

High School Graduation Requirements

What you need to know...



Welcome!

Cara Davies



Facilitator

Madeline Scott



Chat Moderator



Together, we will...

- Review how to **earn credits** to **earn a high school diploma**
- Discuss the **types of diplomas** that we offer
- Learn about **GPA**, including how it's **calculated** and why it **matters**
- Review your **menu of options** to demonstrate **college and career readiness**
- Discuss practices to help you **start strong**
- Practice writing a **SMART goals** to set you up for **success in high school**



Meet Veronica, a high school graduate

- Graduated from our school in 2020
- Attended all 4 years of high school through our school
- Currently attends a local community college to study Early Childhood Education



Veronica
recent graduate



Goal Setting

How did you use **goal setting** in high school to set you up for success?

*“At first I thought that my only goal in high school was to graduate, but then I learned that I needed to **set smaller goals** to keep me going towards my **bigger goal** of actually graduating.”*



Veronica
recent graduate



Goal Setting - S.M.A.R.T.

S



SPECIFIC

M



MEASURABLE

A



ATTAINABLE

R



REALISTIC

T



TIMELY



High School Credits

What did you know about **credits** when you started high school?

*“Miss, I knew that I needed **credits** for a **diploma**, and I knew that I earned credits by **passing classes**.”*



Veronica
recent graduate



High School Credits: *The Numbers*

22

Students need to earn **22 credits** as part of their graduation requirements.

.5

Nearly all of our classes are worth .5 credits

≥60%

To earn .5 credits for each class, you **must pass the class with a D or higher**

0

Failing grades earn 0 credits and **have to be taken again.**

21

Students have until age 21 to earn credits.



Colorado High School Credits

Department	Credits	# of Classes (Per Semester)
Language Arts	4	8
Math	3	6
Science	3	6
Social Studies	1.5	3
Government	0.5	1
US History	1	2
Electives	8	16
Fine Art/Tech	1	2



Arizona High School Credits

Department	Credits	# of Classes (Per Semester)
Language Arts	4	8
Math	4	8
Science	3	6
Social Studies	1.5	3
Government	0.5	1
US History	1	2
Electives	7	14
Fine Art/Tech	1	2

Math:

1 year of...

- Algebra
- Geometry
- Algebra 2
- 4th year math class

Science:

1 year of...

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics

Social Studies:

- 1 year of *World History*
- 1 semester of *Economics*



High School Credits: *Application*

Class Name	Grade	Credits Attempted	Credits Earned	Credit Type
Language Arts 9A	B	.5	.5	Language Arts
Geometry	A	.5	.5	Math
World History	B	.5	.5	Social Studies
Digital Photography	F	.5	0	Fine Arts/ Technology
Personal Finance	C	.5	.5	Electives
		3	2.5	



How we support you

1. Advisors
2. Scheduling Team
3. Teachers/Academics Team



Goal Setting for Credits

“I will earn 3 credits during my first semester of high school by working at least an hour a day on each of my classes.”



Specific



Measurable



Attainable



Realistic



Timely



Grade Point Average (GPA)

What did you know about **GPA** when you started high school?

*“Someone told me that I **needed to have a good one** to get into a good college, but I didn’t know **how to improve** my GPA when I started high school.”*



Veronica
recent graduate



Grade Point Average (GPA)

Your GPA can be calculated at the end of each quarter, trimester, semester or year.

Cumulative GPA:

An average of all the grades you've received in all your courses throughout high school. Includes classes that you attempted but may have not received credit for (failing= 0).

Weighted GPA:

Extra points for classes with added difficulty (honors and Advanced Placement) Typically a weighted GPA scale ranges from 0 to 5.0, where an A on the weighted scale translates to a 5.0



Grade Point Average (GPA)

Class	Grade	Grade Points
Language Arts 9A	A	4
Algebra 1A	B	3
Physical Science A	C	2
Geography A	D	1
Criminology	F	0
$4+3+2+1+0 = 10$ $10/5 = 2.0$ GPA		



Cumulative GPA: Student A

Semester 1		
Class	Grade	Grade Points
Language Arts 9A	A	4
Algebra 1A	A	4
Physical Science A	B	3
Geography A	C	2
Criminology	B	3
$4+4+3+2+3 = 16/5 = 3.2 \text{ GPA}$		

Semester 2		
Class	Grade	Grade Points
Language Arts 9B	A	4
Algebra 1B	B	3
Physical Science B	A	4
Geography B	B	3
Photography	C	2
$4+3+4+3+2 = 16/5 = 3.2 \text{ GPA}$		

Overall GPA = $(3.2 + 3.2) / 2 = 3.2 \text{ GPA}$



Cumulative GPA: Student B

Semester 1		
Class	Grade	Grade Points
Language Arts 9A	A	4
Algebra 1A	B	3
Physical Science A	A	4
Geography A	B	3
Criminology	A	4
$4+3+4+3+4 = 18/5 = 3.6 \text{ GPA}$		

Semester 2		
Class	Grade	Grade Points
Language Arts 9B	B	3
Algebra 1B	C	2
Physical Science B	A	4
Geography B	C	2
Photography	F	0
$3+2+4+2+0 = 11/5 = 2.2 \text{ GPA}$		

Overall GPA = $(3.6 + 2.2) / 2 = 2.9 \text{ GPA}$



Cumulative GPA: Student C

Semester 1		
Class	Grade	Grade Points
Language Arts 9A	D	1
Algebra 1A	C	2
Physical Science A	D	1
Geography A	F	0
Criminology	F	0
$1+2+1+0+0 = 7/5 = 0.8 \text{ GPA}$		

Semester 2		
Class	Grade	Grade Points
Language Arts 9B	C	2
Algebra 1B	B	3
Physical Science B	B	3
Geography B	C	2
Photography	B	3
$2+3+3+2+3 = 13/5 = 2.6 \text{ GPA}$		

Overall GPA = $(0.8 + 2.6) / 2 = 1.7 \text{ GPA}$



GPA

Why it matters for your future...

- Honors and AP class eligibility
- National Honor Society
- College Applications & Admissions
- Job Applications



Goal Setting for GPA

“I will earn at least a 3.0 GPA, or a B average, during my first semester of high school by working at least an hour a day on each of my classes.”



Specific



Measurable



Attainable



Realistic



Timely



High School Credits & GPA

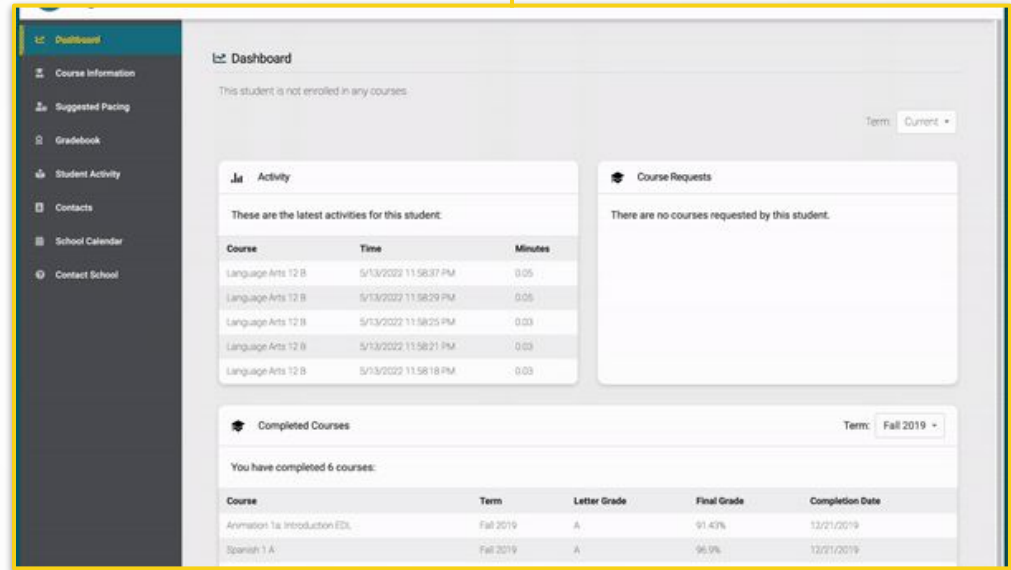
At this time, there are 2 ways to check your student's GPA or credits earned.

1. Calculate it yourself
2. Request a grad plan



Calculating Your Credits/GPA

1. Go to your student **Dashboard**
2. Scroll until you see **Completed Courses**
3. Select which **Term** you would like to view



The screenshot shows a student dashboard with a dark sidebar on the left containing navigation links: Dashboard, Course Information, Suggested Pacing, Gradebook, Student Activity, Contacts, School Calendar, and Contact School. The main content area is titled 'Dashboard' and includes a message: 'This student is not enrolled in any courses.' with a 'Term: Current' dropdown. Below this are three sections: 'Activity' (listing recent activities for 'Language Arts 12 B' with columns for Course, Time, and Minutes), 'Course Requests' (stating no courses are requested), and 'Completed Courses' (with a 'Term: Fall 2019' dropdown). The 'Completed Courses' section lists six courses with columns for Course, Term, Letter Grade, Final Grade, and Completion Date.

Course	Time	Minutes
Language Arts 12 B	5/13/2022 11:58:37 PM	0:05
Language Arts 12 B	5/13/2022 11:58:29 PM	0:05
Language Arts 12 B	5/13/2022 11:58:25 PM	0:03
Language Arts 12 B	5/13/2022 11:58:21 PM	0:03
Language Arts 12 B	5/13/2022 11:58:18 PM	0:03

Course	Term	Letter Grade	Final Grade	Completion Date
Animation 1a Introduction EDL	Fall 2019	A	91.43%	12/21/2019
Spanish 1 A	Fall 2019	A	96.9%	12/21/2019



Requesting A Grad Plan

To request a full summary of credits and for help planning your schedule...

1. Email scheduling@myschool.org from your *student school-assigned email address*
2. Subject Line: “*Grad Plan Request*”
3. Include student’s *full name and any other requested info (such as GPA calculation)*





In the chat...

- What is something new that you learned about credits or Grade Point Average?



Types of Diplomas

What did you know about **types of diplomas** when you started high school?

“I thought that everyone in high school got the same diploma.”



Veronica
recent graduate



Types of Diplomas



HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

- Earn a minimum of 22 credits
- Meet state-specific requirements



HONORS DIPLOMA

- Earn a minimum of 22 credits
- Earn at least 4 credits from Honors, Advanced Placement, or college-level classes
- Cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher
- Be a member of the National Honor Society



BILITERACY DIPLOMA

- Spanish and French
- GPA of 3.0 or higher in Language Arts courses
- Show literacy in Spanish or French through an assessment



Why a high school diploma matters

1. A highschool diploma can **increase earning potential** by over 25%
2. **Decreased** chances for unemployment
3. Overall **increase in self-esteem** compared to those who have not graduated
4. Having a high school diploma greatly improves options for **post-secondary education**
5. More **job opportunities**



Goal Setting for Diplomas

“I will work towards earning an Honors diploma during my first semester of high school by earning at least a 3.5 GPA.”



Specific



Measurable



Attainable



Realistic



Timely



College and Career Readiness

Tell me how you met the college and career readiness requirement.

“I’m not sure about this one.”



Veronica
recent graduate





College & Career Readiness

Here is a link to graduation requirements for students who live in Colorado, also called the **“Menu of Options.”**

**[Graduation Readiness Guide:
Menu of Options](#)**

College Ready

Students can be determined as college ready based on their performance in Math and Language Arts. Proficiency in these areas can be measured by passing grades, AP classes and exams, and standardized test scores such as the ACT or SAT.

Career Ready:

Career readiness is also measured by student proficiency in Math and Language Arts. However the courses used to establish proficiency must be senior level courses (Algebra II and Language Arts 12) or career level courses (Personal Finance, Public Speaking, Creative Writing)





In the chat...

- Which of the options do you plan to use to show college & career readiness?



Arizona Civics Test

How did you feel when you learned that you needed to take and pass the Arizona Civics Test to earn your high school diploma?

“I was a bit surprised by it. I could definitely do it, but I shouldn’t have left it till the end.”



Veronica
recent graduate





Arizona Civics Test

The Arizona Civics test is a **graduation requirement** for students who will earn their diploma in **Arizona**.

The Arizona Civics Test has its own course that is accessible through the student dashboard.

The scheduling department can assist you in enrolling in this course.

Since it is a graduation requirement, students are able to take the test as many times as they need to pass it prior to their graduation.

- Need to earn a score of 60/100.

Students are able to use their previous test attempts as well as the study materials that can be found online.



Final Advice

What's your **final advice** to a high school student starting their high school journey?

“A few things: I would say **make a schedule** for when you are going to start your classes each day so that you really have enough time to work on them. It's easy to say that you'll start classes when you wake up, but telling yourself, 'I will start my classes at 10:00' is a way better way to **stay on track.**”



Veronica
recent graduate



Final Advice

“Also, **ask your teachers for help**. I tried to do so much of high school on my own, and when I finally **emailed** my teachers for help or **signed up for office hours**, they were seriously so happy that I was finally asking for help! **I wish that I had started asking teachers for help right away** in 9th grade.”



Veronica
recent graduate



Final Advice

“Last, and this is really important, is to **take care of your mental health**. Making the jump to high school can be hard because everyone starts asking you about what’s next, and they talk about how important doing well in school is. It is important to do well in school, but you also have to **pay attention to your mental health and talk with people about how you’re feeling.**”



Veronica
recent graduate



Resources to honor Veronica's advice

Sample Schedule

Grades K-5

A student might use this schedule Monday through Friday.

Time	Activity
8:30 am	Wake up!
8:30 - 9:00	Breakfast & get ready for the day
9:00 - 9:15	Morning Meeting
9:15 - 10:15	Math
10:15 - 10:30	Break Time (Watch a YouTube video!)
10:30 - 11:30	Language Arts
11:30 - 12:15 pm	Lunch & Break Time (Ride a bike!)
12:15 - 1:15	Elective #1 and i-Ready
1:15 - 2:15	Science
2:15 - 2:30	Break (Have a snack!)
2:30 - 3:30	Elective #2 and/or Independent Reading
3:30 - 4:30	Social Studies
4:30 - 4:45	Afternoon Meeting
4:45 - bedtime	Family Time!

- Elementary students can expect to spend about 6 hours each day, or about 30 hours a week, engaging in online schooling.
- Learning Coaches who support their children as a Learning Coach can expect to spend about:
 - 6 hours each day for Kindergarten and first grade children
 - 4-5 hours each day for second and third grade children
 - 3-5 hours each day for fourth and fifth grade children
- Elementary students typically need more support at the beginning of the year and tend to show more independence as the school year progresses.

Partnering Effectively with Teachers - Checklist

- Attend Live Sessions Every Week
 - Email your teacher with specific questions beforehand
 - example: "Will you be able to review #6 on the Grading Polynomial Assignment?"
 - Attempt to answer the teacher's questions during the live session
 - example: "Can you show that one more time?"
 - "Where did you find that algorithm?"
 - "What steps should I follow?"
 - Ask questions

COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH OPTIONS

Crisis Text Line: Text "HOME" to 741741

- Text HOME to 741741 from anywhere in the United States, anytime, about any type of crisis. A live, trained Crisis Counselor receives the text and responds, all from our secure online platform. The volunteer Crisis Counselor will help you move from a hot moment to a cool moment.
- <https://www.crisistextline.org/>

SAMHSA's National Helpline: 1-800-662-HELP(4357)

- SAMHSA's (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) National Helpline is a free, confidential, 24/7, 365-day-a-year treatment referral and information service (in English and Spanish) for individuals and families facing mental and/or substance use disorders.
- <https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/national-helpline>

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255 or text "HELLO" to 741741

- We can all help prevent suicide. The Lifeline provides 24/7, free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones, and best practices for professionals.
- <https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/>

Colorado Crisis Services: 1-844-983-8255 or text "TALK" to 38255

- Chat available at: <https://coloradocrisiservices.org/>
- Link for students: <https://belowthesurface.com/>

These resources includes details about...

- Sample daily schedules
- Techniques to ask teachers for help
- Accessing community mental health resources



Goal Setting

“I will start my classes by 9:00 am Monday through Friday and take at least two breaks a day.”

“I will attend Live Sessions with my teachers every week for 4 of my 6 classes.”

“I will monitor my mental health by talking with my family each weekend about how I am feeling.”



Specific



Measurable



Attainable



Realistic



Timely



mySchool.org/SmartStart

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `myschool.org/smartstart`. The page features three distinct sections, each representing a webinar in a series. Each section includes a video player thumbnail on the left and a text description with a 'Learn More' button on the right. The thumbnails feature a circular portrait of a woman, a play button icon, and the webinar title. The text descriptions provide a brief overview of the webinar's content. The overall design is clean and modern, with a dark grey background and white text boxes. A decorative pattern of yellow dots is visible on the right side of each section.

WEBINAR SERIES 01
Building and Maintaining Positive Momentum with Your Learner
hosted by Kimberly Grunder
25:23

Learning and Maintaining Positive Momentum with Your Learner.
Join us as we explore strategies and techniques for building and maintaining positive momentum with your student!
[Learn More](#)

LEARNING COACH WEBINAR SERIES: 02

LEARNING COACH WEBINAR SERIES 02
My student is struggling. What can I do?
hosted by Kimberly Grunder
46:34

My Learner is Struggling. What Can I Do?
We understand that having a learner who is struggling can feel overwhelming. This webinar will give you strategies and techniques on how to support your learner through academic challenges.
[Learn More](#)

LEARNING COACH WEBINAR SERIES: 03

LEARNING COACH WEBINAR SERIES 03
How to Effectively Support Multiple Learners.
hosted by Kimberly Grunder

How to Effectively Support Multiple Learners
Supporting multiple learners has its advantages, and it can also be challenging to meet each student's needs – especially when it seems like multiple learners want your attention at the same time!
[Learn More](#)



We're here for you!

Email:

help@myschool.org

Call:

Arizona	Colorado
602-641-8220	720-713-1916

