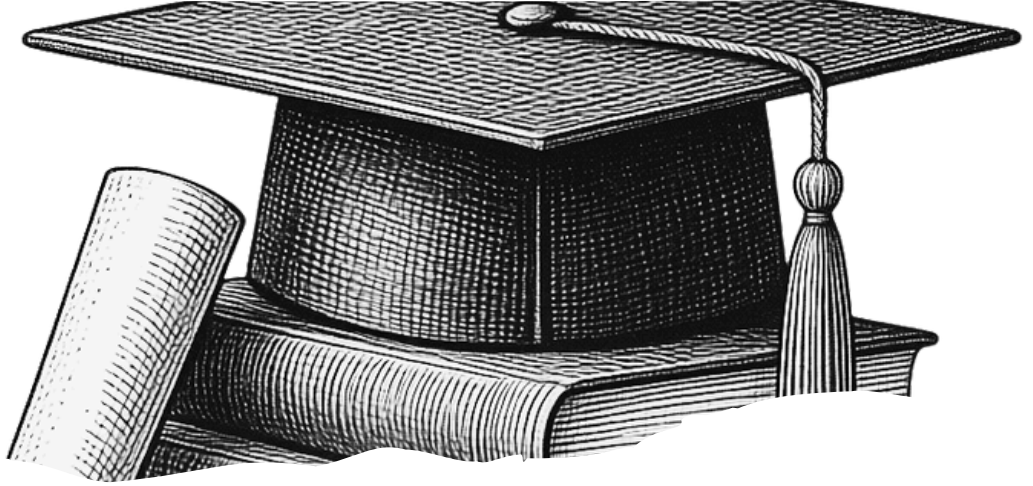




Dear West Contra Costa Students and Families,

It is never too early to start planning for life after high school! Now is the time to think about **your 4-year graduation plan and your post-high school goals.**

WCCUSD graduation requirements are not changing this year - all students are still required to complete 225 credits to earn a high school diploma. A chart that outlines graduation requirements is included with this letter.

In addition to graduating from high school, WCCUSD encourages students to consider additional opportunities that better prepare them for college and careers. The term **Graduation+** is used to describe the idea that students can go beyond minimum graduation requirements to gain additional skills and experience.

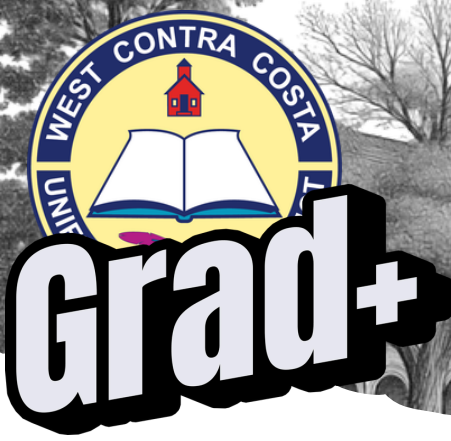
Ways to build your *Graduation+* experience:

- ***Graduation+* A-G Requirements** (College Pathway)
 - Students who meet A-G course requirements are eligible for UC and CSU admission.
- ***Graduation+* CTE (Career Technical Education) Pathway**
 - Students can complete a CTE pathway and capstone course to gain hands-on experience in high-demand fields to be career ready.
- ***Graduation+* College Credit** (Dual Enrollment)
 - Students can take college classes at their high school to earn credit, save money, and get a head start on a degree or certificate.

How to use the enclosed resources:

1. **Focus on A-G:** know the requirements and make sure A-G courses are in your 4-year plan. If you earned a D or F in an A-G course, plan to retake it in summer school or on Edgenuity.
2. **Familiarize yourself with CTE and dual enrollment:** meet with your counselor to discuss these options, add a CTE pathway and college courses to your 4-Year plan in SchoolLinks. *You don't have to choose just one pathway - you should complete your A-G requirements, complete a CTE pathway, AND earn college credits through dual enrollment!*

Which Graduation+ Will You Aim For?



YOU CAN GO TO COLLEGE!

Aim for *Graduation+A-G* Requirements

To meet minimum admission requirements for UC and CSU you must complete 15 yearlong high school courses with a letter grade of C or better — at least 11 of them prior to your last year of high school.

These 15 classes are known as A-G Requirements.

A HISTORY 2 YEARS

Examples:
Ethnic & Social Justice in Modern World History, US History & Ethnic Studies, AP US History

B ENGLISH 4 YEARS

Examples:
English I and 2, CSU Expository Reading and Writing, AP English Language, AP English Lit., English Language Dev. 10/11/12

C MATH 3 YEARS

4 Years Recommended
Examples:
Algebra I & 2, Geometry, Pre-Calculus, AP Calculus

D SCIENCE 2 YEARS

3 Years Recommended Examples: Physics of the Universe, Biology: The Living Earth, Chemistry in the Earth System, AP Environmental Science

E LANGUAGE 2 YEARS

3 Years of a Language Other Than English Recommended
Examples: American Sign Language, French, Japanese, Mandarin, Spanish

F ARTS 1 YEAR

Examples: Beginning Art, Advanced Art, Ceramics, Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Concert Choir, Jazz Dance, Dance Production, Orchestra

G COLLEGE PREP ELECTIVES 1 YEAR

Examples: Economics, Psychology, ASB Leadership, Yearbook, Journalism, or one year of a course beyond those used to satisfy the requirements of the A-F subjects.

**ALL COURSES MUST BE
COMPLETED WITH A GRADE OF
“C” OR BETTER**

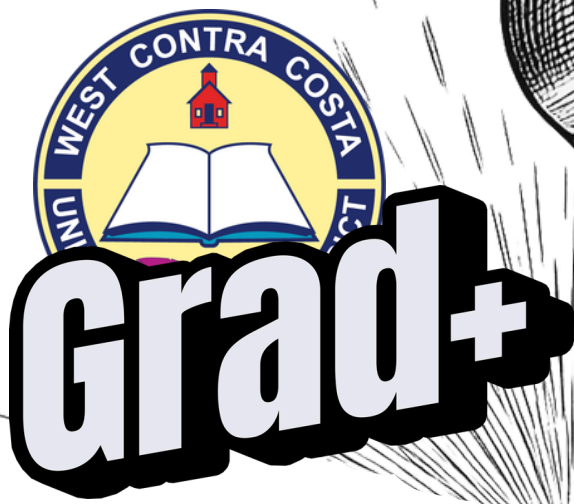
West Contra Costa Graduation & A-G Requirements Comparison 2025-26

Subject Area	Graduation Req. 225 Credits* D- or better required	A-G Requirement 15 Courses Minimum C- or better required
English	40 credits	4 Years
Mathematics	30 credits	3 Years (4 Recommended) Must include Algebra 2 and Geometry
Life Science (Biology)	10 credits	2 Years (3 Recommended) Must include Biology plus Physics or Chemistry
Physical Science	10 credits	
United States History	10 credits	1 Year
World History	10 credits	1 Year
American Government	5 credits	Not Required Counts as a College Prep Elective
Economics	5 credits	Not Required Counts as a College Prep Elective
Visual & Performing Arts	10 credits	1 Year
Language Other Than English	10 credits	2 Years (or Equivalent to the Second Level of High School Instruction) of the Same language
Physical Education	20 credits	Not A-G
Electives	65 credits	1 Year
Total	225 credits	15 courses

* one year-long course earns 10 credits in WCCUSD

Comparison of University Admissions Requirements University of California (UC) and Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)						
Subject Area	 UC/CSU	 Howard Univ.	 Tuskegee Univ.	 Florida A&M U.	 Spelman Coll.	 Morehouse Coll.
A. Social Studies	2 Years	2 Years	3 Years	3 Years	3 - 4 Years	2 Years
B. English	4 Years	4 Years	4 Years	4 Years	4 Years	4 Years
C. Math	3 - 4 Years	3 Years	3 Years	4 Years	3 - 4 Years	3 - 4 Years
D. Science	2 - 3 Years	2 Years	2 Years	3 Years	3- 4 Years	2 - 3 Years
E. Language*	2 - 3 Years	2 Years	-	2 Years	2 - 3 Years	2 Years
F. Arts	1 Year	-	-	-	-	-
G. Electives	1 Year	-	-	2 Years	-	3 Years
Average GPA	3.48 - 4.29	3.75	3.10	3.0 - 3.5	3.91 - 4.28	3.56
SAT/ACT Req.?	No	No	No	Yes	No	No

* coursework in a single language other than English



CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Aim for *Graduation+* CTE Pathway Completion

Complete a CTE pathway and capstone course to gain hands-on experience in high demand fields.

What is a CTE Pathway?

A CTE Pathway is a sequence of 2-3 courses that teach you skills you'll need to be successful in a specific career.

What Pathways Does WCCUSD Offer?

Agriculture | Biotechnology | Entrepreneurship | Construction | Culinary Arts | Education | Engineering
Fashion & Design | Healthcare | Information Technology | Law | Media | Welding

Why Complete a CTE Pathway?

There are many benefits to earning your Graduation+ completing a CTE pathway:

Help Figure Out What You Want to Do After High School | Gain Skills that Employers Value | Complete an Internship
Earn College Credit | Earn an Industry Recognized Certification | Meet Industry Professionals
Graduate Ready to Start a Career or Continue Your Studies

How Do You Complete a CTE Pathway?

If you choose to complete a CTE pathway, you must:

- Meet all WCCUSD graduation requirements
- Pass all required courses in the pathway (pathways have 2-3 required courses) and earn a grade of C or better in the final CTE capstone class

Example WCCUSD CTE Pathways

Pathways have a structured sequence of 2-3 required courses beginning with introductory courses, followed by concentrator courses, and culminating with a capstone course. Generally students start pathways in 9th or 10th grade.

Richmond High School Health Academy	De Anza High School Law Academy	Kennedy High School Welding Pathway
Introductory Courses (Students Complete At Least One In 9 th or 10 th Grade)		
Intro. to Health Careers	Intro. to Law	N/A
Concentrator Course (Students Complete in 10 th or 11 th Grade)		
Public Health [Honors]	Law & Justice	Welding & Fabrication 1
Capstone Course (One Course Required in 12 th Grade to Complete Pathway)		
Mind Matters: Advanced Public & Community Health [Honors]	Constitutional Law: Civil Liberties and Law & Democracy*	Welding & Fabrication 2
Industry Certifications Available		
CPR & First Aid Infection Control & Sterilization Teen Mental Health First Aid	911 Public Safety Dispatcher Course	OSHA 10 Safety Training Certified Welder Program
		
	Use the QR code to open SchoolLinks and discover all of the CTE programs available in WCCUSD. Go to SchoolLinks → Plan → District Pathways. https://app.schoolinks.com/login/k12 * articulated college course; students can earn “credit by examination	



Grad+

EARLY COLLEGE CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES Aim for *Graduation+College Credit*

Students can earn college credit through West Contra Costa's Dual Enrollment program.

What is Dual Enrollment?

Dual enrollment is an opportunity to enroll in community college classes right at your high school. Dual enrollment classes allow you to earn high school AND college credits at the same time! You will be working towards high school graduation+ completing college coursework.

What are the Benefits?

Success in dual enrollment classes means you will:

- experience real college-level courses
- demonstrate that you're ready for college
- save time and money on a future degree
- build confidence & strengthen college applications

What Courses are Offered?

WCCUSD has expanded the number of dual enrollment courses offered in recent years. We offer Administration of Justice, African American Studies, Early Childhood Education, Health Education, Math, Media, Medical Assisting, and Psychology classes among others.

How Can I Find Out More Information?

For more details about dual enrollment:

- talk to your School Counselor or the College & Career Counselor at your school
- use SchoolLinks to find out what college credit opportunities your school offers; look for courses with a [DE] or [AR] in the name



schoolinks

Use the QR code to open SchoolLinks to discover more about early college credit courses in WCCUSD.
Go to **SchoolLinks** → **Plan** → **Course Planner** OR **SchoolLinks** → **Plan** → **Course Catalog**
<https://app.schoolinks.com/login/k12>