

DOUGLAS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATES

2009-2011

From Board of Education policy IKF

Each student must:

1. Successfully complete a minimum of 25.5 credits in four years (grades 9-12). One credit (1.) is equal to one course lasting the full year. One-half credit (0.5) is equal to one course lasting one-half year.

The 25.5 credits must include the following 17.5 core courses:

Language Arts	4.0	Four English credits and proficiency on District Language Arts Standard #4 (Reading), and Standard #3 (Writing), are required for graduation.
Social Studies	4.0	Four Social Studies credits are required for graduation. The required credits include: 1.0 credit of American History, 1.0 credit of World History, 0.5 credit of Geography, 0.5 credit of U.S. Government, 0.5 credit of Economics, 0.5 credit of a Social Studies elective.
Mathematics	3.0	Three Math credits, one of which must be Algebra I or a higher level of math, are required for graduation. The district Algebra I end-of-course exam is a part of the final Algebra I grade.
Science	3.0	Three Science credits.
Practical Arts	1.0	Practical Arts courses are found in the subject area of business, computers, Levels III, IV, V of World Languages, Consumer & Family Studies, Technology, Vocational Education (courses taken at T.H. Pickens Technical Center and the Arapahoe/Douglas Career & Technical School [ACTS].)
Fine Arts	1.0	Fine arts courses are found in the subject areas of Art, Level III, IV, and V of World Languages: Music (instrumental or vocal); Broadway Dance, and Theatre Arts.
Physical Education	1.0	0.5 credit of health can be used to meet one-half of this requirement.
Speech Communication	.5	0.5 credit of Speech is required for graduation.
(Subtotal Core Credits)	17.5	
Elective Credits	8.0	General Elective Courses
Minimum total credits	25.5	

2. Demonstrate computer literacy. Students will be assessed on their skills in word processing, spreadsheets, databases, technology fundamentals, terminology, research, multi-media communication, and technology ethics. This requirement may be satisfied by completing a district computer proficiency assessment or by successfully completing a course, (Information Processing I), that accurately reflects the complete set of skills as outlined in the Technology Foundation Skills for Students.
3. Demonstrate proficiency on the District Reading Standard by scoring Proficient or Advanced on the Grade 10 Colorado State Assessment for Reading (CSAP) or an equivalent assessment as defined by the Douglas County School District.
4. Document a minimum of 20 hours of community service during grades 9-12.
5. Attend 8 semesters of full time enrollment, unless specifically waived by the school principal.

DOUGLAS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATES 2012

From Board of Education policy IKF.

- To receive a diploma and graduate from a Douglas County high school, a student must earn a minimum of 25.5 credits. A student attending a Douglas County school using an accelerated block schedule must earn a minimum of 28.0 credits. One credit (1.0) is equal to one course lasting the full year. One-half credit (0.5) is equal to one course lasting one-half year.

The 25.5 credits must include the following 17.0 core courses:

Language Arts	4.0	Four English credits. *
Social Studies	3.5	Three and a half Social Studies. * The required credits include: 1.0 credit of American History, 1.0 credit of World History, 0.5 credit of Geography, 0.5 credit of U.S. Government, and 0.5 credit of Economics.
Mathematics	3.0	Three Math credits, one of which must be Algebra I or a higher level of math. The district Algebra I end-of-course exam is a part of the final Algebra I grade. *
Science	3.0	Three Science credits. *
Practical Arts	1.0	Practical Arts courses are found in the subject areas of Computers; Levels III, IV, V of World Languages; career and technical education courses. These include courses taken at T.H. Pickens Technical Center and the Arapahoe/Douglas Career & Technical School [ACTS].
Fine Arts	1.0	Fine arts courses are found in the subject areas of Art; Level III, IV, V of World Languages; Music (instrumental or vocal); Dance; and Theater Arts.
Physical Education	1.0	0.5 credit of Health can be used to meet one-half of this requirement.
Speech Communication	.5	0.5 credit of Speech is required for graduation. Students can also satisfy the speech requirement through a district and building-approved alternative model.
(Subtotal Core Credits)	17	
Elective Credits	8.5	General Elective Courses
Minimum total credits	25.5 8.0	

- Document a minimum of 20 hours of community service while enrolled as a high school student.

* To earn credit in a class, students must demonstrate proficiency on the Content Standards embedded in the course. Documentation that these standards have been achieved will be through teacher judgment based on District assessments, end-of-course tests or other measurements as well as meeting other stipulated course expectations. Students who do not achieve these standards will be enrolled in courses or programs as prescribed by the school principal and faculty.