

Graduation Requirements

Graduation Requirements for Lake County School District

Lake County School District has two high schools that have different graduation requirements and receive a diploma from their school of graduation. Lake County High School is classified by the Colorado Department of Education as a traditional high school and must meet the state requirements for a traditional high school. Students meeting the graduation requirements for Lake County High School will receive a Lake County High School diploma. Cloud City High School is classified by Colorado Department of Education as an alternative education center “AEC” and must meet the state requirements for an alternative high school. Students meeting the graduation requirements for Cloud City High School will receive a Cloud City High School diploma.

Graduation Requirements for Lake County High School

Lake County High School values diverse educational experiences for our students. Through a variety of course offerings and partnerships with our local community students are able to explore different career pathways, post-secondary options and participate in internships.

To receive a high school diploma from Lake County High School in 2025 and each graduating class thereafter, students must meet or exceed the district’s academic standards and measures required by this policy. Students with disabilities shall be provided access to all graduation pathways provided by this policy and shall have the opportunity to earn a high school diploma from the district. Any modifications to the graduation credit requirements or pathways as outlined below for students in special education will be outlined within the student’s individualized education plan (IEP).

LCHS Graduation Requirements Transition Plan				
Class	Course Credit Requirements	Colorado Grad Guideline Menu of Options	Community Engagement	District Policy Reference

2024	26 credits required	Meet required competency measure in English and Math (CDE menu of Options)	40 community service hours or required credit hours of Internship aligned with program of study	IKF-1
	Program of Study			

The following graduation requirements will begin for the class of 2025+

Students at Lake County High School will be required to complete:

1. Credit Requirements: Complete a Pathway and/or complete 26 Credits.
2. Complete an approved internship that aligns with the chosen pathway.
 - a. Through the course of a student’s high school career, each student must complete a minimum of 60 contact hours (1 credit) of an internship within the career field aligned to the pathway. The student’s specific internship must be approved in advance by the high school counseling office. Any additional contact hours of internship may qualify as elective hours but must be pre-approved by the counseling department and can not count toward more than 50% of the elective credits required for the pathway.
3. Completion of College and Career Readiness Demonstration (CDE Menu of Options)
4. Completion of an ICAP: Individual Career and Academic Plan

Mt. Sherman 14,043ft	Mt. Massive 14,427ft	Mt. Elbert 14,438ft
English (4 Credits) - English 9 - English 10	English (3 Credits) - English 9 - English 10	English (3 Credits) - English 9 - English 10
Math (4 Credits) - Integrated I - Integrated II - Integrated III - Personal Finance	Math (3 Credits) - Integrated I - Personal Finance	Math (3 Credits) - Integrated I - Personal Finance
Social Studies (3 Credits) - World History - US History	Social Studies (3 Credits) - World History or US History	Social Studies (2 Credits) - World History or US History

- Government	- Government	- Government
Science (3 Credits)	Science (3 Credits)	Science (2 Credits)
Foreign Language (3 Credits)	Foreign Language (1 Credits)	Foreign Language (1 Credits)
Physical Education (.5 Credit)	Physical Education (.5 Credit)	Physical Education (.5 Credit)
Fine Arts (.5 Credit)	Fine Arts (.5 Credit)	Fine Arts (.5 Credit)
Heath (.5 Credit)	Heath (.5 Credit)	Heath (.5 Credit)
Internship (1 Credit)	Internship (1 Credit)	Internship (1 Credit)
Crew (1 Credit)	Crew (1 Credit)	Crew (1 Credit)
Electives (5.5 Credits)	Electives (9.5 Credits)	Electives (11.5 Credits)
		Mt. Elbert Graduation Plan is by team recommendation and application only. Specific aspects of the pathway must be approved by admin, student, parent, and team.
26 Credits	26 Credits	26 Credits

- Student, parent/guardian and school staff will select and approve which Graduation Plan/Mountain (Sherman, Massive) is best for their student. Selection of the Mt. Elbert graduation plan requires an application and recommendation process.
- Each Career Pathway will have a set of required courses.
- Career Pathways are not attached to specific Graduation Plans. Any career path can work with each graduation plan.
- Electives should be tied to your specific Career Pathway.
- Every student needs to take one (1) course that fulfills the state requirement of Holocaust and Genocide Studies. This requirement can be met in multiple subject areas.
- Each Graduation Plan requires College and Career Readiness Demonstration (CDE Menu of Options)
- To earn the internship credit, students must complete 60 hours.
- For the class of 2025 and 2026, students may substitute different Social Studies courses for the World History requirement in which they successfully passed.

- For the class of 2027, successfully passing World History and Geography will meet the World History requirement.

Demonstration of readiness in English and Math is required. Menu of college and career readiness demonstrations include:

Accuplacer, ACT, ACT Workkeys, Advance Placement, ASVAB, Concurrent Enrollment, International Baccalaureate, SAT, Collaboratively developed, standards-based performance assessment, District Capstone and Industry Certificate

<https://www.cde.state.co.us/postsecondary/graduationguidelines>

Graduation Requirements for Cloud City High School

Cloud City High School's mission is to provide a comprehensive high school experience, designed to equip students with a strong academic foundation that nurtures skill development, fosters social growth, encourages exploration of interests, and prepares students for success in college, career, and community engagement in the 21st century. We offer a fresh start opportunity for students who have faced challenges in traditional high school settings, empowering them to cultivate academic, social, and vocational competencies necessary to become collaborative individuals capable of making informed life choices. Our commitment is to ensure that every student, irrespective of past struggles, receives individualized support to achieve personal, social, and professional growth, enabling them to pursue their post-secondary career aspirations with confidence and resilience.

Competency Pathway

CCHS requires students to be enrolled a minimum of 360 hours of coursework during the first semester to be considered a full-time student and a total of 1080 by the end of the school year. Prior to graduating, a student will have been enrolled in a high school program for no less than four years.

We use a combination of in-school participation, concurrent enrollment courses, work-based learning (internships - paid and unpaid), and participation in LCHS electives to account for weekly attendance.

The competency pathway at CCHS requires students to demonstrate 21st century skills and show their career readiness by developing and working as directed by an Individual Career Academic Plan documented in their Capstone Portfolio Project through the 21st century interdisciplinary themes:

- College and/or Career Readiness

- Global Awareness
- Civic Literacy
- Health Literacy
- Financial Literacy
- Environmental Literacy
- Media Literacy
- Mathematics

The competency pathway is only available at Cloud City High School and although it is a non-credit based pathway, some credits are available as students work toward graduation.

Competency/Mastery	Activity	Planned Measure
Demonstrate mastery of: Technical, academic, and employability skills to acquire a desired job or enter post-secondary education institution.	Work Based Learning: Workforce Boot Camp Post-Secondary Prep (courses could be taken multiple times)	.5 credit per semester (graded)
Demonstrated readiness in professional work ethic and meeting employer expectations through career readiness activities to improve employability.	Work Based Learning: BUS Internship course and/or qualified industry credential programs, pre-apprenticeships and apprenticeship from list of approved programs on CDE. https://www.cde.state.co.us/postsecondary/hb18-1266	Successful completion of an internship or acquisition of a qualified industry credential
Demonstrated readiness for college and career based on measures in Reading, Writing and Communicating, and one	Pass Workkeys tests (Applied Math, Graphic Literacy, and Workplace Documents at the "silver" level) or other authorized assessments	1.0 credit (pass/fail) per exam .5 credit/semester

measure in Mathematics.	agreed upon by CCHS from CDE Menu of Options https://www.cde.state.co.us/po/secondary/graduationguidelines	(pass/fail) for preparation course
Demonstrated graduation readiness through a Capstone Portfolio Project showcasing how the student has met all the 21st century interdisciplinary themes.	Completed Capstone Portfolio Project and defense in front of a committee before graduating graded on scoring rubric. Portfolio Class (Post-Secondary Prep) and/or Study Hall (course could be taken multiple times until the Capstone Portfolio Project is complete and ready for defense)	1.0 credit (pass/fail) .5 credit/semester (pass/fail) for preparation course
Demonstrate Mastery of the 21st Century Theme and Standards of Civic Literacy	Civics course with passing grade or transfer course equivalency (transfer course must be authorized during enrollment)	.5 credit per semester until competency/mastery
Demonstrate Mastery of the 21st Century Theme and Standards of Global Awareness	Mastery could be gained through CCHS course Global Awareness or transfer course equivalency (transfer course must be authorized during enrollment)	.5 credit per semester until competency/mastery
Demonstrate Mastery of the 21st Century Theme and Standards of Health Literacy	CCHS course Health or transfer course equivalency (transfer course must be	.5 credit per semester until competency/mastery

	authorized during enrollment)	
Demonstrate Mastery of the 21st Century Theme and Standards of Financial Literacy	CCHS Course Financial Literacy or transfer course equivalency (transfer course must be authorized during enrollment)	.5 credit per semester until competency/mastery
Demonstrate Mastery of the 21st Century Theme and Standards of Environmental Literacy	CCHS Course Environmental Literacy or transfer course equivalency (transfer course must be authorized during enrollment)	.5 credit per semester until competency/mastery
Demonstrate Mastery of the 21st Century Theme Standards of Mathematics	CCHS Course Career Math or transfer course equivalency (transfer course must be authorized during enrollment)	.5 credit per semester until competency/mastery
	Concurrent-enrollment course or elective taken at LCHS	Graded and credited according to district-wide practices
	Crew (Academic Support)	.5 credit/semester (pass/fail)
Demonstrate competency/mastery using acquired skills to engage in projects benefiting the community and reflecting on the impact of service.	Service Learning	40+ hours of documented service outside of class time impacting humans, animals, or the environment

Students receiving Special Education services who are working toward graduation in the competency pathway will have requirements informed by their IEP.

Additional information pertaining to both Lake County High School and Cloud City High School

Seal of Biliteracy

Students who are fluent in two languages may obtain a Seal of Biliteracy. The Seal of Biliteracy is awarded to students who demonstrate competency in English and a world (second) language (i.e. Spanish). Students must meet proficiency in one of the following measures for English and a world language:

English Proficiency Demonstrations:	World Language Proficiency Demonstrations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Scoring a 470 or higher on the the SAT section of "Evidenced-Based Reading and Writing" •Scoring a 3 or higher on the AP Advanced Placement English Language and Composition or the AP English Literature and Composition Exam •Scoring 4 or higher on the English A, English Literature A or English A1 of the IB International Baccalaureate Exams 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Scoring 3 or higher on a World Language AP Advanced Placement test •Scoring 4 or higher on a World Language IB International Baccalaureate test •Successfully completing a 4-year high school course of study of a single World Language with an overall grade-point average of at least 3.0 •Achieving a passing score on nationally recognized test

Credit from Other Institutions and Home-Based Programs

The principal or principal’s designee shall determine whether credit toward course requirements shall be granted for courses taken outside the district.

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.

Students entering from home-based education programs must submit student work or other proof of academic performance for each course for which credit is sought.

Class Rankings and Grade Point Averages

Lake County High School and Cloud City High School do not implement class rank. If a student has a need for a class rank or percentage for purposes such as admission to a college, a scholarship program, or a similar post secondary opportunity, then they can request this through the school's counseling office.

If student rank is requested by the student, then the student shall be ranked within the graduating class on the basis of grade-point averages "GPA" for the four-year program, excluding the last semester of the senior year. The student with the highest GPA will be valedictorian. When more than one student holds the same GPA, all students holding the GPA score will be declared co-valedictorians. The student with the second highest GPA will be salutatorian. When more than one student holds the same GPA, all students holding the GPA score will be declared co-salutatorians.

After a course has been passed, no future grade earned in the same course shall be used to determine grade point average.

When transcripts of transfer or home-based education program students show grades such as pass or satisfactory, such grades shall not be counted in determining grade point average. When transcripts of transfer or home-based education program students show grades such as letter or numeric scores, such grades shall be counted in determining grade point average.

Grade Scales

Grade scales provide a method of scoring students' academic performance or coursework and correspond letter grades to numeric scales.

Grade scale conversions for Lake County High School and Cloud City High School are as follows:

Grade Percentage Scale Conversion	Grade Point Average Scale Conversion
A = 93-100%	A = 4.0
A- = 90-92%	A- = 3.7
B+ = 88-89%	B+ = 3.4
B = 83-87%	B = 3.0
B- = 80-82%	B- = 2.7
C+ = 78-79%	C+ = 2.4
C = 73-77%	C = 2.0
C- = 70-72%	C- = 1.7
D+ = 68-69%	D+ = 1.4
D = 63-67%	D = 1.0
D- = 60-62%	D- = 0.7
F = 0-59%	F = 0.0

Courses taken as concurrent enrollment courses through Colorado Mountain College or other accredited colleges that are considered by the State of Colorado as guaranteed transfer courses will be graded on a 5.0 scale, with each of the grades above except an F increased by a point value of 1.0.

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: Prior to September 2018
Revised: September 2018
Revised: September 2020
Revised: July 2022
Revised: July 2023
Revised: April 2024

LEGAL REFS.: C.R.S. [22-1-104](#) (teaching history, culture, and civil government)
C.R.S. 22-1-104.7 (2)(a) (requirement to incorporate Holocaust and Genocide studies standards into existing course required for graduation)
C.R.S. [22-32-109](#) (1)(kk) (Board to establish graduation requirements that "meet or exceed" state graduation guidelines)
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.: *Administrative policies:*

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

Lake County School District R-1, Leadville, Colorado