

HIGHER EDUCATION ADMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

First-year and transfer students applying to undergraduate programs are strongly encouraged to meet the following Higher Education Admission Recommendations (HEAR) (<https://highered.colorado.gov/higher-education-admission-recommendations/>) when applying to any Colorado four-year public college or university. Effective for students whose first enrollment is Summer 2023 or later; students with earlier enrollments will be held to previous CU Boulder MAPS requirements (<https://catalog.colorado.edu/undergraduate/admissions/minimum-academic-preparation-standards/>).

CU Boulder's Recommendations to Meet HEAR

Subject Area	State of Colorado HEAR	CU Boulder Strong Candidate	Additional CU Boulder College/School/Program Recommendations
English	4 years (Two units of ESL English may count for these recommendations when combined with two units of successfully completed college preparatory English)	4 years	
Mathematics	4 years (Must include Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II or equivalents. College-preparatory ESL mathematics/science courses that include content and academic rigor/level comparable to other acceptable courses may satisfy these recommendations)	4 years (For the fourth year of Mathematics, a class at or above the level of Algebra 2. (Examples include: Statistics, Pre-Calculus, Trigonometry)	
Natural/Physical science	3 years (two units must be lab based)	3 years	1 unit of Physics (College of Engineering & Applied Science)

			1 unit of Physics (Program in Environmental Design)
Social sciences	3 years (Including at least one unit of U.S. or world history)	3 years (Including 3 years at least one unit of U.S. or world history)	
World/Foreign language	1 year (American Sign Language courses can count)	2-3 consecutive years, in the same language	3 consecutive years in the same language (Arts & Sciences)
Academic electives	2 years (Acceptable academic electives include additional courses in English, mathematics, natural/physical sciences and social, foreign languages, art, music, journalism, drama, computer science, honors, Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate courses and appropriate CTE courses)	2 years	Includes one or more design or art based classes (Program in Environmental Design)
Additional admission factors considered by college/school/program			Rigorous coursework (Leeds School of Business) Course grades, academic rigor (taking advanced classes if offered), leadership experience (sustained involvement and commitment to activities or a job) and shown STEM interest (reflected through activities or essay questions) (College of Engineering & Applied Science)

Total credit units: 17	Total credit units: 18-19
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General Coursework Details

- One year of a high school course *or* one semester of a college course equals one unit.
- Grades of C- or better are preferred. Grades of D, F or P (pass) may not be competitive in a selective admission environment.
- Students not meeting HEAR may be considered for admission on an individual basis based on the rigor of units completed as well as other admission criteria (e.g., test scores [optional], GPA and world language proficiency).

World/Foreign Language

Unrelated to the admissions process, students will need to fulfill certain courses to meet CU Boulder's graduation requirements.

In order to have the world/foreign language graduation requirement satisfied through high school coursework, students are strongly encouraged to take three consecutive years of the same world/foreign language and up to third level proficiency in high school regardless of what major they are applying to.

If a student has only taken one or two consecutive years of the same world/foreign language in high school, the third year must be taken once enrolled at CU Boulder and the credit hours will be applied towards graduation.

The graduation requirement in world/foreign language for the following colleges, schools and programs may be found below:

Third-Level Proficiency

- College of Arts & Sciences
- College of Media, Communication & Information
- College of Music - BA
- School of Education

None

- College of Engineering & Applied Science
- College of Music - BM and BME
- Leeds School of Business
- Program in Environmental Design