

Expanded Options Program - State Mandate

The Board is committed to providing additional options to District students enrolled in grades 11 and 12 to continue or complete their education, to earn concurrent high school and college credits and to gain early entry to post-secondary education. The district's Expanded Options Program will comply with all requirements of Oregon Law. If the District has not been granted a waiver the District will:

Eligible Student(s)

Eligible Student(s) may apply to take a course(s) at an eligible post-secondary institution (a post secondary institution that the district has a contract with) through the Expanded Options Program. Participation is limited to eligible programs. A student is eligible for the Expanded Options Program if he/she: (1) is 16 years years or older at the time of enrollment in a course under the Expanded Options Program; (2) is in grade 11 or 12 or has not yet completed the required credits for grade 11 or 12, but the district has allowed the student to participate in the program; (3) has developed an educational learning plan; and (4) has not successfully completed the requirements for a high school diploma. A student who has graduated from high school may not participate. While selection for participation in the Expanded Options Program is on a first come-first served basis; preference is extended to at-risk students.

Student Notification

Prior to February 15 of each year, the district shall notify all high school students and the students' parent or guardian of the Expanded Options Program for the following school year. The district will notify a transfer high school student or a returning dropout of the Expanded Options Program if the student enrolls after the district has issued the February 15 notice. The district will notify a high school student who has officially expressed an intent to participate in the Expanded Options Program, and the student's parent or guardian, of the student's eligibility status within 20 business days of the expression of intent. The notice to include:

1. Financial arrangements for tuition, textbook(s), fees, equipment and materials;
2. Within district available transportation, if any;
3. The effect of enrolling in the Expanded Options Program on the student's ability to complete high school graduation requirements;
4. The consequences of failing to or not completing a post-secondary course of study; and
5. The requirement that participation in the Expanded Options Program is contingent on acceptance by an eligible post-secondary institution.

6. District time lines affecting student eligibility and duplicate course determinations;

The district has a priority of providing information about the Expanded Options Program to high school students who have dropped out of school. The High School shall establish a process to identify and provide students that have dropped out information about the Expanded Options Program. Students that have dropped out shall receive information about the Expanded Options Program at their parent's or guardian's last know address.

Enrollment Process

Prior to May 15 of each year, a student who is interested in participating in the Expanded Options Program shall notify the High School Counselor of his/her intent to enroll in a post-secondary course(s) during the following school year. A high school transfer student or returning dropout has 20 business days from the date of enrollment to indicate interest.

The counselor or principal shall review with the student and his/her parent or guardian the student's current status toward meeting all state and district graduation requirements and the applicability of the proposed post-secondary course(s) to the remaining graduation requirements.

A student who intends to participate in the Expanded Options Program shall develop an educational learning plan in cooperation with an advisory support team. An advisory support team to include the student, his/her parent or guardian, the high school's counselor the high school Principal or Dean-of-Students. The educational learning plan may include:

1. The student's short-term and long-term learning goals and proposed activities; and
2. The relationship of the post-secondary course(s) proposed under the Expanded Options Program and the student's learning goals.

A student who enrolls in the Expanded Options Program may not enroll in a post-secondary course(s) for more than the equivalent of two academic years. A student who first enrolls in the Expanded Options Program in grade 12 may not enroll in a post-secondary course(s) for more than the equivalent of one academic year. If a student first enrolls in a post-secondary course in the middle of the school year the time of participation shall be reduced proportionately. If a student is enrolled in a year-round program and begins each grade in the summer session, summer sessions are counted against the time of participation.

Should an eligible student enroll in a pre-approved eligible post-secondary program at an eligible post-secondary institution and fail the course or not complete course requirements he/she shall not be eligible for further Expanded Options Programs. If a student is dismissed from an eligible post-secondary program at an eligible post-secondary institution then the student shall not be eligible for further Expanded Options Programs.

Duplicate Courses

The district will establish a process to determine duplicate course designations. The district will notify any eligible student and the student's parent or guardian of any course the student wishes to take that the district determines is a duplicate course, within 20 business days after the student has submitted a list of intended courses.

A student may appeal a duplicate course determination to the Board based on evidence of the scope of the course. The scope of the course refers to the depth and breadth of course content as evidenced through a planned course statement, including content outlines, applicable state content standards, course goals and student outcomes. The Board's designee will issue a decision on the appeal within 30 business days of receipt of the appeal. If the appeal is denied by the Board, the student may appeal the district's determination to the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Post Secondary Institution Credit

Prior to beginning a post-secondary course, the district shall notify the student of the number and type of credits that the student will be granted upon successful completion of the course. The district may grant .25 high school credit for eligible post-secondary three credit courses, or .0833 for each eligible post-secondary credit earned in each one-credit or two credit course successfully completed. If there is a dispute between the district and student regarding the number or type of credits the district will grant a student for a particular course, the student may appeal the district's decision using the district's appeal process adopted by the Board prior to the student enrolling in the eligible course.

Credits granted to a student shall be counted toward high school graduation requirements and toward subject area requirements of the state and the district. Evidence of successful completion of each course and credits granted shall be included in the student's education record. A student shall provide the district with an official transcript of the student's grade in each course taken for credit under the Expanded Options Program. The student's high school education record shall indicate that the credits were earned at a post-secondary institution.

Financial Agreement

The district shall negotiate in good faith a financial agreement with the eligible post-secondary institution for the direct payment of actual instructional costs associated with a student's enrollment, including tuition and fees and the costs of textbooks, equipment and materials.

Each fiscal year the district shall budget for student participation in the Extend Options Program at a minimum of 50 percent of the district's general purpose grant per extended ADMw per student participation to cover above qualifying expenditures but not to exceed the district's cap. The law calls for high schools with 1,000 students budgeting to cover eligible costs associated with 330 credit hours and that schools with less enrollment to allow for proportional credit hours by dividing enrollment by 1,000 students.

Waiver Request

The district may request a waiver from the Superintendent of Public Instruction if:

1. Compliance would adversely impact the finances of the school district; or
2. The district offers dual credit technical preparation programs, such as two-plus-two, advanced placement, or International Baccalaureate programs.

Student Eligible Associated Post Secondary Program Enrollment Costs

Approved eligible district high school students participating in the Extended Options Program who have been accepted and enrolled by the eligible post-secondary school will have their approved course textbook(s), fees, required equipment and materials paid directly to the eligible post-secondary school. All textbooks, fees, equipment and materials provided to a student and paid by the district are the property of the district.

Transportation Services

The district may provide transportation serve to eligible students who attend eligible post-secondary programs within district boundaries.

Special Education Services

The district shall be responsible for providing special education services should the eligible student participating in the Expanded Options Program require special education and/or related IDEA/IEP services. If a eligible post-secondary institution be able to offer qualified special education and/or related services to an Expanded Options Program participant, the post-secondary institution shall enter into a written contract with the district. At a minimum, the contract to include:

1. Allowance for the student to remain in the program during the pendency of special education due process hearing unless the parent or guardian and district agree otherwise;
2. Immediate notification to the district if the institution suspects that a student participating in the program may have a disability and requires special education related services.
3. Immediate notification to the district if the student engaged in conduct that may lead to suspension or expulsion; and
4. Immediate notification to the district of any complaint made by the student's parent(s) or guardian regarding the student's participation in the program at the institution.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 329.035](#)
[ORS 329.485](#)

[ORS 332.072](#)
[ORS 336.615 - 336.665](#)
[ORS Chapter 340](#)

[OAR 581-022-1360 to -1370](#)
SB 23 (2007)