

# GOAL Academy Policy

## Graduation Requirements

**Section:** J Students

**Policy Number:** J7

**Policy Name:** Graduation Requirements

**Approval Authority:** Board of Directors

**Responsible Executive:** Chief Academic Officer

**Responsible Office:** Academics

**Originally Issued:** 9/10

**Revisions:** 6/21/16, 9/25/17, 7/31/17, 8/25/20, 7/27/21, 5/12/22, 6/14/22, 6/20/23

### 1. Policy Statement

GOAL Academy's Board of Directors (Board) shall set forth requirements for graduation

### 2. Reason for Policy

The purpose of the policy is to establish uniform minimum requirements for graduation in alignment with Colorado Department of Education guidelines.

### 3. Who Should Read This Policy

All members of the GOAL Academy community

### 4. Related Documents

Student Handbook

### 5. Contacts

Chief Academic Officer, Senior Director of Curriculum and Support, Student Support Services Director

### 6. Policy: Graduation Requirements

The high school diploma awarded by GOAL Academy represents a high standard of quality in curriculum content, instruction, and student learning, and should be maintained as a document that reflects substantial effort by the student and the school in preparation for the world of work and/or higher education.

Each student who enters GOAL Academy will develop a personal graduation plan based on one of two plans of study, Traditional and Senior Recovery. Their graduation plan will set their intended course of study as they begin their journey toward graduation. Each student, their POD staff, and their counselor will review and amend the graduation plan each term. In order to be eligible to graduate from GOAL Academy a student must complete at least one GOAL Academy class.

A Regional Principal may waive a given requirement if, in the principal's judgment, it is determined to be in the best educational interest of the student or if required in order to provide a student with disabilities a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE).

A high school diploma from GOAL Academy certifies that a student has fulfilled all graduation requirements of their chosen plan of study, Traditional or Senior Recovery. Additionally, for a student to graduate and receive a high school diploma, they must have a complete ICAP (Individual Career and Academic Plan).

The State of Colorado has established the Colorado Graduation Guidelines. These guidelines allow students to demonstrate competency in the areas of English and Math in other ways beyond course completion.

**Traditional Plan of Study (22 credits)**

English/Language Arts (4):

A minimum of 4 credits shall be earned. Students will be placed in language arts classes at their appropriate skill level. A maximum of 2 remedial language arts credits will count toward the English/Language Arts total in addition to (1 credit) English 9, and (1 credit) English 10.

Competency in Language Arts may also be demonstrated with one of the following, refer to chart below:

English	Credit	STAR Reading	SAT English	ASVAB	ACT English	ACCUPLACER English (NextGen)
English 9	0-1.0	9.9 GE	410-429		14	
English 10	0-1.0	10.9GE	430-469	31+	15	241-Reading 236 - Writing
11 <sup>th</sup> (English 11)	0-1.0		470+		18+	

### Mathematics (3):

A minimum of 3 credits must be earned. Students will be placed in math classes at their appropriate skill level. A maximum of 1 remedial math credit will count toward the math total in addition to 2 credits of high school level math courses. High school level math courses may include PreAlgebra, Algebra, or higher level courses.

Competency in Math may also be demonstrated with one of the following, Refer to chart below:

Math	Credit	STAR Math	SAT Math	ASVAB Math	ACT Math	ACCUPLACER Math (NextGen)
9 <sup>th</sup> (Pre-Algebra)	0-1.0	9.9 GE	450-479		16	255 – Arithmetic
10 <sup>th</sup> (Algebra 1)	0-1.0	10.9 GE	480+	31+	19+	230 - QAS

### Physical Education/Health (1):

A .5 credit of Health and a .5 credit of Physical Education, or equivalent to exempt, must be earned. An equivalent(s) includes: Participation in a full athletic season with a student's home district school, or well documented participation in a community based program (dance, martial arts, etc).

Criteria governing physical education exemptions:

1. The student must maintain academic eligibility for the entire season.
2. One full sport season is required to exempt a student from the .5 credit of P.E. requirement.
3. The waiver must be requested in the same semester that the sport is played.
4. A grade of Pass/Fail will be awarded for Athletic participation and will not count toward GPA.

### Science (2):

A minimum of 2 credits must be earned in approved Science courses.

### Social Studies (3):

A minimum of 3 credits must be earned in approved Social Studies courses, including 0.5 credit earned in Civics or Government and 1.0 World History required (class of 2027)

### World Language (0):

No language credits are required for graduation. However, 4 semesters of coursework in one continuous language is recommended for students planning to enroll in a 4 year college.

Electives (9):

A minimum of 9 credits must be earned in approved electives courses.

In addition to the requirements listed above pertaining to the CDE Graduation Guideline requirement for competency in both math and English, beginning with the GOAL Academy graduating Class of 2021, students graduating under the traditional plan of study will be required to have either earned a National Career Readiness Certificate, which will count as .5 elective credit, successfully completed a college class through Concurrent Enrollment, earned an Industry Certificate or met the SAT benchmark (English – 470 Math – 500) as outlined by the Colorado Department of Education Graduation Guidelines.

Beginning with the GOAL Academy graduating Class of 2022, students graduating under the traditional plan of study will be required to have earned a **Silver Level** National Career Readiness Certificate, which will count as .5 elective credit.

### **Senior Recovery Plan of Study (8.0 credits)**

The Senior Recovery plan of study is a proficiency-based graduation pathway in which students demonstrate their proficiency of Colorado Academic Standards, as well as demonstrate post-secondary readiness through concurrent enrollment, industry certification, and National Career Readiness Certification.

GOAL High School's Senior Recovery plan of study is also an ACE CTE program providing students the opportunity to demonstrate competency in Postsecondary Workforce Readiness leading to technical skill attainment in any chosen occupation promoting self-sufficiency. The ACE program is designed to help students in GOAL's Senior Recovery plan of student set academic and career goals for a successful transition from high school graduation to post-secondary opportunities.

Students in the Senior Recovery plan of study will be eligible for concurrent enrollment courses once all English, Math, Science, and Social Studies requirements are completed. Concurrent enrollment courses will NOT replace the Career Exploration requirement, but their experience can be used as the work experience requirement of the Career Exploration course.

Senior Recovery students should expect to take Intervention Math and Intervention Reading if their current Grade Level Equivalency (GLE) is below 8.0 on the most recent STAR Math and STAR Reading test in the same school year.

Senior Recovery Pre-Requisites:

- Highly motivated, autonomous learner
- Behind in earning high school credit
- 12th grade/Senior (based on GOAL's grade level placement policy)
- STAR Math GLE or 8.0 and STAR Reading GLE of 8.0

### Senior Recovery Graduation Requirements

#### English (1.0 credits)

- ACE Career Development II – Communication (0.5 credit)
- WorkKeys Workplace Docs Test – Silver+ (0.5 credit)

#### Math (1.5 credits)

- ACE Career Development III – Mathematical Reasoning (0.5 credit)
- WorkKeys Graphic Literacy Test – Silver+ (0.5 credit)
- WorkKeys Applied Math Test – Silver+ (0.5 credit)

#### Science (1.5 credits)

- Senior Recovery Biology (0.5 credit)
- Senior Recovery Earth Science (0.5 credit)
- Senior Recovery Physical Science (0.5 credit)

#### Social Studies (2.0 credits)

- Senior Recovery Civics (0.5 credit)
- Senior Recovery Economics (0.5 credit)
- Senior Recovery Geography (0.5 credit)
- ☐ Senior Recovery History (0.5 credit)

#### Health & Physical Education (0.5 credit)

- Senior Recovery Health & PE (0.5 credit)

#### Electives (1.5 credits)

- ACE Career Development I – Planning (0.5 credit)
- ACE Career Development IV – Workplace Learning (0.5 credit)
- National Career Readiness Certificate (0.5 credit)