courses
- Students must take 4 credits of all core courses (English, Math, Science, Social Studies)
- Algebra II is a minimum math course requirement
- Students must have a GPA of 3.75 or above.
- Meet State Required Competency levels in ELA and Math (See Graduation Competency Menu)

\*\*A student must meet all requirements or be on track for Collegiate Endorsement by the end of 1<sup>st</sup> semester of their senior year to be recognized at graduation.

**Credits earned will fall into the below Categories**

Essential Course Credits: 20.0  
Academic (Core) Electives: 4.0  
Electives: 3.0

## **2. General Endorsement Pathway**

### **College or Career Ready**

This pathway is the standard pathway to graduation.

The student will:

Complete 27 required credits for graduation which include 20.0 essential credits

The student will:

- Complete 27 credits for graduation
- 20.0 Essential Credits
- 7 elective credits
- Meet State Required Competency levels in ELA and Math (See Graduation Competency Menu)

Credits earned must fall into the below categories

Essential Course Credits: 20.0

Electives: 7.0 credits

## **3. Career Ready Endorsement Pathway:**

This Pathway allows for adaptation and can be utilized for students needing an individualized program of study as outlined by an individual graduation plan.

The student will:

- Complete 27 required credits for graduation which include 20.0 essential credits
- Meet State Required Competency levels in ELA and Math (See Graduation Competency Menu)

### **Credits earned must fall into the below categories**

Essential Course Credits: 20.0

Electives: 3 credits

Service Learning: 4.0 Credits

OR 7 Credit hours of Service Learning

#### **4. Modified Endorsement Pathway:**

This Pathway allows for adaptation and can be utilized for students needing an individualized program of study as outlined by an individual graduation plan. Modified grades and classes will be documented for required graduation credits. The student will:

- Complete 27 required credits for graduation which include 20.0 essential credits
- Meet State Required Competency levels in ELA and Math (See Graduation Competency Menu) or as per agreement of the administration and Board of Education the district may adapt the college and career demonstrations necessary to accommodate for students with the following exceptions: English learners, gifted students, and students with disabilities.

#### **Credits earned must fall into the below categories**

Essential Course Credits: 20.0

Electives: 4.0 credits

Service Learning: 3.0 Credits

OR 7 Credit hours of Service Learning or Life Skills

#### Work Study Criteria

- The work study program must be approved by the local board of education
- Each local board of education shall define the 'educational process,' which definition may include any work-study time provided under the supervision of a certificated or licensed teacher
- The district shall include only the work hours required to earn credit hours as defined by the student's schedule
- 1 credit can be earned per 124 hours of work study
- Work study must be approved by administration and students may not work for their immediate family.

**Service learning:** is a process whereby students learn and develop through active participation in organized work experiences that meet workforce ready needs. This will provide students opportunities to use their acquired skills and knowledge in real life situations making them productive within their communities.

### **Credit from other institutions and home-based programs**

Students entering from outside the district must meet the district's course requirements. The principal or principal's designee shall determine whether credit toward course requirements shall be granted for courses taken outside the district.

In accordance with applicable state law, college courses completed pursuant to the student's participation in a "dropout recovery program" shall count as credit toward completion of the district's credit requirements.

### **Early graduation**

The Board of Education believes that most students benefit from four years of high school experience and are encouraged not to graduate early. However, in some cases, students are ready for postsecondary education or other opportunities at an earlier age. Therefore, the principal may grant permission to students wishing to graduate early, provided the student has met all district graduation requirements in accordance with this policy.

Current practice codified 1983

Adopted: Date of manual adoption

Revised: 6-13-83  
12-12-83  
9-17-90  
2-19-92  
3-26-92  
1-6-94  
8-18-94  
4-18-96  
3-12-97  
5-17-01  
8-16-01  
11-13-03  
7-14-04  
10-13-05  
12-13-06  
4-14-08  
5-17-11  
8-19-14  
9-15-16

LEGAL REFS.: C.R.S. [22-1-104](#) (teaching history, culture and civil government)  
C.R.S. [22-32-109](#) (1)(kk) (board to establish graduation requirements that "meet or exceed" state graduation guidelines)  
C.R.S. [22-32-132](#) (discretion to award diploma to honorably discharged veterans)

C.R.S. [22-33-104.5](#) (home-based education law)

C.R.S. [22-35-101](#) et seq. (Concurrent Enrollment Programs Act)

CROSS REFS.: [AE](#), Accountability/Commitment to Accomplishment  
[AEA](#), Standards Based Education  
[IHBG](#), Home Schooling  
[IHBK](#)\*, Preparation for Postsecondary and Workforce Success  
[IHCDA](#), Concurrent Enrollment  
[IK](#), Academic Achievement  
[IKA](#), Grading/Assessment Systems

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