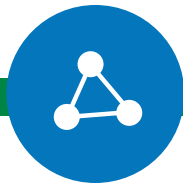


Capstone Graduation Guide



Discover a World of Opportunity™

The Competency Based Learning Team

For more information, please visit
<http://thecommons.dpsk12.org/capstone>

or email us at capstone@dpsk12.org

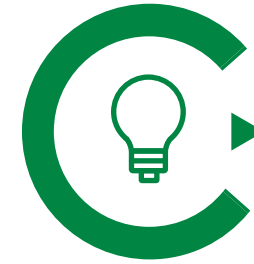
What is the Colorado Paradox?

By 2020, three-quarters of Colorado's jobs are likely to require some kind of education beyond high school. Right now, about 70 percent of jobs require some sort of postsecondary education. To fill that need with local talent, the state will need to increase the number of credentials and degrees it awards by two percent annually. The state doesn't seem to have an issue attracting people from elsewhere to fill open positions; unemployment is an impressive three percent. However, the state has struggled to educate the children born and raised here so they can also tap into the economic opportunities around them.



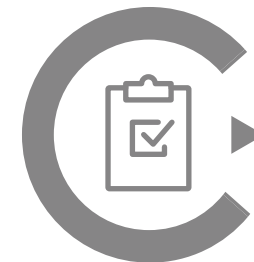
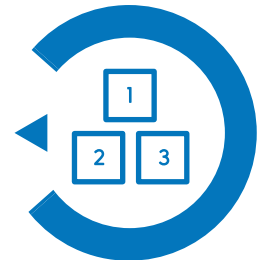
With Colorado's new graduation guidelines, students are required to demonstrate career and college readiness. These new requirements are a means of addressing the paradox. The district Capstone is an excellent avenue and opportunity for students to demonstrate that they are college and career ready while also developing the necessary skills to compete in the Colorado job market.

Source: The Atlantic, The Colorado Paradox



Few jobs will require only a high school education. Colorado ranks 48th in available jobs for high school graduates or dropouts.

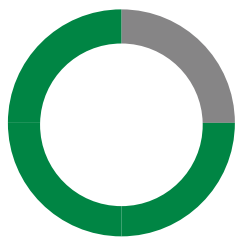
Many jobs will require additional training beyond high school. Colorado ranks third in the proportion of 2020 jobs that will require a bachelor's degree.



Jobs requiring additional training beyond high school are growing three times as fast as jobs requiring only a high school diploma.

In 2020, 74 percent of all jobs in Colorado — 3 million jobs — will require education beyond high school.

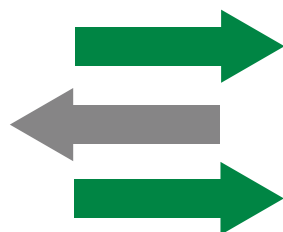




Three-quarters of high school students graduate.



More than half of high school graduates enroll in college. (55.2%)



More than one-third of high school graduates need remedial classes in college.

ACCUPLACER
ACT
AP
ASVAB
CE
IB
SAT
CAPSTONE
WORKKEYS
ASSESSMENT
INDUSTRY CERT.

According to the new graduation requirements students must show they are competent in both English and Math. The list of options represent opportunities to demonstrate this competence.

Students are only required to meet expectations on one option. Students may show competence in English via one option and show competence in math via another option.

The district approved capstone portfolio provides a process-oriented means of showing competence over the course of a student's high school tenure.



What is the Capstone?

The district approved Capstone encourages schools to empower students to create portfolios demonstrating college and career readiness. The Capstone Portfolio was designed as a rigorous pathway to demonstrate competency in English and/or math. The portfolio allows schools to monitor student progress over time. It also provides a process-oriented method for meeting the new graduation requirements compared to the other test-centric options.

Why is the Capstone needed?

Previously, college and career readiness were defined by the number of credits a student completed. Starting in 2021, the state of Colorado will require students to also demonstrate competency in both English and Math

2021 graduation requirements

Earn a certain number of credits



Show competency in English and Math



and