Capstone Projects & Graduation Guidelines

Winter Gifted Directors’ Meeting
February 26, 2016

http://www.cde.state.co.us/postsecondary/graduationguidelines
Graduation Guidelines

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History and Context

Data Landscape

Few jobs will require only a high school education. Colorado ranks 48th in jobs for high school graduates or dropouts.

Many jobs will require additional training beyond high school. Colorado ranks third in the proportion of 2020 jobs that will require a bachelor’s degree.

Between 2010 and 2020, new Colorado jobs requiring postsecondary education and training will grow by 716,000—compared to only 268,000 new jobs for high school graduates who have no additional training. This means that jobs requiring additional training beyond high school are growing three times as fast as jobs requiring only a high school diploma.

In 2020, 74 percent of all jobs in Colorado—3 million jobs—will require education beyond high school.
- 26 percent will require a high school diploma or less.
- 32 percent will require some college, an associate’s degree or certificate.
- 29 percent will require a bachelor’s degree.
- 12 percent will require a master’s degree or higher.

Source: Georgetown University, Job Growth and Education Requirements, 2013
Colorado by the Numbers

More than one-third of high school students participate in career and technical education courses (38 percent).

1 in 5 Colorado eleventh-graders and graduating seniors participate in dual enrollment, taking college courses in high school (22 percent).

NEW! 85 percent of students enrolled in dual enrollment classes enroll in college.

More than one-third of high school students take an Advanced Placement exam. 36.1 percent earned a score of 3 or higher (on a 1-to-5 scale).
The Colorado Graduation Guidelines are a road map to help students and their families plan for success after high school.
## Menu of Options

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

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**Timeline**

- **Adopt** revisions to meet or exceed state guidelines
  - **Decide on** menu of options for students to demonstrate college and career readiness
  - **2015-16**

- **Prepare to implement** with eighth-graders
  - **2016-17**

- **Implement**
  - 2017-18 starting with ninth-graders
  - 2018-19 with ninth and 10th-graders
  - 2019-20 with ninth, 10th and 11th-graders
  - **2017-20**

- **Graduate**
  - 2020-21 first class under revised guidelines
  - **2020-21**
Capstone Projects

- A capstone is the culminating exhibition of a student’s project or experience that demonstrates academic and intellectual learning.

- Capstone projects are individualized and district-determined, and they often include a portfolio of a student’s best work.

www.cde.state.co.us/postsecondary/graduationguidelines
Resources

- District or School Administrators
  - Graduation Guidelines Teams
  - Timeline
  - Implementation Strategies

- State-level Convenings:
  - Capstone PLCs
  - Sector Partnerships and Workforce Development

- Online Resources and Promising Practices
  - Fact Sheets and Engagement Toolkit
  - Implementation Strategies
  - [www.cde.state.co.us/postsecondary/graduationguidelines](http://www.cde.state.co.us/postsecondary/graduationguidelines)
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