

Colorado Graduation Guidelines

Key Messages

Colorado Graduation Guidelines: The following key messages have been developed to help communicate consistently about the new graduation guidelines.

- Great schools don't just happen. They are intentionally built by people like you and me who believe we have a responsibility to ensure that all Colorado children – no matter who they are or where they live – graduate from high school ready for college and career.
- Colorado is implementing focused, strategic improvements in education to ensure that all students are prepared for success in a globally competitive workforce.
- Students earning a high school diploma need to be prepared for the expectations facing them the day after graduation: proceeding to college-level classes, entering military career training or earning a self-supporting salary without need for retraining.
- Colorado recently adopted a comprehensive set of graduation guidelines to articulate our shared beliefs about the value and meaning of a high school diploma.
- Stakeholders have been involved in creating the guidelines and will continue to be engaged as the guidelines are refined in the next two to three years and then fully implemented for the graduating class of 2021.
- The guidelines outline the minimum components, expectations and responsibilities of local districts and the state to support students in attaining their high school diploma.
- Local school boards have authority to establish their own high school graduation requirements as long as they meet or exceed the minimum expectations outlined in the graduation guidelines adopted by the state board.
- The guidelines will continue to evolve as higher education, the military and industry refine their expectations of our graduates.
- The graduation guidelines help to ensure that graduating students will have the skills necessary to contribute to the ever -evolving economic landscape of today and tomorrow.

Where can I learn more?

- CDE Graduation Guidelines: www.cde.state.co.us/SecondaryInitiatives/GraduationGuidelines.htm
- CDE Graduation Guidelines Fact Sheet: www.cde.state.co.us/Communications/factsheets.asp