

In pursuit of its mission to ensure that all students reach their learning potential, the Board of Education has established the following graduation requirements.

District academic standards

All students must meet or exceed the district's academic standards prior to becoming eligible to graduate or complete the requirements and goals as listed on a student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP), which may include modified academic standards.

Graduation from high school is a culminating event that results from the foundations built at the elementary and middle school levels. Graduation is a collaborative effort among levels in a student's public school career. Each level of school and each staff member or parent/guardian who instructs and counsels a student shares responsibility for the ultimate ability of that student to demonstrate proficiency in the district's academic standards and to meet the expectations for graduation.

Units of credit needed

A total of 26 credits earned during grades nine through twelve are required for graduation. A credit is defined as the amount of credit given for the successful completion of a course which meets four days per week, for at least 36 weeks or the equivalent. A half credit is granted for the successful completion of a course which meets four days a week, for at least 18 weeks. Successful completion means that the student obtained a passing grade (D minus) for the course.

The following criteria shall entitle a student to a high school diploma:

- Achievement in the district's academic standards as demonstrated by mastery of the curriculum which may include, but is not limited to, daily classroom assignments, state and district assessments, classroom assessments, and student participation in, and completion of, assigned projects.
- Completion of 26 credits in grades nine through twelve in the prescribed categories listed below.
- Completion of the requirements and goals as listed on a student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) which may include modified academic standards.

Required credits/courses

Credits	Area/Content	Specific Courses
4	Language Arts/English	Language Arts 1 Language Arts 2 Language Arts 3 Language Arts 4 Students receiving college credit for a college level English course with a passing grade of C- or better will have met the requirements for the 4 credit of Language Arts (Beginning with the class of 2021)
3	Mathematics	Pre-Algebra, Integrated Math I, Integrated Math II Integrated Math III Pre-Calculus Consumer Math Students receiving college credit for a college level Math course with a passing grade of C- or better will have met the requirements for the 3 credits of Math. (Beginning with the class of 2021)
3	Science	Physical Science Earth Science Biology I Chemistry Physics- 1 credit Anatomy/Physiology Animal Science Completion of four years of Students receiving college credit for a college level Science Course with a passing grade of C- or Better will have met the requirements for the 3 credits

		of Science. (Beginning with the class of 2021)
3	Social Studies	<p>Civics Government(either meets state mandated requirement) World History/Geography US History/Geography- 1865 to present- (meets state requirement) Economics Students receiving college credit for a college level Social Studies Course with a passing grade of C- or Better will have met the requirements for the 3 credits of Science. (Beginning with the class of 2021)</p>
1	Physical Education	Credit may be given for successful completion of two, competitive varsity sports in the same school year during a student's four years of high school. Students using sports or weight training to satisfy their Physical Education requirement must take a health course
1	Computer Technology	Computer Applications Computer Elective
7.5	Electives:	Vocational Education (Agriculture, Career and Family, Computer Technology), Music or Art. Physical Education courses, Foreign Language courses, Science, Language Arts, Social Studies, or Math courses beyond core requirements

26 Credits Hours	Total Requirements	
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.5 Elective Credit may be granted to any student scoring proficient or advanced on the TCAP test, in 9th grade, in the areas of Math, Reading, and Writing. (Class of 2015, Class of 2016, and Class of 2017) not applicable to Class of 2018 or beyond.

.5 Elective Credit may be granted to any student scoring proficient or advanced on the TCAP test, in 10th grade, in the areas of Math, Reading, Writing, and Science. (Class of 2015 and Class of 2016) not applicable to the Class of 2017 or beyond.

.5 Elective Credit may be granted to any student scoring 25 or higher on the composite score for the ACT test.

Credit from other institutions and home-based programs

All students entering from outside the district must meet the district graduation requirements. The principal shall determine whether credit toward graduation requirements shall be granted for courses taken outside the district. Students who are currently enrolled in the district and wish to obtain credit from outside institutions, or through “online” programs, must have prior approval from the principal.

The district shall accept the transcripts from a home-based educational program. In order to determine whether the courses and grades earned are consistent with district requirements and district academic standards, the district shall require submission of the student’s work or other proof of academic performance for each course for which credit toward graduation is sought. In addition, the district may administer testing to the student to verify the accuracy of the student’s transcripts. The district may reject any transcripts that cannot be verified through such testing.

Class rankings and grade point averages

Graduating seniors shall be ranked within the graduating class for the high school upon the basis of grade-point average for the four year program and ACT test score, as determined by the CCHE index calculator.

Grades for regular classes will be given the following values: A= 4, B=3, C=2, D=1.

Grades for college will be given the following values: A=5, B=4, C=3, D=1

After a course has been passed, no future grade earned in the same course shall be used to determine class rank or grade point average.

The student with the highest-class rank will be valedictorian. When more than one student holds the numerical one rank, all students holding the rank will be declared co-valedictorians.

Grades such as pass or satisfactory shall not be counted in determining class rank or grade-point average.

Independent study

Independent student, work experience and experience-based programs approved in advance by the principal may be taken for high school credit. Students must submit a request for approval that includes a summary of the educational objectives to be achieved and monitored by a faculty member.

Student course load

The course load for freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors shall be a minimum of 7 credits per school year. Students who wish to take less credits in any given school year must obtain advanced permission from the principal.

Years of attendance

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 need the challenge provided by post-secondary 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. Students wishing to graduate early must submit a request to the high school principal, no later than September 1st of the graduation year.

LEGAL REFS:

- C.R.S. 221104 (teaching history, culture and civil government)
- C.R.S. 2232109 (1) (kk) (board to establish graduation requirements that “meet or exceed” state graduation guidelines)
- C.R. S. 2232132 (discretion to award diploma to honorably discharged veterans)
- C.R.S. 2233104.5 (homebased education law)
- C.R.S. 2235101 et seq. (Concurrent Enrollment Programs Act)

- ADOPTED: May 14, 1986
- REVISED: Sep 9, 1987
- July 12, 1989
- April 1995
- June 11, 2003
- April 9, 2009
- August 11, 2011
- August 9, 2012
- August 8, 2013
- January 14, 2016
- August 11, 2016

