

# Greater Albany SD 8J Board Policy

Code: **IKF**  
 Adopted: 1/13/92, 5/12/97  
 Revised/Readopted: 3/12/01, 9/27/04, 5/8/06,  
 10/27/08, 12/14/09  
 Orig. Code(s): BP 6600B, BP 6600

## Graduation Requirements

The Board seeks to serve the academic, social, emotional, physical, and aesthetic needs of all students. To serve these needs, the Board has established standards for graduation which meet or exceed state standards. Students and parents, in consultation with school staff, may elect to meet the district credit requirements through traditional or individual graduation plans.

1. Attendance - Attendance through Grade 12 is required except for students who apply for early graduation as outlined in Board policy IKFA, Early Graduation.
2. Standard Diploma Requirements:

Subject Areas*	Graduating Between July 1, 2009 & June 30, 2011 Class of 2010 & 2011	Graduating Between July 1, 2011 & June 30, 2013  (Class of 2012 & 2013)	Graduating After July 1, 2013  (Class of 2014)
English language Arts	4	4	4
Mathematics	3	3	3 Credits at Algebra 1 & above
Science	2	3-Scientific Inquiry Format & Lab Experiences *◆	3-Scientific Inquiry Format & Lab Experiences *◆
Social Sciences	3	3	3
Physical Education	1	1	1
Health	1	1	1
Second Language The Arts Career & Technical Ed.	1	3	3
Electives	9	6	6
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>

\*Applied & Integrated Courses aligned to standards may meet credit requirements.

◆ Lab experiences may take place outside of the classroom, such as field-based investigations.

In addition, students must:

- a. Develop an Education Plan and build an Education Profile;
- b. Demonstrate Extended Application through a collection of evidence;
- c. Participate in career-related learning experiences; and

- d. Demonstrate the Career-Related Learning Standards. (These become embedded in Essential Skills effective July 1, 2011.)
3. In addition to meeting all of the standard diploma requirements listed above, an Honors Diploma will be awarded to students who meet the following additional Honors Diploma requirements:
- a. English: at least one credit in an advanced placement or college-prep level course;
  - b. Mathematics: at least one credit at or above Algebra 2;
  - c. An advanced placement course or the fourth year of a second language;
  - d. Second Language: at least two credits;
  - e. Satisfactory completion of a college application, as part of the Personal Education Plan; and
  - f. Cumulative Grade Point Average of at least 3.5, effective with the Class of 2012. The minimum Cumulative Grade Point Average for students graduating in 2010 and 2011 is 3.0
4. A modified diploma will be awarded to students who have met specific requirements established by the State Board of Education and have demonstrated an inability to meet the full set of academic standards even with reasonable modifications and accommodations. To be eligible for a modified diploma a student must have a documented history of an inability to maintain grade level achievement due to significant learning and instructional barriers or a documented history of a medical condition that creates a barrier to achievement. The school team, including the parent, must make this decision.
5. In addition to fulfilling the credit requirements for either a standard diploma, Honors Diploma or modified diploma, students graduating after July 1, 2011, must also demonstrate proficiency in the Essential Skills, as described in Administrative Regulation IKF-AR(1), *Graduation Requirements*.<sup>1</sup>
6. A student may satisfy graduation requirements in fewer than four years. The district will award a diploma to a student fulfilling graduation requirements in fewer than four years upon the student's request and, if required, upon the consent of the student's parent or guardian.
7. A student who is not able to meet the requirements of a standard, Honors, or modified diploma, may be eligible for an extended diploma if he or she has demonstrated the inability to meet the full set of academic content standards for a high school diploma with reasonable modifications and accommodations. The student must meet all eligibility requirements for the extended diploma.
8. An alternative certificate (Certificate of Completion) will be awarded to a student who does not satisfy the requirements for a standard diploma, Honors diploma, modified diploma or extended diploma if the student meets minimum credit requirements established by the district. An alternative certificate will be awarded based on an individual student's needs and achievement. A student who receives a modified diploma, extended diploma or an alternative certificate will have the option of participating in a high school graduation ceremony with the class of the student.

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<sup>1</sup>Pursuant to ORS 339.115 and 339.505, school districts and public charter schools shall provide any eligible student with instruction in and multiple assessment opportunities to demonstrate proficiency in Essential Skills for the purpose of achieving the standard diploma, honors diploma, or the modified diploma.

9. The district will award to students with disabilities a document certifying successful completion of program requirements. No document issued to students with disabilities educated in full or in part in a special education program shall indicate that the document is issued by such a program. When a student who has an individualized education program ("IEP") completes high school, the district will give the student an individualized summary of performance.
10. Eligible students with disabilities are entitled to a Free Appropriate Public Education ("FAPE") until the age of 21, even if they have earned a modified diploma, extended diploma, alternative certificate or a General Education Development (GED) document.
11. Students and their parents will be notified of graduation and diploma requirements.
12. The district will issue a high school diploma, upon request, to a person who served in the Armed Forces<sup>2</sup>, as specified in Oregon law, if the person was discharged or released under honorable conditions and has received either a General Educational Development, a post-secondary degree or has received a minimum score on the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery.
13. Foreign exchange students may follow the requirements for an honorary diploma.
14. Requirements for each diploma or certificate are listed in the administrative regulation IKF-AR(1).

### **Individual Graduation Plan**

Under the provisions of OAR 581-022-1910 the Board may approve and grant credit to students for alternatives to a state required program or learning activity to accommodate a student's disabilities or religious beliefs. Using that authority, the Board may approve Individual Graduation Plans tailored to the needs of individual students as they prepare for a vocation or post-secondary education.

The Individual Graduation Plan permits high school students to substitute courses in place of specific graduation requirements in order to better accommodate a student's disability or religious beliefs.

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<sup>2</sup>The policy applies to any person who:

1. Served in the Armed Forces of the U.S. at any time during:
  - a. World War I;
  - b. World War II;
  - c. The Korean Conflict; or
  - d. The Vietnam War;
2. Served in the Armed Forces of the U.S. and was physically present in:
  - a. Operation Urgent Fury (Grenada);
  - b. Operation Just Cause (Panama);
  - c. Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm (Persian Gulf War);
  - d. Operation Restore Hope (Somalia);
  - e. Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan); or
  - f. Operation Iraqi Freedom (Iraq);
3. Served in the Armed Forces of the U.S. in an area designated as a combat zone by the President of the U.S.

Students, together with their parent or guardian<sup>3</sup>, and approved high school staff, may design a four-year graduation plan which includes at least 24 credits, reflects the student's career and educational goals, and is compatible with the educational goals and objectives of the district. The procedures, forms and additional information regarding Individual Graduation Plans will be available in each high school's counseling center.

Individual Graduation Plans must be evaluated and approved by the assistant superintendent before being submitted to the Board for final approval. If approved by the Board, the plan becomes the official set of graduation requirements for that student. All requirements set forth in the plan must be met before the student may graduate.

END OF POLICY

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**Legal Reference(s):**

[ORS 329.095](#)

[ORS 329.451](#)

[ORS 332.107](#)

[ORS 332.114](#)

[ORS 339.115](#)

[ORS 343.295](#)

[OAR 581-021-0071](#)

[OAR 581-022-0615](#)

[OAR 581-022-1130](#)

[OAR 581-022-1210](#)

[OAR 581-022-1350](#)

HB 2061 (2009)

HB 2507 (2009)

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<sup>3</sup>As used in this document, the term parent includes legal guardian or person in a parental relationship. The status and duties of a legal guardian are defined in ORS 125.005 (4) and 125.300 - 125.325. The determination of whether an individual is acting in a parental relationship, for purposes of determining residency, depends on the evaluation of the factors listed in ORS 419B.373. The determination for other purposes depends on evaluation of those factors and a power of attorney executed pursuant to ORS 109.056. For special education students, parent also includes a surrogate parent, an adult student to whom rights have transferred and foster parent as defined in OAR 581-015-0005 (18).