

# Colorado's Graduation Guidelines: Next Steps

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# PWR Definition

“The knowledge, skills, and behaviors essential to high school graduates to be prepared to enter college and the workforce and compete in the global economy including content knowledge, learning and behavior skills”

Source: State Board of Education and the Commission on Higher Education’s joint adoption on June 30, 2009 of the description of Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness.

# Overview

- **Graduation Guidelines Overview**

- Timeline

- **Work Groups**

- Goals & Objectives
- Timeline

- **Existing Promising Practices**

- Concurrent Enrollment
- Career & Technical Education
- Advanced Placement
- ICAP

- **Next Steps**

# Graduation Guidelines Goals

- **New expectations for a high school diploma, locally different and guided by common menu.**
- **Develop and identify areas of opportunity for students to explore and attain knowledge, skills, and abilities to be prepared for the day after high school.**
- **Create and reinforce learning environments that reflect high expectations for all students to successfully earn a living wage and contribute to Colorado's economy.**
- **Educate students to be prepared to enter Colorado's workforce with in-demand credentials and benchmarked to business, industry, and higher education standards.**

# Implementation Timeline

## **Planning**

**2013-15**

Review graduation guidelines with local education board

## **Guideposts**

**2015-16**

Adopt local guidelines and 9<sup>th</sup> graders may use guideposts

## **Implementation**

**2015-2020**

Students meet or exceed minimum college and career determinations

## **Graduation**

**2020-2021**

First high school graduates meet or exceed minimum college and career determinations

# Career & College Readiness

## ■ Menu will evolve over time

DEV= in development

Demonstration	English	Math	Science	Social Studies
CMAS (2013-14 +)			TBD	TBD
PARCC (2014-15 +)	4 +	4 +		
ACT	18	19	TBD	-
SAT	430	460	-	-
IB	3 +	3 +	3 +	3 +
AP	3 +	3 +	3 +	3 +
ASVAB	50	50	-	-
Capstone (2015-16 +)	DEV	DEV	DEV	DEV
Concurrent Enrollment	C- or better	C- or better	C- or better	C- or better
Industry Certificate	DEV	DEV	DEV	DEV

# Graduation Guidelines Work Groups

# Work Groups

Group	Start Date
Capstone	November 2013
ICAP	November 2013
21 <sup>st</sup> Century Skills	December 2013
Industry Certificate	February 2014
Special Populations	February 2014
Assessment	May 2014
Endorsed Diploma	May 2014



# Work Group Objectives

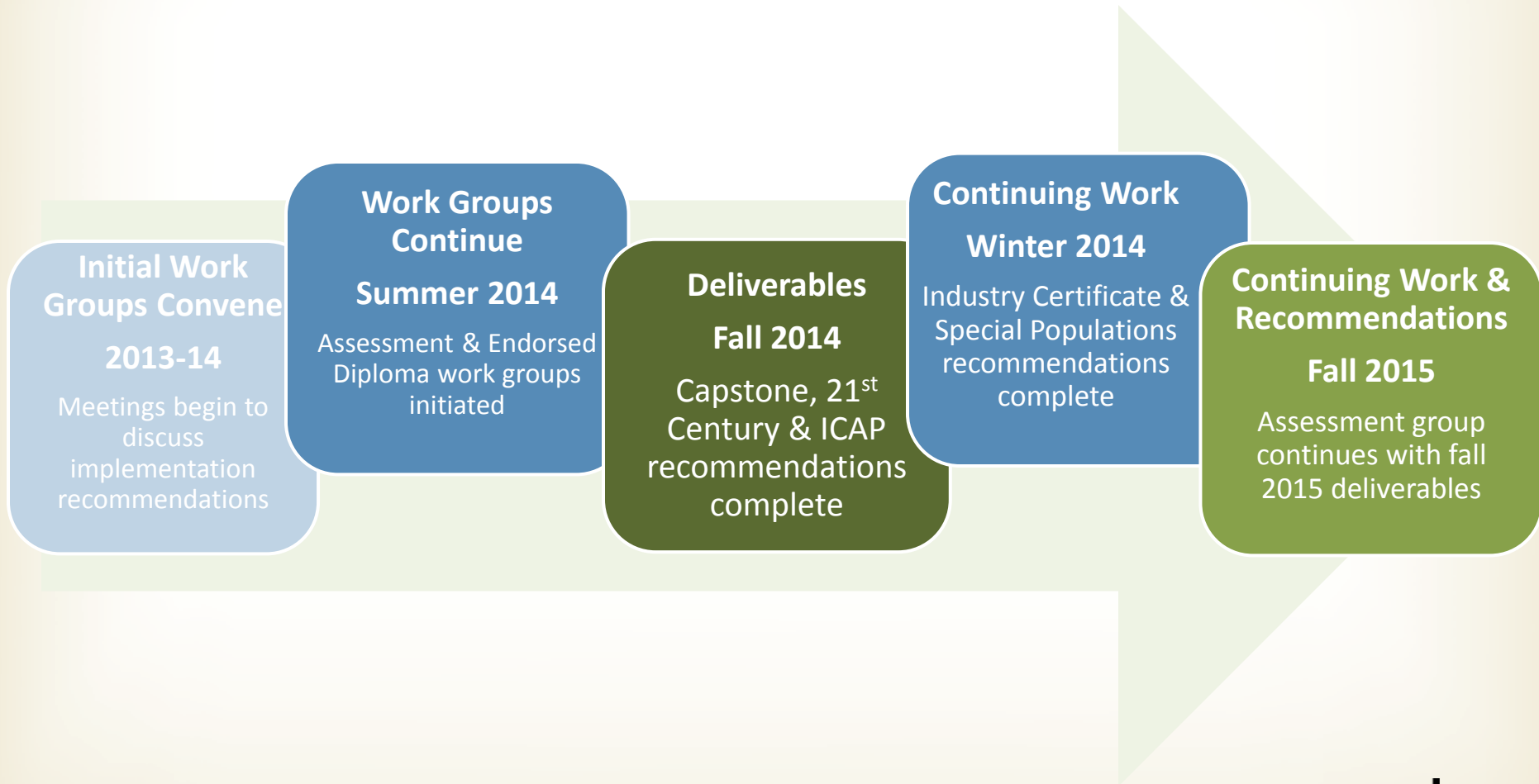
- **Identify opportunities, challenges, and best/promising practices.**
- **Develop implementation recommendations.**
- **Explore and outline resources and tools.**
- **Align skills, abilities, and knowledge that are valued by business, industry, and higher education.**
- **Outline systematic pathways for students to explore and develop these skills.**
- **Identify stakeholder connections and messages.**
- **Maintain a written record of implementation recommendations, tools and resources, best/promising practices, and relevant discussions.**

# Outcomes/Deliverables

- **Tools/Resources**
- **Implementation Recommendations**
- **Promising or Best Practices**
- **Stakeholder Information**
- **Collaboration**



# Work Group Overview



# Promising Practices

# Concurrent Enrollment

## ■ Definition

- Simultaneous enrollment of a qualified student in a local education provider and in one or more postsecondary courses. This program includes, but is not limited to, academic or career and technical education courses at an institution of higher education.

# Concurrent Enrollment Statewide

## ■ Statewide Overview

- 19% or 24,000 Colorado 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students in a public high school are participating in concurrent enrollment.
- Overall participation increased by 15.5%.
- More than 85% of participating students enrolled in college.
- More than three-quarters of concurrent enrollment students passed all their courses, while 12% received partial credit.
- In 2011-12, the number of higher education institutions participating in concurrent enrollment agreements grew to 18, while the number of participating high schools increased to 304, representing 64 percent of all high schools in Colorado.



# Career & Technical Education (CTE)

## ■ **Statewide Overview**

- 127,114 total CTE enrollments in 2012-2013.
- 1,257 high school and 58 middle school CTE programs in 155 public school districts
- 30% of CTE students identified as economically disadvantaged; 12% as disabled; 38% as minority.
- 37% of 9th-12th grade students in Colorado enrolled in at least one CTE course.
- 52,301 total CTE program completions for the 2010-11 academic year (45,824 total individual CTE students).

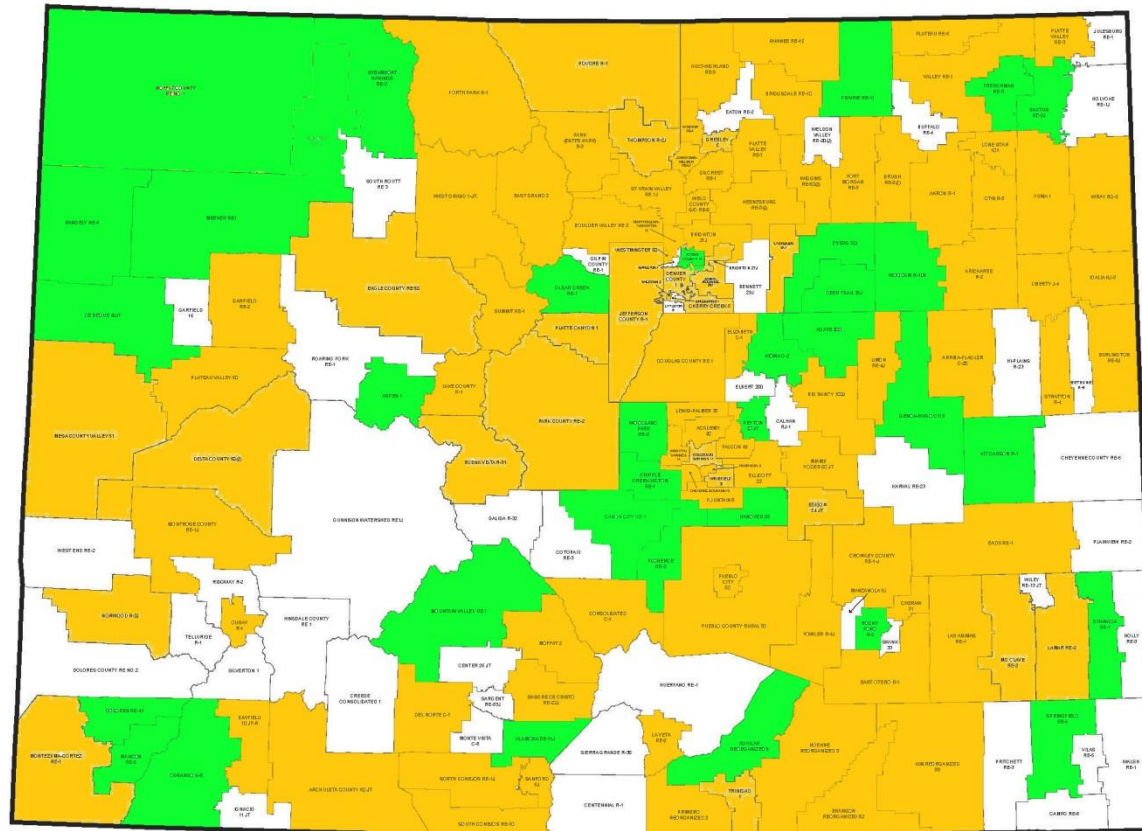


# CTE Statewide

- 95% percent of CTE concentrators and CTE program completers who graduated with a high school diploma met the partially proficient, proficient or advanced levels on the 10th grade Reading/Language Arts CSAP.
- 71% met the partially proficient, proficient or advanced levels on the statewide 10th grade Mathematics CSAP.
- 82% of previous year CTE completers who were seeking employment had obtained jobs within a year following program completion.

# CTE - Map

Colorado School District Map



Produced by the Colorado Department of Education Web Support Services Unit - May, 2007

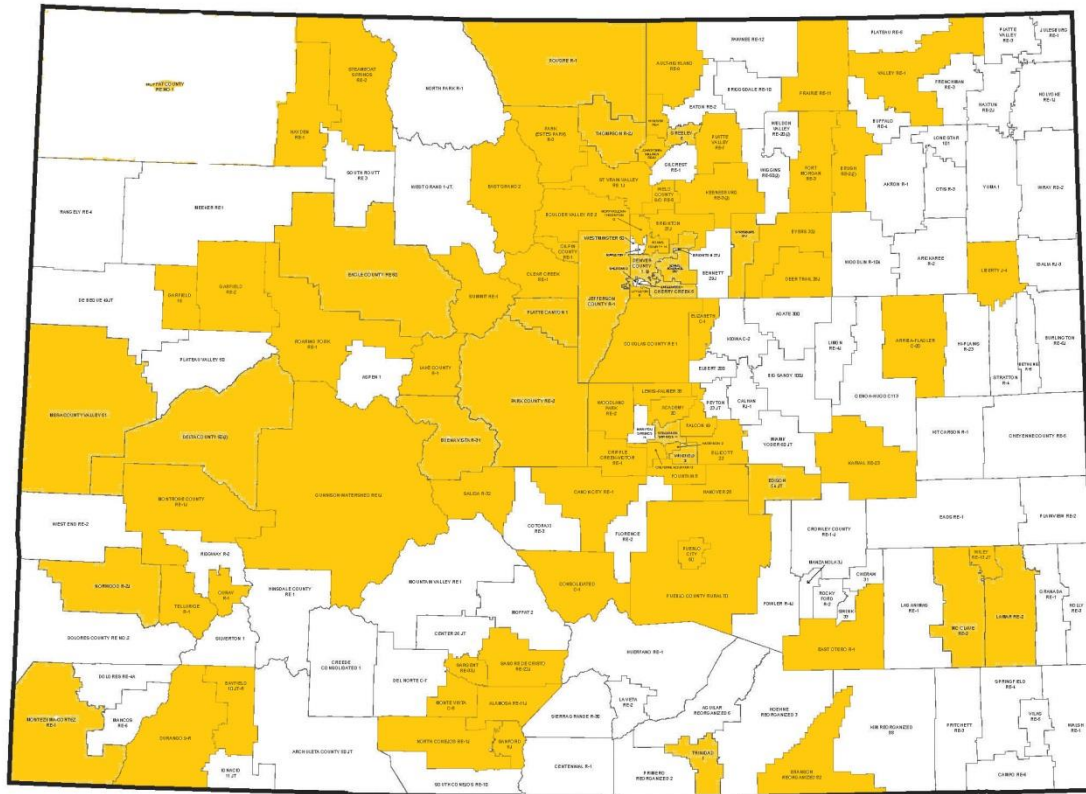
# Advanced Placement

## ■ State Overview

- 36.1 percent of high school seniors took an AP exam and 22.3 percent received a 3 or higher
- 35 AP subject areas taught statewide
- 80 participating districts
- 60,284 AP tests taken during 2012-13 academic year

# Advanced Placement - Map

Colorado School District Map



# Individual Career & Academic Plan (ICAP)

## ■ State Overview

- Of districts identifying an ICAP coordinator:
  - 54% are Counselors
  - 25% are CTE Coordinators
  - 19% are District Staff
  - 2% are Teachers
- Nearly 60% of districts are beginning the ICAP process in 6<sup>th</sup> grade
- All districts mentioned relying on partners to implement ICAP
  - 70% with Postsecondary Institution
  - 30% with Community Organizations, Local Businesses & BOCES

# ICAP Practices

- Districts with advanced ICAP implementation have made it part of the culture, such as classroom time and connected activities between teachers and coordinators.
- Making ICAP a lifelong resource and connecting with higher education, business (potential employers), and community organizations.
- Several districts have aligned their ALP and ICAP efforts to streamline the process for students.

# Guiding Questions

- **What requirements must our current students meet to earn a high school diploma from our district?**
- **How do our current local high school graduation requirements compare to Colorado's graduation guidelines?**
- **Which of our current requirements meet or exceed the state guidelines?**
- **What additions do we need to meet the state guidelines?**

# Next Steps

## ■ Now

- Early Adopters
- Fact Sheet
- FAQ
- Key Messages
- Website
- Work Groups Convene
- Statewide Discussion
- Work Group Meetings

## ■ Coming Soon

- Toolkit



# Questions

## Graduation Guidelines Web page:

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/postsecondary>

## Program Contacts:

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What are the characteristics of learning environments that help students develop core competencies, self knowledge and the drive to contribute in a way that maximizes their **UNIQUE POTENTIAL**?

**PERSONAL AND  
PERSONALIZED**

**COMPETENCY-  
BASED**

**CO-CREATED**

**SAFE AND  
HEALTHY**

**TIME-, TALENT-,  
AND  
TECHNOLOGY-  
ENABLED**