

# Graduation Requirements

In pursuit of its mission to ensure that all students reach their learning potential, the Board of Education recognizes that high school shall be generally considered as a four-year course of study. Therefore, graduation requirements are based on units of credit earned in grades nine through twelve. A unit of credit is defined as the amount of credit given for the successful completion of a course, which meets the required hours of instruction as defined in state law.

In order to prepare students for a successful post-secondary educational and work experience, the Board of Education strongly encourages students to participate in a rigorous academic core curriculum consisting of four years of English, four years of Mathematics, four years of Science, and three years of Social Studies. At least two years of World Language is recommended by the Colorado Commission on Higher Education for admission to four-year public colleges and universities in Colorado.

Beginning with the class of 2021, graduates of the Cherry Creek School District will be required to meet credit requirements in addition to competencies as outlined by Board of Education Policy IKF, *Graduation Requirements*. All graduates will be required to demonstrate college and career readiness in English and math via one of the approved methods as outlined in this policy.

## Minimum Units of Credits Needed to Graduate

A minimum of 22 units of credit shall be necessary for high school graduation. In addition to the 16.5 required units, all other credits shall be considered as electives and may be selected from the entire curricular offering. Minimum credit requirements in various areas shall be as follows:

Subject	Required Credits	Important Notes
English *	4.0	
Mathematics *	3.0	
Science *	3.0	
Social Studies *	3.0	Including: 1 credit in U.S. History and 0.5 credit in Civics/Government
Wellness/Fitness **	2.0	Including: 0.5 credit in Health
Fine Arts, Business/Marketing/Technical, or Career and Technical Education	1.5	
Minimum Total Required Credits	16.5	
Minimum Total of Elective Credits	5.5	
Minimum Total Credits	22.0	

\*Academic core subjects include English, Math, Science, Social Studies, and World Languages. All students will be expected to enroll in a minimum of four academic core units per semester. Seniors are expected to enroll in four core units or a minimum of three AP/IB courses. Any consideration of a waiver of this expectation will be approved on an individual basis by the principal or administration designee. Academic Waiver Requests must be submitted on form IKF1E.

\*\*Student athletes who have completed a season of athletics may be granted a one-time waiver of 0.5 of the required 1.5 units of physical education. This waiver does not reduce the total number of units required for graduation. Academic/Physical Education Waiver Request must be submitted on form IKF2E.