STEM SCHOOL
HIGHLANDS RANCH

2024-2025

HS Course Registration Process

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Review the Academic Planning Guide for recommendations on pathways for Core courses, STEM courses, Fine Arts courses and Electives.

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STEM Graduation Requirements for class of 2021 and Beyond		
Department	**Standard Diploma**	**STEM Scholar**
English **Most colleges require 4 years of english, not just 4 credits**	4	4
Mathematics - Algebra II is required for graduation **Most colleges require 4 years of math, not just 4 credits**	4	4
Social Studies - US Govt is required for graduation - Either US History, AP European History and/or AP World History is required for graduation	3.5	3.5
Science	3	3
World Language (must be the same language)	2	2
STEM Electives	3	7
Fine Arts	1	1
PE/Health	1	1
General Electives	2.5	4.5
TOTAL	**24**	**30**

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Class of 2025-2027

Other Graduation Requirements	Standard Diploma	STEM Scholar
Community Service Requirements	20 Hours	100 Hours
ICAP Completion	required	required
AP/CE Courses	n/a	At least two courses
GPA Requirement	n/a	3.5 or Higher
Demonstration of Competency on Exam (see explanation and exam list below)	required	required

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Class of 2028 and beyond

Standard Diploma requirements from above plus the following.

Other Graduation Requirements	Standard Diploma	STEM Scholar
Community Service Requirements	20 Hours	100 Hours
ICAP Completion	required	required
AP/CE Courses	n/a	At least 8 courses
GPA Requirement	n/a	3.75 or Higher
Demonstration of Competency on Exam (see explanation and exam list below)	required	required

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Advanced Placement (AP) or Concurrent Enrollment (CE)

AP Courses are developed from a national curriculum. College credit is widely accepted at colleges nationwide, when a student scores a 3 or above on the AP exam at the end of the course.

CE Course college credit is accepted at all Colorado collegiate institutions, however they may or may not be accepted at colleges outside of the state of Colorado.

**Depending on school and major, some credit may not transfer to exactly the same course. For example, an AP or CE Statistics course could be granted as an elective credit rather than a math credit at the collegiate level.

Career Discovery

Concurrent Enrollment

- Available to 9th-12th graders
- More ACC courses at STEM than any other school in the district
- Partnership with ACC and other colleges/ universities
- Students can earn AA/ AS degree while in high school.

P-Tech

- Technical pathway
- Students earn an AAS in a technical field.
- Students earn industry certifications
- Can start in 9th grade and continues through year 14

I-LOP

- Internship in field of interest for course credit.
- Posted on transcript

Concurrent Enrollment

- Allows students to try college level courses for credit.
- Credit transfer to Colleges in Colorado

Colorado College Pathways

- These are transfer pathways that transfer to Colorado Colleges
  - Biology Transfer Program
  - Computer Science- CSU, CU or Mines transfer
  - Aerospace- CU transfer
  - Biomedical Engineering- CU transfer

Concurrent Enrollment
What Sets Us Apart

- More ACC (and AP) courses taught at STEM than any other school in the district.
- We do not gate keep meaning we allow 9th and 10th graders to take ACC courses.
- STEM pays for concurrent enrollment tuition fees so there is little to no cost for families to take college courses.
- We have identified pathways for students to earn AA/ AS degrees that transfer to Colorado Colleges.

P-Tech

- Pathways in Technology Early College High school (P-TECH) brings together the best elements of high school, college and the professional world.
- Students can begin as early as 9th grade and go through 13th or 14th grade (i.e. high school and two equivalent years of college) to earn an Associate of Applied Science degree.
- P-TECH provides college education, relevant workplace skills and *No tuition cost* to students and families as long as students have a passing grade.

P-Tech Pathways

Robotics and Automation

- Integration of mechanical, electrical, control, automation, robotics, computer system
- Internship with industry partners
- Students earn AAS and industry certifications

Cybersecurity

- Access the security needs of computer and network systems
- Internship with industry partners
- Students earn AAS and industry certifications

****New- Game Design**

- 3D animation and video game design
- Internship with industry partners
- Students earn AAS and industry certifications

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Concurrent Enrollment Policy

- Be in 9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th grade
- Be a student of good standing in previous coursework and show a history of strong standardized test scores. This includes a GPA of 3.0 for the previous 2 semesters.
- Have a social maturity to excel in a college environment.
- Must follow the attendance policy at STEM School Highlands Ranch.
- Receive a minimum score on the ACT, SAT, or Accuplacer as needed.
- Complete all portions of the CE application and submit the completed application to the Career Discovery Coordinator by the published deadlines.
- Meet with the Career Discovery Coordinator once each year to review eligibility for CE.
- Guaranteed transfer course recommended.
- Be enrolled in the College Opportunity Fund.

Offsite Concurrent Enrollment/STEM Class Track Options

If a student is enrolled in 12+ credit hours off-campus, they will not need to take any on-site classes at STEM to remain full-time.

A student taking less than 12 credit hours off-site, must be enrolled in the equivalent of at least six classes at STEM to remain a full-time STEM student.

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CE Course - Credit Equivalent

Class of 2025-2027

1 college credit	(0.5 credits) 1 semester of high school credit
2-3 college credits	(1 credit) 2 semesters of high school credit
4 college credits	(1.5 credits) 3 semesters of high school credit
5 college credits	(2 credits) 4 semesters of high school credit

*Students who earn a D will only receive 0.5 credits (1 semester) of high school credit regardless of the number of college credits.

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AP Courses

****Students should talk to their core course teachers prior to registering for an AP Course to obtain feedback on course readiness.****

Advantages of Taking AP Course Work

- AP courses show colleges that you are able to complete the most rigorous courses your high school offers.
- Collegiate institutions recognize that applicants with AP experience are better prepared for the demands of college courses.
- Most colleges and universities will offer college credit and/or advanced placement to students earning a high enough score on an AP exam.
- AP students may be eligible for honors and other special programs in college.

More information regarding the AP program can be obtained from any AP teacher, your counselor, and the AP website.

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A Word About Accelerating to AP & CE Courses

Students wishing to move from an on-grade level course to an AP or CE course are welcome to do so. At STEM we do not want to keep students out of pursuing rigorous and challenging courses. We do want to make sure that students are set up for success in these courses.

AP and CE classes are considered college level courses. If a student has not completed all high school coursework in a given subject area, they will need to spend time during the year supplementing their content knowledge and skills to remain at a college level.

Additionally, the University of Colorado suggests that students taking a 3 credit hour class should expect to spend an average of 1-2 hour per week preparing for their courses, and an additional 50 minutes per class per week in homework.

In order to take full advantage of the credits and opportunity ensure that you have the prerequisite knowledge/skills and time to be successful.

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Course Selection Process

Course Selection Process for all grade levels:

- Students and Parents should review the course selection form
- Students should select classes based on the current classes in which they are currently enrolled, their performance in current classes, their projected HS plan, their projected college aspirations, and discussion with the HS Counselor
- Be sure to select alternate courses. Many of our high level courses may be offered at the same time, so it's important to have 2nd, 3rd and 4th choices
- Students will return to school with the form (or will be given a new form) on January 30, at which time the counseling team will present the course selection process
- Students will make course selections and have them signed off by a HS Counselor prior to entering selections into Infinite Campus
- Selections of courses is not a guarantee of placement. The Counseling Team will do our best to accommodate requests, based on availability and breadth of selections

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Course Selection Process

Each Grade Level has their own Registration Form

9th Grade

10th Grade

11th Grade

12th Grade

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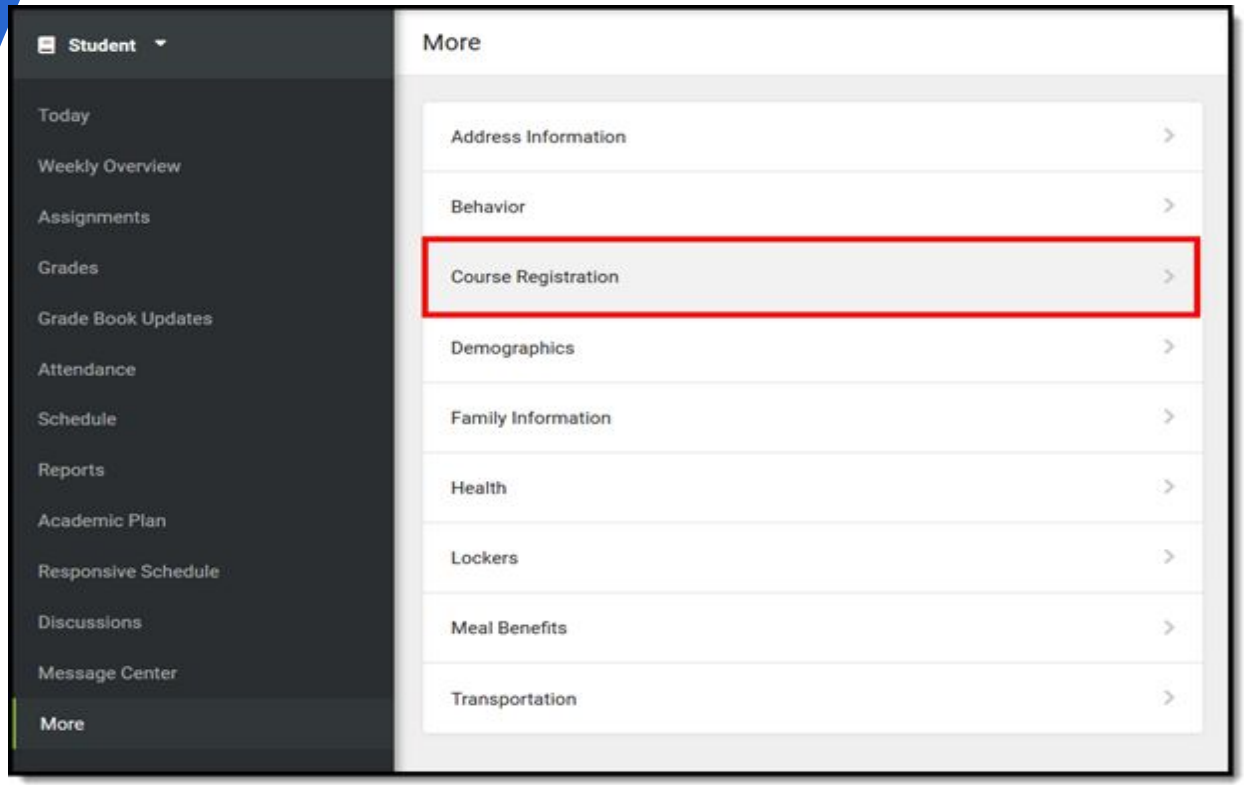
Course Registration



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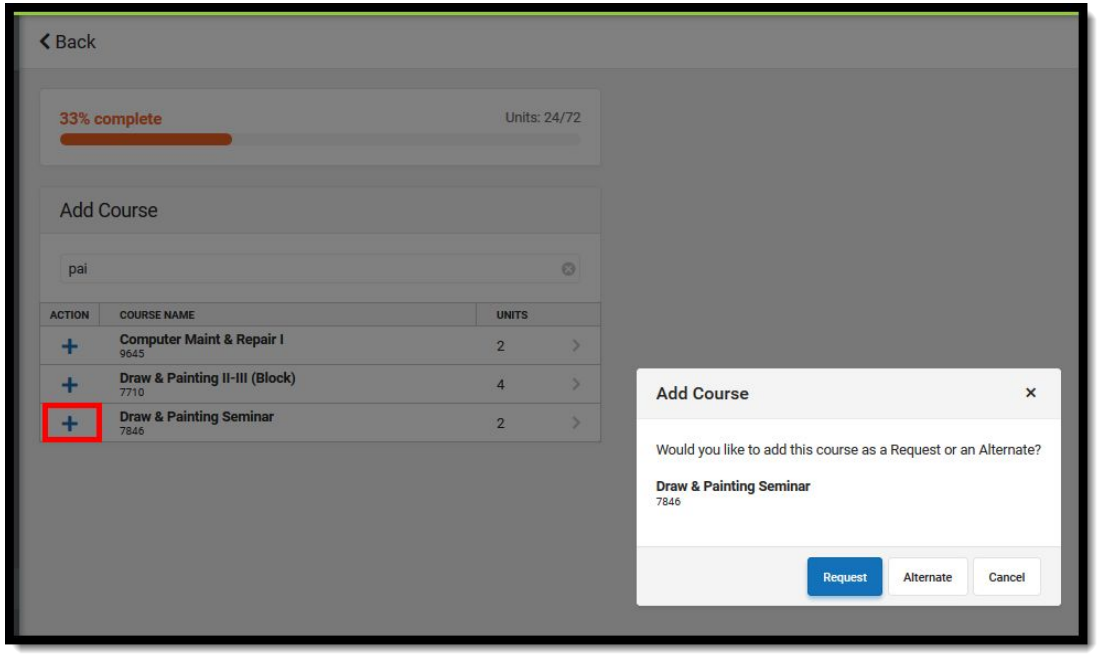
Course Registration



***HS vs. MS - be sure to choose STEMHS1234AlgI or STEMMS1234AlgI**

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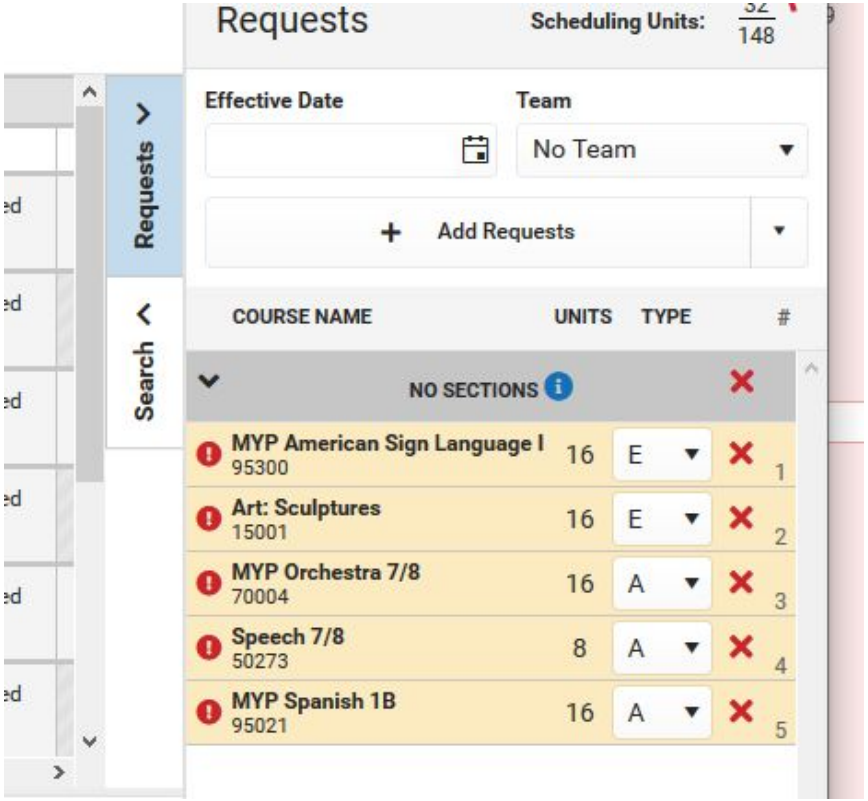
Course Registration - Alternates



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Course Registration

Course Selection Reminders

- Students register for 8 classes each semester (16 units)
- Ex.- select semester 1 and semester 2 (that's two units)
- 8 classes include your core courses and electives for each semester
- Core Courses include - English, Math, Science, Social Studies

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Important HS Dates

January 31st - HS Course Selection Assembly

February 1-7 - HS Course Selection Form is Open for Course Selection

February 14 - HS Students Input Course Selections into Infinite Campus

*Students new to STEM will not register for their own course using Infinite Campus. They will submit their courses via the Google form and will be registered by the Counseling Office.

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Questions? Ask our Counseling Team!

A-L - Colene Birchfield - HS Counselor

colene.birchfield@stemk12.org

M-Z - Madison Grebe - HS Counselor

madison.grebe@stemk12.org

College Counselor

kelli.myrick@stemk12.org

CE/PTECH/Internships - Nicole Ryan

nicole.ryan@stemk12.org