

Graduation Exercises

Commencement Exercises

Commencement exercises shall be held once each year. To participate in the exercises, students must have satisfied the following requirements:

1. The student must have been in attendance at a Lake Oswego high school in an approved program during his/her senior or final year. A student earning a graduation equivalency diploma (GED) will not participate in commencement exercises at either high school.
2. The student must have met all district graduation requirements or must have successfully completed an individually prescribed education plan leading to a modified diploma or an alternative certificate.
3. Students not satisfying these requirements may request a waiver. The superintendent shall establish rules to ensure uniform, fair, and timely response to any such request.

Waiver Request

1. Students who wish the privilege of participating in commencement exercises but who do not meet criteria shall file a waiver request with the principal.
 - a. Waiver requests shall be filed as early as possible.
 - b. Principals shall respond to the waiver request in a timely fashion.
2. Waiver requests shall be granted in the following instances:
 - a. Mitigating circumstances during the final semester of the student's senior year have interrupted what has otherwise been normal progress toward meeting graduation requirements. Mitigating circumstances are those over which the student has no control and which result in an "Incomplete;"
 - b. The student has been making normal progress but fails to meet criteria during the final semester, providing the student is not more than one unit of credit short of criteria and the student signs a statement of intent to erase the deficiency during the summer next following the ceremony;
 - c. The student is on a Board-approved early graduation program that will be completed before the end of the student's senior year; or
 - d. The student is a foreign exchange student who is not eligible for graduation.
3. Waiver requests shall not be granted in the following instances:
 - a. If the student's deficiencies occurred prior to the final semester of school;
 - b. If the student failed to respond to timely warnings of impending deficiencies; or

- c. If the student fails to sign the letter of intent specified in above.
- 4. Prior to the ceremony each year, principals shall submit to the superintendent a roster of all waiver requests and their disposition.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 329.451](#)

[ORS 332.105](#)

[ORS 332.107](#)

[ORS 332.114](#)

[ORS 339.115](#)

[ORS 339.505](#)

[ORS 343.295](#)

[OAR 581-021-0071](#)

[OAR 581-022-1130](#)

[OAR 581-022-1133](#)

[OAR 581-022-1134](#)

[OAR 581-022-1135](#)

[OAR 581-022-1350](#)

31 OR. ATTY. GEN. OP. 428 (1964)

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1681-1683 (2006); Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance, 34 C.F.R. Part 106 (2006).

Kay v. David Douglas Sch. Dist. No. 40, 1987); *cert. den.*, 484 U.S. 1032 (1988).

Doe v. Madison Sch. Dist. No. 321, 177 F.3d 789 (9th Cir. 1999).

Lee v. Weisman, 505 U.S. 577 (1992).

Cross Reference(s):

IKC - Class Rankings