

# La Grande School District 1

Code: **IKF**  
Adopted: 8/11/10  
Readopted: 2/12/14; 7/20/16; 4/12/17;  
1/10/18; 3/14/18

## Graduation Requirements\*\*

The Board will establish graduation requirements for the awarding of a LHS high school diploma, a State of Oregon Diploma, a State of Oregon modified diploma, an extended diploma and an alternative certificate which meet or exceed state requirements. A student may satisfy graduation requirements in less than four years. The district will award a diploma to a student fulfilling graduation requirements in less than four years if consent is given by the student's parent or guardian or by the student if they are 18 years of age or older or emancipated (see policy IKFA).

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>.

### LHS Diploma

A high school diploma will be awarded to students in grades 9 through 12 who complete a minimum of 26 credits which include at least:

1. Three credits of mathematics (at Algebra I level or higher);
2. Four credits of English (one unit in written comprehension);
3. Three credits of science;
4. Three credits of social sciences;

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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.

5. One credit in health education;
6. One credit in physical education;
7. One credit in world language;
8. One-half credit of Futures (educational and career planning, extended application and career related learning);
9. One-half credit of Success 101. Students who transfer to LHS after the completion of their freshmen year may have the Success 101 requirement waived;
10. Three credits in career and technical education, the arts or world language. Units shall be earned in any combination; and
11. Six additional credits.

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

### **Honors Diploma**

La Grande High School's Honors Diploma is designed to reward the student who pursues a rigorous course of study at La Grande High School. A cumulative GPA of 3.00 is required with no D or F grades received at any time in high school. Students must earn a La Grande High School 26 credit diploma. Honors diploma applications will be available in the Counseling Office after winter break and must be submitted to the Counseling Office by February 15.

In order to earn an Honors Diploma at LHS:

1. Student must successfully complete three courses in three different subject areas:
  - a. English – AP Composition or AP Literature;
  - b. Math – Pre-Calculus or Calculus;
  - c. Social Studies – AP U.S. History;
  - d. Science – Advanced Biology.
2. Student must complete one of the following courses without duplicating courses completed in 1. above.
  - a. AP U.S. History;
  - b. AP Composition;
  - c. AP Literature;
  - d. Pre-Calculus;
  - e. Calculus;
  - f. Advanced Biology;
  - g. Honors Chemistry;
  - h. Honors Physics;

i. Spanish III.

**Essential Skills**

To receive a LHS diploma, a State of Oregon diploma or a State of Oregon modified diploma, in addition to credit requirements, as outlined in OAR 581-022-2000 and OAR 581-022-2010, respectively, a student must:

1. Demonstrate proficiency in the essential skills of reading, writing and math;
2. Develop an education plan and build an education profile;
3. Demonstrate extended application through a collection of evidence;
4. Participate in career-related learning experiences.

The district will allow English Language Learner (ELL) students to demonstrate proficiency in the Essential Skill of Apply Mathematics in a variety of settings, in the student's language of origin for those ELL students who by the end of high school:

1. Are on track to meet all other graduation requirements; and
2. Are unable to demonstrate proficiency in the Essential Skills in English.

The district will allow ELL students to demonstrate proficiency in Essential Skills other than Apply Mathematics in a variety of settings, in the student's language of origin for those ELL students who by the end of high school:

1. Are on track to meet all other graduation requirements;
2. Are unable to demonstrate proficiency in the Essential Skills in English;
3. Have been enrolled in a U.S. school for five years or less; and
4. Have demonstrated sufficient English language skills using the English Language Proficiency Assessment for the 21st Century (ELPA21)<sup>3</sup>.

The district will develop procedures to provide assessment options as described in the *Essential Skills and Local Performance Assessment Manual*, in the ELL student's language of origin for those ELL students who meet the criteria above, and will develop procedures to ensure that locally scored assessment options administered in an ELL student's language of origin are scored by a qualified rater.

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<sup>3</sup>This criteria does not apply to students seeking a diploma in 2017-2018.

## **Essential Skills Appeal**

If students do not meet the minimum requirements on their essential skills tests the district will follow Board policy KL - Public Complaints in the event of an appeal for the denial of a diploma based on the Essential Skills graduation requirement. The district will retain student work samples records and student performance data to ensure that sufficient evidence is available in the event of an appeal.

## **State of Oregon Standard Diploma**

A high school diploma will be awarded to students in grades 9 through 12 who complete a minimum of 24 credits which include at least:

1. Three credits of mathematics (at Algebra I level or higher);
2. Four credits of English (one unit in written comprehension);
3. Three credits of science;
4. Three credits of social sciences;
5. One credit in health education;
6. One credit in physical education;
7. One-half credit of Futures; (educational and career planning, extended application and career related learning);
8. One-half credit of Success 101. Students who transfer to LHS after the completion of their freshmen year may have the Success 101 requirement waived;
9. Three credits in career and technical education, the arts or second world language. Units shall be earned in any combination;
10. Five additional credits.

The district shall offer students credit options provided the method for obtaining such credits is described in the student's personal education plan and the credit is earned by meeting requirements described in OAR 581-022-1131.

## **State of Oregon Modified Diploma**

A modified diploma will be awarded only to students who have demonstrated the inability to meet the full set of academic standards established by the State Board of Education for a diploma while receiving reasonable modifications and accommodations. A modified diploma may only be awarded to a student who meets the eligibility criteria below:

1. Has a documented history of an inability to maintain grade level achievement due to significant learning and instructional barriers; or
2. Has a documented history of a medical condition that creates a barrier to achievement.

Having met the above eligibility criteria, a modified diploma will be awarded to students, who while in grade nine through completion of high school, complete 24 credits which shall include:

1. Three credits in English;
2. Two credits in mathematics;
3. Two credits in science;
4. Two credits in social sciences;
5. One credit in health;
6. One credit in physical education;
7. One-half credit of Futures;
8. One-half credit of Success 101;
9. One credit in career technology, the arts or a world language; and
10. Eleven Additional Credits.

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

1. For a student on an IEP, any 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's 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 the modified diploma.

Beginning in grade five, the district shall annually provide information to the parents or guardians of students taking an alternate assessment, or after a documented history to qualify, of the availability and the requirements of a modified diploma.

Students not on an IEP or a 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 six and no later than two years before the 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 toward a modified diploma should work toward one when the student is less than two years from anticipated exit from high school if the documented history has changed.

### **State of Oregon 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 for a diploma while receiving modifications and accommodations. To be eligible for an extended diploma, a student must:

While in grade nine through completion of high school, complete 12 credits, which may not include more than six credits in a self-contained special education classroom and will include:

1. Two credits of mathematics;
2. Two credits of English;
3. Two credits of science;
4. Three credits of social sciences;
5. One credit of health;
6. One credit of physical education; and
7. One credit in career and technical education, the arts or world language.
8. 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, the district shall annually notify parents or guardians of the students taking an alternate assessment, or after a documented history to qualify, of the availability and requirements for an extended diploma.

### **Alternative Certificates**

Alternative certificates will be awarded to students who do not satisfy the requirements for a La Grande High School diploma, a State of Oregon Diploma, a State of Oregon Modified diploma or a State of Oregon Extended diploma. If the student meets minimum credit requirements established by the district they qualify for an Alternative Certificate. Alternative certificates will be awarded based on individual student needs and achievement. A student who receives a modified diploma, an extended diploma or an alternative certificate will have the option of participating in a high school graduation ceremony with the student's class.

Beginning in grade five, the district shall annually provide information to parents or guardians of

students taking an alternate assessment of the availability and the requirements of an alternative certificate.

### **Other District Responsibilities**

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 four 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, extended diploma or 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 qualifies to receive or receives a modified diploma, an extended diploma or an alternative certificate will have the option of participating in a high school graduation ceremony with the student's class.

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 reduced by the IEP team.

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

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.

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, an extended diploma, an alternative certificate or completion of 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 of graduation and diploma requirements.

The district will review graduation requirements biennially. Graduation requirements may be revised to address student performance.

The district will issue a high school diploma, upon request, to a person who served in the Armed Forces<sup>4</sup>, as specified in Oregon law, if the person was discharged or released under honorable conditions. 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 valid.

END OF POLICY

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<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.



**Legal Reference(s):**

[ORS 329.045](#)  
[ORS 329.095](#)  
[ORS 329.451](#)  
[ORS 329.479](#)  
[ORS 332.107](#)  
[ORS 332.114](#)  
[ORS 339.115](#)

[ORS 339.505](#)  
[ORS 343.295](#)  
  
[OAR 581-022-1910](#)  
[OAR 581-022-2000](#)  
[OAR 581-022-2010](#)  
[OAR 581-022-2015](#)

[OAR 581-022-2020](#)  
[OAR 581-022-2025](#)  
[OAR 581-022-2030](#)  
[OAR 581-022-2115](#)  
[OAR 581-022-2120](#)  
[OAR 581-022-2505](#)

*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