

Graduation Guidelines Flexibility for the Class of 2021

- At their July 2020 meeting, the State Board of Education voted unanimously to provide flexibility to local education providers for Graduation Guidelines in the upcoming 2020-21 school year.
- Local education providers can decide if they would like to implement for the class of 2021 or delay full implementation until the class of 2022.
- For 2020-2021, local education providers may graduate students according to district determined graduation requirements that either include the [Graduation Guidelines Menu of Options](#) and/or local options, such as courses, for the upcoming school year.
- Full implementation of the Graduation Guidelines Menu of Options is expected to continue for the class of 2022.
- Reporting Graduation Guidelines is part of the [Student Interchange File](#) for the class of 2021 (22-11-204(V) C.R.S.). CDE will work with EDAC and other stakeholders to determine reporting categories for the 2020-2021 school year.
- A local education provider may need to work with its local board of education to update the current graduation policy (IKF). Local education providers can decide if they would like to implement for the class of 2021 or delay full implementation until the class of 2022.
- As a reminder about [Graduation Guidelines](#) and the [Menu of Options](#):
 - Local education providers have aligned their graduation requirements with the state's Graduation Guidelines in board policy. See examples [here](#).
 - The only course required in state law for graduation is Civics (22-1-104 (3)(a) C.R.S). Local education providers have the ability to determine how this course requirement is met. Also, local school boards have the authority and flexibility to decide the number of courses required for graduation, and the method by which these courses are taught/delivered.
 - Local education providers also have the authority to [provide accommodations to students](#) in meeting the college and career demonstrations necessary to earn a standard high school diploma for: English learners, gifted students, and students with disabilities.
- Consider joining your colleagues for a virtual [PWR Symposium](#) to continue building on your implementation strategies. Learn from and engage with your peers in conversations about capstone, work-based learning, concurrent enrollment, CTE, Industry Certificates, and ICAP. Consider working with CDE to host a Symposium. Graduation Guidelines Manager, Robin Russel, is available to assist schools and school districts with implementation, please contact her with questions at russel_r@cde.state.co.us.