

## 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

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.

### English

Students must complete at least one of the following measures and meet or exceed the measure's corresponding cut score or criteria to demonstrate college and career readiness in English.

Measure	Cut Score/Criteria
Accuplacer assessment	Score of at least 62 on Reading Comprehension.
ACT assessment	Score of at least 18 on English.
ACT WorkKeys assessment that demonstrates English readiness, as identified on the accompanying exhibit.*	Score of at least 3 (Bronze level).
Advanced Placement (AP) exam that demonstrates English readiness, as identified on the accompanying exhibit.*	Score of at least 2.

## Park County School District Re 2

---

Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB)	Score of at least 31.
SAT assessment	Score of at least 430 on English.
Concurrent enrollment course that demonstrates English readiness, as approved by the district and included in the student's academic plan of study or Individualized Career and Academic Plan (ICAP).	Grade of at least a "C".
Industry certificate that demonstrates academic and intellectual learning in the subject area of English.	Receipt of the industry certificate and approval by the district-designated team.
District capstone project that demonstrates academic and intellectual learning in the subject area of English.	Completion of the district capstone project and approval by the district-designated team.

### Math

Students must complete at least one of the following measures and meet the measure's corresponding cut score or criteria to demonstrate college and career readiness in Math.

Measure	Cut Score/Criteria
Accuplacer assessment	Score of at least 61 on Elementary Algebra.
ACT assessment	Score of at least 19 on Math.
ACT WorkKeys assessment that demonstrates Math readiness, as identified on the accompanying exhibit.*	Score of at least 3 (Bronze level).
Advanced Placement (AP) exam that demonstrates Math readiness, as identified on the accompanying exhibit.*	Score of at least 2.
Armed Services Vocational Aptitude	Score of at least 31.

## Park County School District Re 2


---

Battery (ASVAB)	
SAT assessment	Score of at least 460 on Math.
Concurrent enrollment course that demonstrates Math readiness, as approved by the district and included in the student's academic plan of study or Individualized Career and Academic Plan (ICAP).	Grade of at least a "C".
Industry certificate that demonstrates academic and intellectual learning in the subject area of Math.	Receipt of the industry certificate and approval by the district-designated team.
District capstone project that demonstrates academic and intellectual learning in the subject area of Math.	Completion of the district capstone project and approval by a district-designated reviewer.

### **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 as outlined in the South Park Peak Pathways document:**



## SOUTH PARK PEAK PATHWAYS

Mt. Bross 14,177'	Mt. Cameron 14,238'	Mt. Lincoln* 14,295'									
<p style="text-align: center;">Course Requirements</p> <p><b>English:</b> 4 credits  <b>Math:</b> 4 credits                      Algebra I                      Geometry                      Algebra II                      (upper level choice)  <b>Social Studies:</b> 3 credits                      US History                      World Geography                      Civics &amp; Economics  <b>Science:</b> 3 credits                      Biology                      Integrated Science                      Chemistry or Physics</p> <p><b>Foreign Language:</b> 3 credits  <b>Physical Education:</b> 1 credit  <b>Health:</b> .5 credit  <b>Computer Apps:</b> .5 credit  <b>Personal Finance:</b> .5 credit  <b>Electives</b> 6.5 credits</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>College and Career Readiness Demonstration**</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Course Requirements</p> <p><b>English:</b> 4 credits  <b>Math:</b> 3 credits                      Algebra I                      Geometry                      (choice course)  <b>Social Studies:</b> 3 credits                      US History                      World Geography                      Civics &amp; Economics  <b>Science:</b> 3 credits                      Biology                      Integrated                      (choice course)  <b>Physical Education:</b> 1 credit  <b>Health:</b> .5 credit  <b>Computer Apps:</b> .5 credit  <b>Personal Finance:</b> .5 credit  <b>Electives</b> 10.5 credits</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>College and Career Readiness Demonstration**</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Course Requirements</p> <p><b>English:</b> 2 credits  <b>Math:</b> 2 credits  <b>Social Studies:</b> 2 credits                      US History                      Civics &amp; Economics  <b>Science:</b> 2 credits  <b>Physical Education:</b> 1 credit  <b>Health:</b> .5 credit  <b>Computer Apps:</b> .5 credit  <b>Personal Finance:</b> .5 credit  <b>Electives</b> 15.5 credits</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>College and Career Readiness Demonstration**</b></p> <p style="font-size: small;">*Mt. Lincoln Pathway is by team recommendation only. Specific aspects of the pathway must be approved by student and team.</p>									
<p><b>**Demonstration of readiness in English and math is required. See additional documents for specifications and benchmark scores. Menu of college and career readiness demonstrations include:</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">● Capstone</td> <td style="width: 33%;">● Advanced Placement</td> <td style="width: 33%;">● ACT Workkeys</td> </tr> <tr> <td>● Concurrent Enrollment</td> <td>● Accuplacer/CCPS</td> <td>● Industry Certificate</td> </tr> <tr> <td>● ACT/SAT</td> <td>● ASVAB</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>			● Capstone	● Advanced Placement	● ACT Workkeys	● Concurrent Enrollment	● Accuplacer/CCPS	● Industry Certificate	● ACT/SAT	● ASVAB	
● Capstone	● Advanced Placement	● ACT Workkeys									
● Concurrent Enrollment	● Accuplacer/CCPS	● Industry Certificate									
● ACT/SAT	● ASVAB										







## SOUTH PARK PEAK PATHWAYS

**Why are graduation guidelines changing?** Colorado is changing what it means to graduate from high school. In 2007, the Colorado legislature created law that directed the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) to set new high school graduation guidelines. In 2013, the CDE approved those guidelines and began changing the definition of what Colorado students must do to earn a high school diploma.

According to the statute, the purposes of the graduation guidelines are to 1) articulate Colorado's shared beliefs about the value and meaning of a high school diploma and 2) to outline the minimum components, expectations and responsibilities of local districts and the state to support students in attaining a high school diploma. The new graduation guidelines are meant to ensure that all students are prepared for success in college or a career after high school.

**What will be different at South Park?** South Park students will graduate after designing their unique pathway, completing a series of classes, and demonstrating mastery of the knowledge and skills they will need to be successful. Students can demonstrate mastery in a variety of ways specific to their pathway including presenting a capstone project, earning industry certificates, and achieving benchmark assessment results on specified exams. Students will earn a diploma as recognition for completing the pathway identified in their individual career and academic plan (ICAP).

South Park Peak Pathways brings more options to more students. Students will start by defining their interests and skills and related careers in their ICAP. By the end of their sophomore year, they will choose the Peak Pathway that best meets their needs. Through continued work in their ICAP, students will select courses and options for demonstrating mastery in English and math eventually leading to a diploma that ensures all students are ready to join a highly competitive global workforce.

**How will the ICAP be used in this process?** South Park High School is committed to improving our ICAP to make it a meaningful process that guides students throughout their high school years. ICAP is a flexible, customized process by which all students are provided free valuable career and college preparation resources via College in Colorado and personal career and college advising by counselors and advisors.

Each ICAP lays a critical foundation for individual course planning, one that ensures each student's academic pathway is carefully aligned with postsecondary goals. In many ways, the ICAP will be an updated version of the students' old course planner. The difference is that this plan will include far more than traditional courses. Students will work to define their paths by completing grade level milestones including self-discovery, high school planning, job shadowing, internships, financial planning, concurrent enrollment, and vocational progress. With students' progress all unified in one plan, the ICAP is a meaningful and powerful guide on the path to independence and success.



### **Units of credit required for graduation**

**A credit is defined as the amount of credit given for the successful completion of a course that meets four days per week for a minimum of 50 minutes daily for at least 36 weeks or the equivalent. Successful completion means that the student obtained a passing grade for the course.**

**Class of 2021 and beyond will be required to successfully complete 26 credits.**

### **Credit from other institutions and home-based programs**

Students entering from outside the district must meet the district's course requirements. The principal or principal's designee shall determine whether credit toward course requirements shall be granted for courses taken outside the district. Students who are currently enrolled in the district and wish to obtain credit from outside institutions, or through "online" programs, must have prior approval from the principal.

The district shall accept the transcripts from a home-based educational program. In order to determine whether the courses and grades earned are consistent with district requirements and district academic standards, the district shall require submission of the student's work or other proof of academic performance for each course for which credit toward graduation is sought. In addition, the district may administer testing to the student to verify transcripts that cannot be verified through such testing.

### **Grading system and class rank**

The school system is set up on a nine week grading system. The following system will be used for grades: Grades 9-12 will receive number grades for their academic classes. The following scale will be used: 90-100=A; 80-89=B; 70-79=C; 60-69=D; 0-59=F. Elective classes such as student aide may use the "S" (satisfactory) or "U" (unsatisfactory) grade system. Class rank for high school students will be determined by the Grade Point Average (GPA) of seven semesters.

Grades of "S" or "U", and transcripts of transfer students showing grades such as "pass" or "satisfactory", shall not be counted in determining class rank or grade point average.

### **Valedictorian and Salutatorian**

The valedictorian is the senior with the highest weighted grade point average based on seven semesters. The salutatorian is the senior with the second highest weighted grade point average based on seven semesters. In order to be eligible for the valedictorian or salutatorian, a student must be enrolled at South Park High School, consecutively, from the beginning of the second semester of his/her sophomore year until the end of the first semester of his/her senior year. If there is a tie, the third nine-week grades of the senior year will be used as a tiebreaker.

### **Independent study**

Independent study, work experience, and experienced-based programs approved in advance by the principal may be taken for high school credit. Students must submit a request for approval that includes a summary of the educational objectives to be achieved and must be monitored by a faculty member.

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.

Adopted May 22, 2017

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)

## Park County School District Re 2

---

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

[IHBG](#), Home Schooling

[IHBK](#)\*, Preparation for Postsecondary and Workforce Success

[IHCDA](#), Concurrent Enrollment

[IK](#), Academic Achievement

[IKA](#), Grading/Assessment Systems