

STATE Graduation Guidelines (2021 and Beyond)

- The state's graduation guidelines have been in **development since 2007**.
- The graduation guidelines **took effect with ninth-graders in fall 2017**, and include a state menu of college and career-ready demonstrations.
- **The NPS Board of Education** adopted the new graduation requirements in May 2016.
- **Students must demonstrate college and career readiness** in English and Math based on at least one measure in order to graduate – all graduates must be college and career ready.

Fundamental shifts in Colorado's high school graduation requirements - and local policies and practices - are intended to ensure that all students are prepared for success in a globally competitive workforce.



Why do we have new graduation requirements beginning with the Class of 2021?

- NPS is one of many districts revising its graduation requirements to meet the statewide graduation guidelines approved by the Colorado Board of Education, a decision based on data showing that Colorado students were not consistently prepared to enter college and the workforce after graduation. We knew we had to do better.

Our district must prepare NPS graduates for college and career — here is why it matters:

- In Colorado, 53% of students in two-year colleges and 20% of students in four-year colleges require remedial courses.
- Which leads to the student incurring additional tuition fees and an increased time to complete their degree, increasing the potential for a student to drop out of college.

Our district must prepare NPS graduates for college and career — here is why it matters:

- Our new graduation requirements mirror what is expected from college admissions standards, so students won't need remedial courses and will feel confident and prepared for their futures.
- In all cases, students should work with their school counselor to make sure they're meeting all requirements.

Our district must prepare NPS graduates for college and career — here is why it matters:

- When students graduate from a NPS high school, **we want them to leave with choices**, prepared to be successful in any path they choose — whether that's the workforce after graduation, continued training for specialized industry certifications or technical degrees, entering the military or going to a two or four year college.

Our district must prepare NPS graduates for college and career — here is why it matters:

- In NPS, when we think about college, this can include many different options: technical colleges that specialize in workforce training (like The Technical College of the Rockies - Delta), two-year community colleges (like Community College of Denver), and four-year universities (like Mesa State, CU and CSU).
- In addition, our graduates can also enlist in the U.S. military and gain training, skills and career opportunities out of high school.

Norwood High School Graduation Credit Requirements 26 Credits Required

Language Arts	4 credits
Foreign Language	1 credit
Social Studies	3 credits
Mathematics	3 credits
Science	3 credits
Vocational/Technical Ed	2 credits
Physical Education	2 credits
Fine Arts	<u>1 credit</u>
Core Subject Total	19 credits
Electives	<u>7 credits</u>
Total credits	26 credits

- Foreign language will be required at all four year colleges and universities.
- Athletics may account for no more than one credit hour of physical education credit.
- Math classes used for meeting mastery criteria will be Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra 2.
- High school elective credit will be granted for students receiving a C or better in eighth grade Algebra I. A student receiving this credit will still be required to take three math course which will include geometry and Algebra 2.

Course Sequence Required Language Arts, Social Studies, Mathematics and Science

- English 1, English 2, English 3, English 4
- Geography or World History, American History, Civics/Economics
- Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra 2
- Earth Science, Biology, Chemistry or Physics or Physical Science as the 3rd required course.

Menu of College and Career-Ready Demonstrations



Local school boards establish high school graduation requirements that meet or exceed the Colorado Graduation Guidelines for the graduating class of 2021.

Local school boards and districts select from this menu to create a list of options that their students must use to show what they know or can do in order to graduate from high school, beginning with the graduating class of 2021. School districts may offer some or all of the state menu options, may raise a cut score on an included assessment and may add graduation requirements in other content areas.

Graduation Guidelines begin with the implementation of: **Individual Career and Academic Plans (ICAP), Colorado Academic Standards for all content areas including Civics and 21st Century Essential Skills.**

Students must demonstrate college or career readiness in English and math based on at least one measure.

Districts have the authority to adapt the college and career demonstrations necessary to earn a standard high school diploma to accommodate for: English learners, gifted student and students with disabilities.

MENU OF OPTIONS: This menu lists the minimum scores required.

ACCUPLACER	
ENGLISH	MATH
62 on Reading Comprehension OR 70 on Sentence Skills	61 on Elementary Algebra

ACCUPLACER is a 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 college courses that match their skill levels.

ACT	
ENGLISH	MATH
18 on ACT English	19 on ACT Math

ACT is a national college admissions exam. It measures four subjects – English, reading, math and science. The highest possible score for each subject is 36.

ACT WorkKeys – National Career Readiness Certificate	
ENGLISH	MATH
Bronze or higher	Bronze or higher

ACT WorkKeys is an 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 (at least 3) in applied mathematics, mapping and reading earn the ACT's National Career Readiness Certificate.

Advanced Placement	
ENGLISH	MATH
2	2

AP exams test students' ability to perform at a college level. Districts choose which AP exams will fulfill this menu option. Scores range from 1 to 5 (highest).

ASVAB	
ENGLISH	MATH
31	31

The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) is a 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.

Concurrent Enrollment	
ENGLISH	MATH
Passing grade per district and higher education policy	Passing grade per district and higher education policy

Concurrent enrollment provides students the opportunity to enroll in postsecondary courses, simultaneously earning high school and college credit. School districts and institutions of higher education each determine passing grades for credit and concurrent enrollment. An eligible concurrent enrollment course is 1) the prerequisite directly prior to a credit-bearing course or 2) a credit-bearing course.

District Capstone	
ENGLISH	MATH
Individualized	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	MATH
Individualized	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.

International Baccalaureate (IB)	
ENGLISH	MATH
4	4

IB exams assess students enrolled in the official IB Diploma Programme. Courses are offered only at authorized IB World Schools. Scores range from 1 to 7 (highest).

SAT: Scores updated for new SAT (2016)	
ENGLISH	MATH
470	500

The SAT is a 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.

Collaboratively developed, standards-based performance assessment	
ENGLISH	MATH
State-wide scoring criteria (In development)	State-wide scoring criteria

Plan of Support

1. Khan Academy -
<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/ppt/linking-college-board-khan-academy-accounts-presentation.ppt>
2. Friday support?
3. Classroom help
4. Practice tests twice annually (October and April)
5. Outside school work and commitment

Road Ahead

1. Postsecondary Preparation – 4year, 2 year, Technical, Military, Workforce
2. Testing twice a year from grades 8-11 (PSAT, SAT)
3. ASVAB once during 11th grade
4. No ACT testing support, but students can still take the test
5. Admissions Standards (grades and test scores)
6. Scholarship Opportunities (grades and test scores)

There is a lot of time to
make all of this happen,
so don't stress, just start.

Questions?