

Early Graduation

1. The parents and student must request early graduation, in writing, prior to the expected date of graduation. Normally such a request will be one semester in advance.
2. The application for early graduation must demonstrate an educational or vocational purpose to be achieved by early graduation.
3. The parents, student and other agency (college or employer) must agree to the plan.
4. The parents, student and other agency (college or employer) must sign the application for early graduation.
5. The administrator must approve the early graduation.

Procedures

“Early graduation” means the completion of all requirements for graduation in less than 12 years.

Authorization

Minimum State Standards 22-125

“Twelve school years of planned educational experience shall be required, except as local district school boards adopt policies providing for early or delayed completion of all state and local programs, credit, and performance requirements. Local district school boards may, and are encouraged to, adopt policies allowing for individual program completion in more or less than twelve school years. In any waiver of the attendance requirement, consideration shall be given to the age and maturity of the student, access to alternative learning experiences, performance levels, the desires of the parents or guardians, and guidelines of the State Board of Education.”

Rationale

Increasingly diverse learning opportunities for high school students now make it possible for some students to complete graduation requirements in less than twelve years. Conversely, more than twelve years of school experience may be desirable for other students.

Both educational and personal considerations suggest that most students should remain in public schools for twelve years while completing requirements for graduation. The transition to post high school experiences generally requires skills, academic and emotional maturity, self-discipline and responsibility beyond that which students ordinarily possess at the end of grade eleven. Enrichment experiences and

off-campus experiences should be available within the high school program, particularly during the senior year, to compliment school course work, fulfill graduation requirements, and enhance the student's growth in his/her career choice. Early and delayed graduation are, therefore, appropriate and desirable for a limited number of students.

Procedures and Guidelines

Early graduation from Jefferson High School is possible provided that:

1. The student's parent or legal guardian (N/A age 18 and over) file a written request with the principal.
2. A diagnostic assessment of the student's past achievements and career goals indicate an early exit is in their best interest.
3. There is a clearly evident educational or vocational purpose to be served or the student is over the age of compulsory attendance.
4. Students should make requests and complete planning one year prior to the requested graduation date, except that students who transfer to Jefferson High School after first semester of their junior year will be handled on an individual basis.
5. The parents, student, administrator and any other agency involved (college, employer, trade school) are in agreement with the plan.

Early Graduation Form

4 Copies: [1] Administrative [2] Cumulative File [3] Other Agency [4] Parents and/or Student

Please **print**

Legal name _____ Age _____ Date _____

Address _____ Home phone _____

Parents name _____ Home phone _____

Parents address _____ Business phone _____

Desired graduation date _____

Reason for request and plan for accomplishing early graduation (include a statement of post high school plans):

Methods of accomplishing (i.e. correspondence courses, night school, college, high school, credit by examination, employment):

Counselor evaluation of transcript (credits needed, requirements met, courses to be taken – include a recommendation statement):

Student-Counselor Conference Date _____

Parent Conference Date _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Administrator Signature _____ Date _____

Signature of Representative _____ Date _____
of Participating Agency (if appropriate)

Superintendent Signature _____ Date _____