

# Grants Pass School District 7

Code: **IKF**

Adopted: 6/14/88

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5/08/12; 7/12/11; 5/24/11;  
1/14/14; 3/08/16; 1/23/18

Orig. Code(s): IKF

## Graduation Requirements

The Board will establish graduation requirements for the awarding of a high school diploma, modified diploma, extended diploma and alternative certificate which meet or exceed state standards.

If the district requires diploma requirements beyond the state requirements, the district shall grant a waiver for those requirements to any student who, at any time from grade 9 to 12, was:

1. A foster child<sup>1</sup>;
2. Homeless;
3. A runaway;
4. A child in a military family covered by the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children;
5. A child of a migrant worker; or
6. Enrolled in the Youth Corrections Education Program or the Juvenile Detention Education Program.

For any student identified above, the district shall accept any credits earned by the student in another district or public charter school, applying those credits toward the state requirements for a diploma if the credits satisfied those requirements in that district or public charter school<sup>2</sup>.

In addition to credit requirements, as outlined in OAR 581-022-2000 and OAR 581-022-2010, to earn a diploma or a modified diploma, a student must:

1. Demonstrate proficiency in the essential learning skills (detailed in administrative regulation IKF-AR - Graduation Requirements);
2. Develop an education plan and build an education profile;
3. Demonstrate extended application through a collection of evidence; and

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<sup>1</sup>As defined in ORS 30.297.

<sup>2</sup>For a diploma awarded on or after January 1, 2018.

4. Participate in career-related learning experiences.

A student may satisfy graduation requirements in less than 4 years. The district will award a diploma to a student fulfilling graduation requirements in less than 4 years if consent is received by the student's parent or guardian or by the student if they are 18 years of age or older or emancipated.

The district shall offer students credit options provided the method of obtaining such credits is described in the student's personal education plan and the credit is earned by meeting the requirements described in OAR 581-022-2025.

### **Regular Diploma**

The requirements for a diploma are detailed in administrative regulation IKF-AR - Graduation Requirements.

### **Modified Diploma**

A modified diploma will be awarded only to students who have met specific requirements adopted 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.

Having met the eligibility requirement, a modified diploma shall be awarded to students, who while in grades 9 through completion of high school, complete 24 credits which shall include:

1. Three credits in English;
2. Two credits in math;
3. Two credits in science;
4. Two credits in social science;
5. One credit in health education;
6. One credit in physical education;
7. One credit in CTE, the arts or a world language.

In addition to credit requirements as outlined in OAR 581-022-2010, a student must:

1. Develop an education plan and build an education profile;
2. Demonstrate extended application through a collection of evidence.

A student must also demonstrate proficiency in the Essential Skills with reasonable modifications and accommodations.

Districts may make modifications to assessments of students who seek a modified diploma when the following conditions are met:

1. For a student on an individualized education program (IEP), modifications to work samples must be consistent with the requirements established in the IEP. Modifications are changes to the achievement level, construct, or measured outcome of an assessment. This means that IEP or school teams responsible for approving modifications for a student's assessment may adjust the administration of the assessment and/or the assessment achievement standard.
2. For a student not on an IEP, any modifications to work samples must have been provided to the student during their instruction in the content area to be assessed; and in the year in which the student is being assessed and modifications must be approved by the school team that is responsible for monitoring the student's progress toward a modified diploma.
3. Students not on an IEP or 504 Plan may not receive a modified OAKS assessment.

A student's school team shall decide that a student should work toward a modified diploma no earlier than the end of grade 6 and no later than two years before a student's anticipated exit from high school. A student's school team may decide to revise a modified diploma decision.

A student's school team may decide that a student who was not previously working towards a modified diploma should work towards one when the student is less than two years from anticipated exit from high school if the documented history has changed.

### **Extended Diploma**

An extended diploma will be awarded only to students who have demonstrated the inability to meet the full set of academic content standards adopted by the State Board of Education for a diploma or a modified diploma while receiving modifications and accommodations. To be eligible for an extended diploma, a student must:

1. While in grade 9 through completion of high school, complete 12 credits, which may not include more than 6 credits in a self-contained special education classroom and will include:
  - a. Two credits in math;
  - b. Two credits in English;
  - c. Two credits of science;
  - d. Three credits of history, geography, economics or civics;
  - e. One credit of health;
  - f. One credit of physical education;
  - g. One credit in the arts or a world language.
2. Have a documented history of:

- a. An inability to maintain grade level achievement due to significant learning and instructional barriers;
- b. A medical condition that creates a barrier to achievement; or
- c. A change in the student's ability to participate in grade level activities as a result of a serious illness or injury that occurred after grade eight.

Beginning in grade five or after a documented history to qualify for an extended diploma has been established, the district shall annually provide to the parents or guardians of the student, information about the availability and requirements of a modified diploma, an extended diploma and an alternative certificate.

### **Alternative Certificate**

An alternative certificate will be awarded to students who do not satisfy the requirements for a diploma or modified diploma or extended diploma if the student meets minimum credit requirements established by the district. Alternative certificates will be awarded based on individual student's needs and achievement.

### **Other District Responsibilities**

A student who receives a modified diploma, extended diploma or alternative certificate will have the option of participating in a high school graduation ceremony with the student's class.

The district will ensure that students have onsite access to the appropriate resources to achieve a diploma, a modified diploma, an extended diploma or an alternative certificate at each high school. The district will provide age-appropriate and developmentally appropriate literacy instruction to all students until graduation.

The district may not deny a student, who has the documented history of an inability to maintain grade level achievement due to significant learning and instructional barriers, or of a medical condition that creates a barrier to achievements, the opportunity to pursue a diploma with more stringent requirements than a modified diploma or an extended diploma for the sole reason the student has the documented history.

The district may award a modified diploma or an extended diploma to a student only upon the written consent of the student's parent or guardian. The district shall receive the written consent during the school year in which the modified diploma or the extended diploma is awarded. A student who is emancipated or has reached the age of 18 at the time the modified diploma or extended diploma is awarded may sign the consent.

A student shall have the opportunity to satisfy the requirements for a modified diploma, an extended diploma or an alternative certificate in either 4 years after starting the ninth grade, or until the student reaches the age of 21, if the student is entitled to a public education until the age of 21 under state or federal law.

A student may satisfy the requirements for a modified diploma, an extended diploma or an alternative certificate in less than four years but not less than three years. In order to satisfy the requirements for a modified diploma, an extended diploma or an alternative certificate in less than four years, the student's parent or guardian or a student who is emancipated or has reached the age of 18 must provide written consent which clearly states the parent, guardian or student is waiving the fourth year and/or years until the

student reaches the age of 21. A copy of the consent will be forwarded to the district superintendent who will annually report to the Superintendent of Public Instruction the number of such consents.

A student who receives an extended diploma or an alternative certificate shall have access to individually designed instructional hours, hours of transition services and hours of other services that equals at least the total number of instructional hours that are required to be provided to students who are attending a public high school, unless as determined by the IEP team.

A student who qualifies to receive a modified diploma but has not yet been awarded the modified diploma shall continue to have access to individually designed instructional hours, hours of transition services and hours of other services that are designed to meet the unique needs of the student.<sup>3</sup>

Eligible students with disabilities are entitled to a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) until the age of 21, even if they have earned a modified diploma, an extended diploma, an alternative certificate or completion or a General Education Development document. The continuance of services for students with disabilities for a modified diploma, extended diploma or alternative certificate is contingent on the IEP team determining the student's continued eligibility and special education services are needed.

Students and their parents will be notified by grade five of graduation and diploma requirements.

The district will issue a high school diploma, upon request and pursuant to Oregon law (ORS 332.114), to a person or a representative of a deceased person who served in the U.S. Armed Forces<sup>4</sup>, and the person was discharged or released under honorable conditions.

The district may not deny a diploma to a student who has opted out of statewide assessments if the student is able to satisfy all other requirements for the diploma. Students who opt-out will need to meet the Essential Skills graduation requirement using another approved assessment option. Students may opt out of the Smarter Balanced or alternate Oregon Extended Assessment by completing the Oregon Department of Education's Opt-out Form and submitting the form to the district.

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<sup>3</sup>A student who received a modified diploma prior to July 1, 2018, shall continue to have access to instructional hours, hours of transition services and hours of other services that are designed to meet the unique needs of the student.

<sup>4</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.

The district shall establish conduct and discipline consequences for student-initiated test impropriety. "Student-initiated test impropriety" means student conduct that is inconsistent with the *Test Administration Manual* or accompanying guidance; or results in a score that is invalid.

END OF POLICY

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**Legal Reference(s):**

[ORS 329.095](#)

[ORS 343.295](#)

[OAR 581-022-2020](#)

[ORS 329.451](#)

[OAR 581-022-2025](#)

[ORS 329.479](#)

[OAR 581-022-1910](#)

[OAR 581-022-2030](#)

[ORS 332.107](#)

[OAR 581-022-2000](#)

[OAR 581-022-2115](#)

[ORS 332.114](#)

[OAR 581-022-2010](#)

[OAR 581-022-2120](#)

[ORS 339.115](#)

[OAR 581-022-2015](#)

[OAR 581-022-2505](#)

[ORS 339.505](#)

*Test Administration Manual*, published by the OREGON DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (FEBRUARY 4, 2016).

*Essential Skills and Local Performance Assessment Manual*, published by the OREGON DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (MARCH 17, 2016).

**Cross Reference(s):**

IKFA - Early Graduation