
Graduation Requirements

(In effect, starting August of 2025)

In pursuit of its mission to ensure that each student is empowered to achieve their dreams, Mapleton Public Schools (the “District”) has established the following graduation requirements.

Mapleton students, parents, and staff must work together to ensure graduation requirements are met. Teachers, post-secondary coaches, and administrators shall guide students and inform parents in order to ensure that students are aware of graduation requirements and their progress toward meeting these requirements.

To receive a high school diploma from Mapleton Public Schools, all students must meet or exceed the District's academic standards. 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.

Graduation from high school is a culminating event that results from the foundations built at the elementary and middle levels. Graduation is a collaborative effort among levels in a student's public-school career. Each level of school and each staff member or parent/guardian who instructs or counsels a student shares responsibility for the ultimate ability of that student to demonstrate proficiency in the District's academic standards and to meet the expectations for graduation.

General Graduation Requirements

Minimum requirements for graduation from high school in Mapleton Public Schools include the following:

- Successful completion of 22 credits in the categories outlined in the table. A unit of credit is defined as the amount of credit earned toward graduation following achievement in Colorado Academic Standards as demonstrated by mastery of appropriate coursework.
- Demonstration of academic proficiency in English and math using one measure in each content from the Mapleton Public Schools Menu of College and Career-Ready Demonstrations listed in the accompanying regulation (IKF-R).
- Completion of a Capstone, which includes:
 - An independent research project demonstrating proficiency in English Language Arts and/or Math as needed

- Completion of an Individual Career and Academic Portfolio (ICAP) toward individual Postsecondary and Workforce goals, needs, and interests as determined with the assistance of a counselor or advisor
- Completion of 20 hours of Community Service

Subject Area Graduation Requirements

Subject Area	Credits Required	Specific Courses Required
English	4	
Mathematics	3	At least 2 of the credits must include Algebra 1 and Geometry, with the additional required course at or above the level of Geometry
Natural/Physical Science	4	At least 2 credits must be lab-based
Social Studies	3	At least .5 credit must be in Civics/Government, and at least 1 credit must be in U.S. or World History
Foreign Languages	1	
Physical Education	1	Must include at least .5 credit in Health and .5 credit in Physical Education
Academic Electives	5.5	Financial Literacy – required course Must receive at least .5 credit in art. The remaining credits may be earned in any academic area listed, or any career and technical education courses, work-based learning credit, AFJROTC, foreign languages, computer science, art, music, drama, or credits earned through concurrent enrollment courses.
Capstone	.5	Includes an independent research project that demonstrates proficiency in Math and/or ELA as

		needed, 20 community service hours, and an individual career and academic portfolio.
Total	22	

A student may pursue coursework in one or more of the content areas beyond the minimum requirements, insofar as school scheduling and resources permit. Students may request to transfer credit earned through alternative means, such as college coursework, correspondence courses, armed services credit, adult education, independent study, and internships, to count toward high school graduation from Mapleton. These requests will be approved on an individual basis.

In rare instances, the Superintendent may approve a waiver of a specific requirement. The waiver request will be approved or denied based on the rationale provided for such waiver.

The Colorado State Board of Education has adopted State graduation guidelines that identify college and career readiness measures in English (Reading, Writing, and Communicating) and Mathematics. See IKF-R.

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

Credit from Other Institutions and Home-Based Programs

All students entering from outside the District must meet the District graduation requirements. The school director shall determine whether credit toward graduation 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 school director.

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 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 the accuracy of the student's transcripts. The District may reject any transcripts that cannot be verified through such testing.

Credit from a Dropout Recovery Program

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 graduation requirements. A student seeking to enroll in a dropout recovery program shall work with his or her school director (or designee) in selecting college courses.

Class Rankings and Grade Point Averages

Graduating seniors shall be ranked within the graduating class for each high school on the basis of grade-point averages for the four-year program, excluding the last semester of the senior year.

Grades for regular classes will be given the following values: A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1.

Grades for college-level classes will be given the following values: A=5, B=4, C=3, D=2.

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

When transcripts of transfer students show grades, such as pass or satisfactory, such grades shall not be counted in determining class rank or grade point average. Students entering from home-based education programs must submit student work or other proof of academic performance for each course for which credit toward class ranking or grade point average is sought. Proof of academic performance will be reviewed by the PSOCs and approved by the school principal.

Independent Study

Independent study, work experience, and experience-based programs approved in advance by the superintendent's designee 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.

Student Course Load

The course load for freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors shall be that of a full-time student. Any exceptions must be approved by the school principal.

Years of Attendance

Mapleton Public Schools believes that most students benefit from experiencing four years of high school and accordingly, District high school programs are designed to take four years to complete. The District provides programs that allow students to earn college credit while in high school, and students needing more of a challenge are encouraged to take advantage of those opportunities rather than graduating early. The District recognizes, however, that in some circumstances it may be appropriate for a student to graduate early. The Superintendent may authorize early graduation for a student requesting it as long as the student has met all District graduation requirements in accordance with this policy and its accompanying regulation.

Adopted October 22, 2013, by the Board of Education for Mapleton Public Schools.

Revised May 24, 2016.

Revised June 27, 2017.

Revised September 22, 2020.

Revised February 21, 2022.

Revised June 13, 2022.

Revised May 28, 2025.

Revised March 18, 2026.

LEGAL REFERENCES:

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 applicable to students enrolling in 9th grade beginning in the 2012-13 school year)

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 REFERENCES:

AE: Accountability/Commitment to Accomplishment

AEA: Standards-Based Education

IA: Instructional Goals and Learning Objectives

IHA: Basic Instructional Program

IHAC: History and Civil Government Education

IHBG: Home Schooling

IHBK: Preparation for Postsecondary and Workforce Success

IHCDA: Concurrent Enrollment

IK: Academic Achievement

IKA: Grading/Assessment Systems

ILBA: District Program Assessments

ILBB: State Program Assessments

ILBC: Literacy and Reading Comprehension Assessments