

# Higher Education Admissions Requirements

Colorado has recently established Higher Education Admissions Requirements for students who plan to attend any of Colorado’s public, four-year colleges or universities. Private colleges and universities set their own admissions standards, so you should contact those institutions directly for information regarding their enrollment policies. Public two-year colleges have open enrollment policies, meaning that students applying to these schools do not need to meet the following admissions requirements.

Students planning to attend a four-year college or university in Colorado (Adams State College, Colorado School of Mines, Colorado State University, Colorado State University—Pueblo, Fort Lewis College, Mesa State College, Metropolitan State College of Denver, University of Colorado at Boulder, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, University of Colorado at Denver, University of Northern Colorado, Western State College) will need to complete the following classes in order to fulfill the Higher Education Admissions Requirements. Additionally, you will need to find out from the colleges to which you are applying what GPA and ACT or SAT scores they require and **if there are other courses outside of the Higher Education Admissions Requirements that must also be completed for admission.** The Higher Education Admissions Requirements have been established in addition to the Admissions Eligibility Index (which you can find online at [www.state.co.us/cche/policy/newpolicies/I-partf-index.pdf](http://www.state.co.us/cche/policy/newpolicies/I-partf-index.pdf)).

ACADEMIC AREA	HS GRADUATES 2010+
ENGLISH	4 units
MATHEMATICS (Algebra I level and higher)	4 units
NATURAL/PHYSICAL SCIENCES (2 units must be lab-based)	3 units
SOCIAL SCIENCES (at least 1 unit of U.S. or world history)	3 units
FOREIGN LANGUAGE	1 units
ACADEMIC ELECTIVES*	2 units
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>17</b>

Note: One unit is equal to one full year of credit in a specific subject.

\* Acceptable Academic Electives include additional courses in English, mathematics, natural/physical sciences and social sciences, foreign languages, art, music, journalism, drama, computer science, honors, Advanced Placement, and International Baccalaureate courses. Approved career and technical education courses with content comparable to courses meeting Colorado’s Model Content Standards and industry specific/CTE standards are counted as academic electives beyond the minimum years listed above.

The CCHE has further described the types of courses that meet their requirements by indicating that they need to be “sufficiently challenging to be college-preparatory” and that they need to fit “in a logical sequence of courses leading to higher and more rigorous course work.” For a fuller explanation of the criteria, contact your counselor or go to the CCHE website at <http://www.state.co.us/cche/academic/admissions.html>.

## HB 05-1057

Enacted in the 2005, HB 05-1057 requires districts to provide to parents a list of courses the district has available that satisfy the CCHE’s Higher Education Admission Guidelines. The following Douglas County courses meet those criteria:

ENGLISH	MATHEMATICS	SCIENCE	SOCIAL SCIENCE	FOR LANG
☉50300 English I	☉60380 Alg I Pt. 1 (.5 only)	☉80525 Anat/Phys I	☉85325 Ancient Civ	☉95730 Chinese I
☉50310 English I Honors	☉60385 Alg I Pt. 2 (.5 only)	☉80365 AP Biology	☉85500 AP Euro History	☉95731 Chinese II
☉50330 English II	☉60400 Algebra I	☉80400 AP Chemistry	☉85905 AP Human Geography	☉95732 Chinese III
☉50340 English II Honors	☉60410 Algebra II	☉80654 AP Physics B	☉85720 AP U.S. Gov’t	☉95460 French 1B
☉50444 Amer Tapestry	☉60510 Algebra/Trig II	☉80655 AP Physics C	☉85625 AP U.S. History	☉95400 French I
☉50390 AP Lang & Comp	☉60550 Alg/Trig II Honors	☉80600 Astronomy▶	☉85340 AP World History	☉95410 French II
☉50400 AP Lit & Comp	☉60525 Applied Geometry√	☉80360 Biology Applied √	☉85725 Colorado History	☉95420 French III
☉50580 British Lit/Comp	☉60625 AP Calculus AB	☉80350 Biology	☉85745 Cont Wrld Issues	☉95435 French IV
☉50461 Cont Lit/Comp	☉60650 AP Calculus BC	☉80356 Biology Honors	☉85465 Mod Asian Hist	☉95440 AP French Lang
☉50430 Dramatic Lit	☉60801 AP Statistics	☉80460 Chem Com	☉85375 Mod Euro Hist	☉95560 German 1B
☉50571 World Lit & Comp	☉60674 Calculus A	☉80375 Chemistry	☉85750 Psychology	☉95500 German I
	☉60660 Calculus III	☉80385 Chemistry Honors	☉85420 Rise Nat St - Ger	☉95510 German II
	☉60570 College Algebra	☉80550 Genetics	☉85700 U.S. Government	☉95520 German III
	☉60800 Discrete Math	☉80575 Geology▶	☉85800 US Economics	☉95541 German IV
All IB English courses	☉60475 Geometry	☉80310 Phys Scien Prin √	☉85550 US Hist 1865-1945	☉95540 AP German Lang
	☉60450 Geometry Honors	☉80300 Physical Science	☉85575 US Hist Since ‘45	☉95605 Spanish 1B
	☉60753 Honors PreCalc	☉80430 Physics	☉85835 World Geography	☉95600 Spanish I
☉50720 Comp Speech§	☉60775 Probability - Stats	☉80464 Physics, Concept.		☉95610 Spanish II
☉50725 Comp Speech§	60611 Trig/PreCalc	☉80340 Science Tech I	☉All IB Social Studies	☉95620 Spanish III
☉50700 Public Speaking§	All IB Math courses	☉80342 Science Tech II		☉95631 Spanish IV
				☉95640 Spanish Lang
		All IB Science courses		All IB Foreign Language

☉NCAA Approved Courses

## ENGLISH NOTES:

§ These speech courses satisfy Douglas County's speech requirement for graduation. They also meet Higher Education Admission Requirements under English as long as students also acquire at least two of the required four units through coursework emphasizing writing, grammar, and composition skills.

## MATH NOTES:

√ When this course is taken as part of a logical sequence leading to higher and more rigorous college-preparatory coursework (e.g. when Applied Geometry leads to Algebra II), it may be interpreted at certain institutions as meeting the requirements. When Algebra I content is extended beyond one year (e.g. Algebra I, Part 1 and Algebra I, Part 2), only one Carnegie unit of the higher education admissions requirements is met.

## SCIENCE NOTES:

√ When this course is taken as part of a logical sequence leading to higher and more rigorous college-preparatory coursework (e.g. when Principles of Physical Science and Applied Biology lead to Chem Com and Concept. Physics or Chemistry), it may be interpreted at certain institutions as meeting the requirements.

► When a student's transcript shows that this course follows (but does not substitute for) prerequisites like Physical Science, Biology, and/or Chemistry, it may be interpreted as meeting the requirements.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Q: Will completion of the HEAR as part of finishing my high school requirements guarantee my admission to a four-year college or university in Colorado?**

A: No. The HEAR is an addition to the CCHE Admissions Standards Policy for public higher education institutions. All four-year public institutions in Colorado have selective admission requirements articulated in the Admissions Standards Policy. **Colleges and universities may have institutional admissions requirements that go beyond the HEAR courses and the selective admissions standards established for each institution. Students are advised to work closely with the admissions staff at the college/university of choice for complete information about admission requirements.** Keep in mind that all two-year colleges in Colorado have open admissions policies. The higher education admission requirements do not apply to students entering a community college or to students entering Metropolitan State College of Denver if they are 20 years old or older.

**Q: I have a disability. Will I have to complete High Education Admissions Requirements?**

A: Yes. The HEAR course requirements and the selective admissions standards will be factors in the admission decision for all students, even if an identified disability has resulted in a modified high school curriculum. In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504) and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (Title II), Colorado's collegiate institutions do not discriminate on the basis of the presence of a disability. However, to qualify for academic accommodations at a postsecondary institution, students with disabilities must first meet the institution's "essential admissions requirements." HEAR curriculum constitutes an essential admission requirement. For more information about the federal guidelines regarding students with disabilities in the college/university setting, go to <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/transition.html>.

**Q: What options do I have if I haven't completed the HEAR course requirements and I graduate in spring 2008 or later?**

A: You have at least three. You may qualify for admission to a Colorado public four-year institution even if you haven't completed the prescribed HEAR courses. Institutions may make an exception and admit a specific percentage of students based on criteria other than the High Education Admissions Requirements and the CCHE freshmen index. A second option is to enroll in a community college, all of which have open admissions, and, after successfully completing a college-level course in each of the four academic areas (i.e., English, mathematics, natural science, and social science), apply for admission to a four-year public institution as a transfer student. Finally, CCHE will identify assessment options by June 2006, which you may substitute for specific courses of the Higher Education Admissions Requirements once they are adopted by the Commission.

**Q: Who do I contact if I'm unsure if a course will fulfill a Higher Education Admissions Requirement?**

A: Contact the counseling office at your school for specific course advice. Also check the CCHE website periodically for an expanded list of courses that will meet the HEAR criteria.

**Q: What are some other things I should do while I'm in high school to prepare me for college?**

A: Do your best in your classes. Keep in mind that most colleges give preference to students who challenge themselves throughout high school over those who take easier classes and get a higher grade point average. Explore whether you want to take Advanced Placement courses or pursue an International Baccalaureate diploma program. You may also want to enroll for dual credit classes that allow you to earn college credit while in high school through the Post-Secondary Enrollment Options Program. Your school counselor can provide you with details on each of these opportunities. Get involved in activities such as clubs, music, sports, and/or volunteer work. When you have an opportunity, try some leadership roles in these activities.