High School Graduation Requirements

To graduate from a Canyons School District high school a student must:

1. Earn at least the minimum number of credits designated by the high school the student attends. In Canyons School District, credit requirements range from 24 to 28 credits, depending upon the scheduling system of each high school and graduation year.
2. Meet attendance and residency requirements as designated by CSD and the high school.

High School Course and Credit Requirements, and Advanced and Honors Diploma Options

College- and Career- Readiness is strongly linked to the classes students take. The more rigorous the coursework, the better prepared the student. Canyons School District offers students two advanced diploma options, in addition to the state graduation requirements, to help them be better prepared for college and the workforce. The three diploma options are as follows:

1. **Canyons Basic Diploma:** The Basic Diploma requires 24 credits to graduate. Students must complete all core academic requirements. In contrast to Canyons Standard Diploma, students are required 4.0 less (2.0 for Brighton) Elective credits. The Basic Diploma must be approved by administration and is for extenuating circumstances only.

2. **Canyons Standard Diploma:** The default diploma will remain aligned with the Utah State Office of Education graduation requirements. The Canyons Standard Diploma requires 28 credits to graduate (26.0 for Brighton).

3. **Advanced Diploma:** The Advanced Diploma will require additional credits beyond the standard diploma including but not limited to 2.0 credits of world language. The Advanced Diploma also requires credits to be earned in more rigorous courses in math, science, social studies, and English. In addition, the Advanced Diploma has a minimum GPA requirement. See Canyons School District Diploma Chart for more information.

4. **Honors Diploma:** To earn the Honors Diploma, students must complete the Advanced Diploma’s requirements and an increased minimum GPA, plus meet College Readiness Benchmark Scores on the ACT college-entrance exam. Canyons School District has set aside funding for all students to take the ACT in 11th grade. School counselors and teachers utilize this ACT assessment information as they partner with parents and students to tailor plans for the future. See Canyons School District Diploma Chart for more information.
Alternative Ways to Earn Credit

A number of alternative study programs are available for students to earn credit. Before registering for any alternative class, a student must contact a counselor to make certain the class will provide the credit needed. Students must be 16 years of age or older by the time of enrollment and in grades 11 or 12 are eligible for alternative high school options. Contact a high school administrator or counselor for enrollment information.

Credit toward high school graduation may be earned through an accredited online program, Canyons Virtual High School, alternative high school options, night school, summer school, concurrent enrollment, and other special programs, including teen parents and home and hospital. Credit may also be earned through accredited private schools and university/college and home study.

Students may earn credits at a college or university. A 3 or 4-hour semester class at a college is equal to .5 credits for high school. A 5 or more hour semester class at a college is equal to 1.0 credit for high school. Canyons School District secondary schools will accept credit and grades awarded to a student by any public or private secondary school that is accredited or recognized by the Utah State Office of Education, AdvancED, the Northwest Association of Accredited Schools or associated as a member of the International Council of School Accreditation Commissions. (State Board Rule B277-705-3)

Acceleration Options

Canyons School District offers a variety of options in conjunction with the Utah State Office of Education and/or colleges and universities for students to accelerate their high school program and earn college credit. Check with the school-counseling department for information on Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, Concurrent Enrollment, Early Enrollment/Early Admissions, and Early Graduation.

Classroom Fees

Students are expected to furnish their own classroom supplies, including pens, pencils, paper, gym clothing, and towels. Students may be expected to furnish some materials for classes in art, career and technical education, math, etc. These materials become the property of the students. For fee waiver information, please contact your local school.

Residency Requirements

Eligible students will receive a graduation diploma only from the high school at which they have been enrolled during the entire first or second semester of their senior year. At Brighton, the standard is two trimesters of residency. A student may petition the high school principal for a waiver of this requirement; however, only in limited circumstances may a waiver be granted.