

NOTE: State law requires each local board of education to establish high school graduation requirements that “meet or exceed any minimum standards or core competencies or skills identified in the state’s guidelines for high school graduation requirements. . . .” C.R.S. 22-32-109 (1)(kk)(II). These requirements apply to students enrolling in the ninth grade in the 2017-18 school year (i.e., the class of 2021).

Graduation Requirements



(Beginning with the Class of 2021)

In pursuit of its mission (School 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 for students entering the ninth grade in the 2017-18 school year and each ninth grade class thereafter.

To receive a high school diploma from *Click here to enter text* students must

1. Meet or exceed the state and school academic standards by completing the school’s minimum course and credit requirements, **AND**
2. Complete an Individual Career and Academic Plan (ICAP), **AND**
3. Demonstrate College and Career Readiness through one of the following:
 - a. meet or exceed the cut score or criteria on a state-approved measure of College and Career Readiness in English and Math, **OR**
 - b. Complete the requirements and goals as listed on a student’s Individual Education Plan (IEP), English Language Development Plan (ELDP), or Advanced Learning Plan (ALP), which may include modified content standards.

Courses required for graduation

NOTE: A local board may choose to require students to complete specific courses as part of its graduation requirements and identify them here. Please note that state law requires all students to satisfactorily complete a course on the civil government of the State of Colorado and the United States (civics). C.R.S. 22-1-104. State law also “encourages” districts to treat computer science and coding courses as a math or science course and count completion of a computer science or coding course toward the fulfillment of a math or science graduation requirement. C.R.S. 22-32-133.5 (3). Local boards should also be mindful of any specific course requirements for college admission. The chart below indicates the current Colorado Department of Higher Education admission requirements. For more detailed information about the admission standards for postsecondary education in Colorado, visit the [Colorado Department of Higher Education’s website](#).



English Language Arts	4 years
Mathematics (Must include Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II or equivalents)	4 years
Natural/Physical Sciences (two units must be lab-based)	3 years
Social Sciences (at least one unit of Civil Government and at least one unit of US or World History)	3 years

World/Foreign Language	1 year
Academic Electives	2 years

Units of credit required for graduation

NOTE: The state’s graduation guidelines do not require students to earn a specific number of credits prior to graduating. As a result, this section is optional. If the board chooses to include credit requirements in its graduation policy, these credit requirements should be identified here or included in the course requirements chart above.

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Credit from other institutions and home-based programs

NOTE: The following paragraph is optional. However, if the Board chooses to require specific courses to receive a high school diploma from the school, CASB recommends including a section addressing how students transferring from outside the school are able to meet this requirement.

Students entering from outside the school must meet the school’s course requirements. The principal or principal’s designee shall determine whether credit toward course requirements shall be granted for courses taken outside (School Name *Click here to enter text.*).

Individual Career and Academic Plan (ICAP)

NOTE: Each institute charter school shall assist each student and his or her parent or legal guardian to develop and maintain the student’s individual career and academic plan (ICAP) no later than the beginning of ninth grade but may assist the student and his or her parent or legal guardian to develop and maintain the student’s ICAP in any grade prior to ninth grade. Each student’s ICAP shall comply with the requirements specified in section 22-2-136 and the rules promulgated by the state board of education pursuant to said section. C.R.S. 22-30.5-525.

ICAP is a multi-year process beginning in 9th grade that includes a career planning, guidance and tracking component, and portfolio with postsecondary and career goals. Students are required to participate in and successfully complete the ICAP process.

College and career readiness demonstrations

NOTE: State law requires local boards to adopt graduation requirements that demonstrate English and Math readiness in accordance with the state graduation guidelines. C.R.S. 22-32-109 (1)(kk)(II).

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.

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 each of the content areas: English and Math.

NOTE: The following matrix reflects the college and career readiness measures for English and Mathematics in the state graduation guidelines. Each local board must choose one or more of the following measure(s) as its own, board-identified measures. To provide students with as many

options as possible, a local board may include multiple measures based on available school resources. A local board may also raise the minimum score required (i.e., “cut score”) on a particular assessment if it chooses to do so.



Measure (Assessment Tool)	English Cut Score/Criteria	Math Cut Score/Criteria
<p>Accuplacer <i>computerized test that assesses reading, writing, math and computer skills. The results of the assessment, in conjunction with a student’s academic background, goals and interests, are used by academic advisors and counselors to place students in a college courses that match their skill levels.</i></p>	<p>Score of at least 62 on Reading Comprehension</p>	<p>Score of at least 61 on Elementary Algebra</p>
<p>ACT <i>national college admissions exam. It measures four subjects - English, reading, math and science. The highest possible score for each subject is 36.</i></p>	<p>Score of at least 18 on ACT English</p>	<p>Score of at least 19 on ACT Math</p>
<p>ACT WorkKeys <i>assessment that tests students’ job skills in applied reading, writing, mathematics and 21st century skills. Scores are based on job profiles that help employers select, hire, train, develop and retain a high-performance workforce. Students who score at the bronze level in applied mathematics, mapping and reading earn the ACT’s National Career Readiness Certificate.</i></p>	<p>Score of at least 3 (Bronze level) on Locating Information <u>and</u> Reading for Information</p>	<p>Score of at least 3 (Bronze level) on Applied Mathematics</p>
<p>Advanced Placement (AP) <i>AP exams test students’ ability to perform at a college level. AP exams which will fulfill this menu option are identified on the accompanying exhibit. Scores range from 1 to 5 (highest).</i></p>	<p>Score of at least 2</p>	<p>Score of at least 2</p>
<p>Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) <i>comprehensive test that helps determine students’ eligibility and suitability for careers in the military. Students who score at least 31 are eligible for service (along with other standards that include physical condition and personal conduct). Students who take the ASVAB are not required to enlist in the military.</i></p>	<p>Score of at least 31</p>	<p>Score of at least 31</p>
<p>International Baccalaureate (IB)</p>	<p>Score of at least 4</p>	<p>Score of at least 4</p>

<p><i>IB exams assess students enrolled in the official IB Diploma Programme. Courses are offered only at authorized IB World Schools. Courses which will fulfill this menu option are identified on the accompanying exhibit. Scores range from 1 to 7 (highest).</i></p>		
<p>SAT <i>college entrance exam that is accepted or required at nearly all four year colleges and universities in the U.S. The current SAT includes sections on reading, writing and math. The highest possible score for each section is 800.</i></p>	<p>430 on Evidence-Based Reading and Writing</p>	<p>460 on Math</p>
<p>Concurrent enrollment course <i>courses that allow students to simultaneously earn high school and college credit. A passing grade is determined by School Board and higher education policy for concurrent enrollment. An eligible concurrent enrollment course is 1) the pre-requisite directly prior to a credit-bearing course or 2) a credit-bearing course. Courses which will fulfill this menu option are identified on the accompanying exhibit.</i></p>	<p>Grade of at least a C. <i>[Insert required grade as defined by the board's concurrent enrollment policy or applicable agreement.]</i></p>	<p>Grade of at least a C. <i>[Insert required grade as defined by the board's concurrent enrollment policy or applicable agreement.]</i></p>
<p>Industry certificate <i>CSI and School approved industry certificates that demonstrate competency in an approved Career and Technical Education Program offered by the school. Certificates which will fulfill this menu option are identified on the accompanying exhibit.</i></p>	<p>Industry Certificates which will fulfill this menu option for a career and technical education pathway are identified on the accompanying exhibit.</p>	<p>Industry Certificates which will fulfill this menu option for a career and technical education pathway are identified on the accompanying exhibit.</p>
<p>District capstone project <i>multifaceted body of work that serves as a culminating academic and intellectual experience for students. CSI and School team are developing Capstone criteria to be approved beginning 2018-2019 school year.</i></p>	<p>CSI and School Team developed criteria to be approved beginning 2018-2019 school year.</p>	<p>CSI and School Team developed criteria to be approved beginning 2018-2019 school year.</p>

Exceptions to the Board's required measures

NOTE: This section is optional, but may provide flexibility for students who transfer enter the school after grade 9 already having completed a state-approved measure that is not included in the Institute school policy, particularly useful for AECs.

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 school's graduation requirements.

Early graduation

NOTE: This section is optional.

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.

(Adoption date)

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*)
C.R.S. 22-30.5-525 (*ICAP*)
C.R.S. 22-2-136 (*ICAP*)