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Boulder High School
Boulder, Colorado

2026-2027 College Admission Profile

School and Community Description

Boulder High School (BHS) is located in Boulder, Colorado, and our mission is to graduate civically engaged students who are college and career ready. Founded in 1875 as the Preparatory School for the University of Colorado, Boulder High School provides a comprehensive education for grades 9–12 with an enrollment of approximately 1,638 students. As an Advanced Placement (AP) Focus School, we offer one of the most comprehensive programs in the state as well as concurrent enrollment at the University of Colorado and other institutions of higher education. Furthermore, our visual and performing arts have an excellent reputation, and our pottery, photography, and video production studios and science labs are state of the art. *U.S. News* ranks Boulder High in the top 4% of schools in Colorado and top 4% nationally.

Nestled at the foot of the Rocky Mountains, Boulder is located 25 miles northwest of Denver. At an elevation of 5,430 feet, the city's population is approximately 106,800, and its diverse culture complements its special beauty. Supported by computer, aerospace, scientific, and research firms, plus numerous small businesses, Boulder is clearly the entrepreneurial center of the Front Range. The University of Colorado, which includes a 143-acre research park, encourages a productive relationship with the private sector. The Boulder Valley School District (BVSD) covers more than 500 square miles and 11 communities, including mountain, urban, and plains areas.

Enrollment

Boulder Valley School District: 27,500 students
BHS Student Body 2026–27: 1,638 students
BHS Class of 2027: 431 students
% of Graduates Who Enroll in 4-Year College: 80%*
% of Graduates Who Enroll in 2-Year College: 5%*
* Includes seniors who have deferred for gap year.

Demographics*

White: 60% **Asian:** 2% **Black:** 1%
Hispanic: 31% **Multiethnic**: 5% **Other:** 1%
*Self-reported ethnicities

Students in Free and Reduced Lunch Program: 29.4%

Curriculum

Advanced Placement (AP) Program

Boulder High has been designated by the Boulder Valley School District Board of Education as an AP Focus School and awards a Boulder High AP Achievement Recognition Cord. The AP program is a cooperative educational endeavor between secondary schools and colleges and universities. It allows high school students to undertake college-level academic learning in AP courses and gives them the opportunity to show that they have mastered the advanced material by taking AP exams. Note that, in some cases, scheduling conflicts may impact a student's AP course load. Students can receive credit, advanced placement, or both from thousands of colleges and universities that participate in the AP program.

The AP Achievement Recognition Cord

Boulder High School offers an AP Achievement Recognition Cord for students who meet the College Board criteria. To be eligible for a BHS AP Achievement Recognition Cord, students must qualify for one of the following AP Scholar Awards from College Board before May 1 of their graduation year: AP Scholar, AP Scholar with Honor, AP Scholar with Distinction, AP International Diploma.

Weighted Courses

In addition to the 30 AP courses, Boulder High offers 22 courses labeled "Advanced" in Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and World Languages (level 4 and above).

Advanced & AP Curriculum (30 AP & 22 Advanced)

World Languages
Any World Language, Level 4
AP French
German 3-Pre AP
AP German
Spanish Language Arts Advanced
AP Spanish 5
AP Spanish Literature & Culture
AP Latin
AP Japanese
Latin 3-Pre AP

Language Arts
AP English Language & Comp.
AP English Literature & Comp.
9th Grade English LA Advanced
10th Grade English LA Advanced

Mathematics
AP Calculus AB
AP Calculus BC
AP Precalculus
Precalculus Advanced AB & BC
Algebra 1 Advanced
Algebra 2 Advanced
Geometry Advanced
AP Statistics
Calculus 3

Computer Science
AP Comp Science Principles
AP Comp Science A

Science
Anatomy Physiology Advanced
Astronomy Advanced
AP Biology
AP Chemistry
AP Physics C
AP Environmental Science
Biology Advanced
Chemistry Advanced
Physical Science Advanced
Physics Advanced
Research Seminar in Science

Social Studies
AP European History
AP U.S. History
AP Human Geography
AP U.S. Government & Politics
AP World History
AP Psychology
AP Macroeconomics
AP Microeconomics
AP African American History
AP Art History

Visual Art
AP Art & Design
AP Music Theory

Graduation Requirements for Class of 2027

In the Boulder Valley School District, a student must successfully complete a minimum of 220 credits in grades 9–12, and 100 of these credits must be earned in grades 11–12. Ten credits are equivalent to one full year of study in a specific subject. Completion of coursework in Money Management/Personal Finance and Computer Applied Technology are also required.

Language Arts	40 credits	**Physical Ed**	15 credits
Social Studies	30 credits	**Health**	5 credits
Math	20 credits (includes Alg. 1)	**Fine Arts**	5 credits
Science	20 credits (10 life; 10 physical)	**Practical Arts**	5 credits
World Language	10 credits (level 2+)	**Electives**	70 credits

GPA & Class Rank

- Weighted courses consist of AP and advanced courses, with the exception of Algebra 1 Advanced.
- All courses in grades 9–12 with a letter grade of A–F are used in computing the student's GPA.
- Both the weighted and unweighted GPAs appear on the transcript. The weighted GPA is calculated based on the average of the grades from all unweighted and weighted courses.
- Class rank is not reported per BVSD policy.

The following letter grades are used with grade points awarded to each letter as follows:

Letter Grade	Regular GPA	Weighted GPA
A	4 points	5 points
B	3 points	4 points
C	2 points	3 points
D	1 point	2 points
F	0 points	0 points

P/F = Course being taken on pass/fail basis
WP = Withdraw passing, not included in GPA
WF = Withdraw failing, not included in GPA
CW = Credit waived
NG = No grade

Grad+ Opportunities & Accomplishments

The GRAD+ Framework is a BVSD initiative designed to increase postsecondary opportunities in both higher education and workplace arenas. Boulder High School GRAD+ opportunities include 5 concurrent enrollment courses taught by FRCC credentialed BHS teachers, 3 CU Succeed Programs taught by credentialed BHS teachers in a BHS classroom setting, Seal of Biliteracy, work-based learning, and industry certification support.

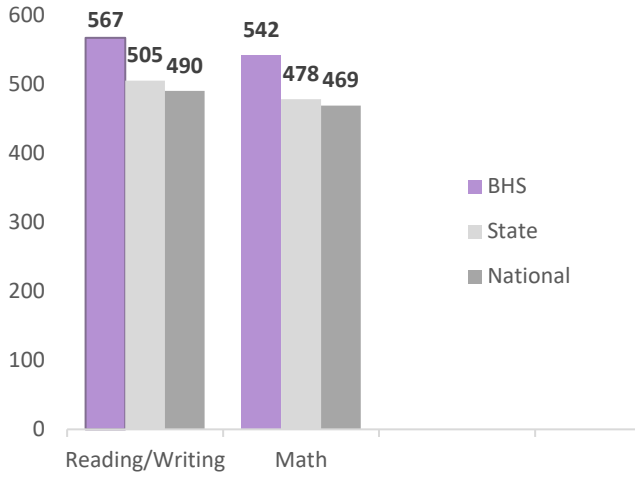
During the 2025-26 school year, BHS students accomplished the following: 113 Seals of Biliteracy earned; 817 concurrent or dual enrollment college credits completed; 55 work-based learning accolades awarded; and 180 industry certifications accrued.

Academic Year, Schedule, & Transcript Grades

Boulder High School is on a two-semester system and a block schedule is used. Classes meet four days a week, with three 53-minute periods and one 85-minute period. **Please note how semester grades are listed on our transcript:**

Semester 1 = Term 2
Semester 2 = Term 4

SAT Results for the Class of 2027



Advanced Placement

In 2026, 790 students took 1,625 AP Exams in 30 subject areas. Scores of 3 and above (of a possible score of 5) were earned by 88% of students.

Year	2024	2025	2026
AP Scholars	149	122	134
AP Scholars with Honors	57	63	57
AP Scholars with Distinction	142	157	167
AP International Diploma	2		1

National Merit Finalists	2023	2024	2025
	4	3	5



Boulder High School ~ A Place for Everyone
Est. 1875