

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). This sample contains the content/language that CASB believes best meets the intent of the law. However, the board should consult with its own legal counsel to determine appropriate language that meets local circumstances and needs.

Graduation Requirements

(Beginning with the Class of 2021)

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 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 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

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 demonstrate college or career readiness in English and Math based on at least one measure.

ACCUPLACER

ENGLISH-241 on Reading **OR** 236 on Writing

MATH-255 on Arithmetic (AR) **OR** 230 on Quantitative Reasoning, Algebra, and Statistics (QAS)

SAT

ENGLISH-470

MATH- 500

ACT

ENGLISH- 18 in ACT English

MATH- 19 on ACT Math

ASVAB

ENGLISH- 31 on the AFQT

MATH- 31 on the AFQT

ACT WORK KEYS

ENGLISH-Bronze or higher

MATH- Bronze or higher

CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT

ENGLISH-Passing grade per district and college policy

Math- Passing grade per district and college policy

DISTRICT CAPSTONE

ENGLISH- Individualized

MATH- Individualized

A capstone is the culminating exhibition of a student’s project or experience that demonstrates academic and intellectual learning. Capstone projects are district determined and often include a portfolio of a student’s best work.

INDUSTRY CERTIFICATE

ENGLISH- Individualized

MATH- Individualized

Industry certificates are credentials recognized by business and industry. They are district determined, measure a student’s competency in an occupation and they validate a knowledge base and skills that show mastery in a particular industry.

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 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. For information about the admission standards for postsecondary education in Colorado, visit the Colorado Department of Higher Education's website.

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.

(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)

CROSS REFS.: [AE](#), Accountability/Commitment to Accomplishment

[AEA](#), Standards Based Education