

# North Santiam School District

Code: **IKF/IKFC**  
Adopted: 7/01/96  
Readopted: 6/23/11; 03/15/12

## Graduation Requirements

The Board will establish graduation requirements, 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 received by the student's parent or guardian or by the student if they are 18 years of age or older or emancipated. Graduation requirements will be published yearly for students and their parents or guardians.

Stayton High School awards five types of graduation certificates:

- Stayton High School Diploma (26 credits);
- Standard Diploma (24 credits);
- Modified Diploma (24 credits);
- Extended Diploma (12 credits); and
- Certificate of Attendance.

### Stayton High School Diploma

A Stayton High School diploma will be awarded to students in grades 9 through 12 who have complete 26 credits which include at least:

1. Three credits of mathematics;
2. Four credits of English (one unit in written comprehension);
3. Two credits of science;
4. Three credits of social sciences;
5. One credit in health education;
6. One credit in physical education; and
7. One credit in career and technical education, the arts or second language.

To receive a diploma or modified diploma, in addition to credit requirements, as outlined in OAR 581-022-1130 and OAR 581-022-1134, respectively, a student must:

1. Demonstrate proficiency in the essential skills (OAR 581-022-0615; effective for 2011 graduates);
2. Develop an education plan and build an education profile;
3. Demonstrate extended application through a collection of evidence; and

4. Participate in career-related learning experiences.

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.

The District may award a diploma to a student who does not satisfy above math and English requirements if the student has exceeded the academic content standards for or displays proficiency in mathematics or English, as demonstrated on Oregon state assessments.

Students receiving their diploma in 2012 will need to complete three credits of science, three credits in the arts, career/technical education or a second language (in any one or combination thereof) and six credits of electives. Students who receive their diploma in 2014 must complete their math credits at the Algebra I level and higher.

Students may petition for early graduation and therefore release from compulsory attendance if they have successfully completed the graduation requirements prior to the end of the 12th grade and have submitted education and/or vocation plan prior to December 20th that has been approved by the high school principal or the Superintendent or designee. The awarding of the diploma shall be at the next regularly scheduled graduation ceremony.

### **Essential Skills**

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 students who by the end of their 11th grade year are:

1. On track to meet all other graduation requirements; and
2. 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 students who by the end of their 11th grade year:

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. Receives at least a level 3 (Intermediate) on the English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA).

The district will develop procedures to provide assessment options as described in the *Test Administration 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.

## **Essential Skills Appeal**

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 and student performance data to ensure that sufficient evidence is available in the event of an appeal.

## **Standard Diploma**

A 24 credit standard diploma may be awarded to students who meet the 24 units of credit required for a high school diploma by the state of Oregon plus additional specific course requirements by the North Santiam School District, and has the recommendation of the Graduation Audit Team or approval by the Superintendent or designee.

A state of Oregon diploma may also be awarded to students enrolled in alternative educational programs at the discretion of the Superintendent or designee after the student has completed more than the required four years of high school education and has met all state requirements for credit.

## **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. On or after July 1, 2009, 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.

For a student who entered grade nine before July 1, 2007, the student's team shall decide whether the student must meet the unit of credit requirements set by the State Board of Education or the credit requirements specified by the district for a modified diploma at the time the student entered grade nine.

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; and

7. One credit in career technology, the arts or a second language.

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.

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 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**

Beginning in the 2009-10 school year, an extended diploma will be awarded 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:

1. 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:
  - a. Two credits of mathematics;
  - b. Two credits of 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; and
  - g. One credit of the arts or a second language.
2. Have a documented history of an inability to maintain grade level achievement due to significant learning and instructional barriers; or
3. Have a documented history of a medical condition that creates a barrier to achievements; and

4. Participate in an alternate assessment beginning no later than grade six and lasting for two or more assessment cycles; or
5. Have a serious illness or injury that occurs after grade eight, that changes the student's ability to participate in grade level activities and that results in the student participating in alternate assessments.

### **Alternative Certificates**

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

### **Other District Responsibilities**

The district will ensure that students have access to the appropriate resources to achieve a diploma, modified diploma, extended diploma or alternative certificate at each high school. The district will provide 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 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 extended diploma is awarded. This requirement does not apply to a student who is emancipated or has reached the age of 18 at the time the modified diploma or extended diploma is awarded.

Beginning in grade five, the district will annually provide information on the availability of a modified diploma, an extended diploma, and an alternative certificate and the requirement for the diplomas and certificate to the parents or guardians of a student taking an alternate assessment.

A student who received 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.

A student may satisfy the requirements for a modified diploma, extended diploma or 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 receives a modified diploma, extended diploma or 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 is required to be provided to students who are attending a public high school, unless reduced by the IEP team.

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 a General Education Development (GED) document. The continuance of services for students with modified diplomas is contingent on the IEP team determining services are needed.

A student who does not meet the graduation requirements as outlined in the scenarios above by the posted timelines for final grade submission will not be eligible to participate in the graduation ceremony (and will not be listed in the graduation program). The only exception to this will be for students concurrently enrolled in another educational program with transferable credits, approved by the Stayton High School principal, and which the credits are verified by the instructor as substantially completed, and passing as of the date of the graduation ceremony.

Students who do not complete the graduation requirements during the regular four-year program of grades 9-12 may continue their enrollment until the age provided for in Oregon law.

#### **Pre-Graduation Service in Armed Forces <sup>1</sup>**

The district will issue a high school diploma, upon request, to a person who served in the Armed Forces, as specified in Oregon law, if the person was discharged or released under honorable conditions and has received either a General Educational Development, a post-secondary degree or has received a minimum score on the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery.

END OF POLICY

---

<sup>1</sup> Service in the Armed Forces Includes:

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 329.095](#)  
[ORS 329.451](#)  
[ORS 332.107](#)  
[ORS 332.114](#)  
[ORS 338.115](#)  
[ORS 339.115](#)  
[ORS 339.505](#)  
[ORS 343.295](#)

[OAR 581-021-0071](#)  
[OAR 581-022-0615](#)  
[OAR 581-022-0617](#)  
[OAR 581-022-1130](#)  
[OAR 581-022-1131](#)  
[OAR 581-022-1133](#)  
[OAR 581-022-1134](#)

[OAR 581-002-1135](#)  
[OAR 581-022-1210](#)  
[OAR 581-022-1215](#)  
[OAR 581-022-1350](#)

TEST ADMINISTRATION MANUAL, APPENDIX L-REQUIREMENTS FOR ASSESSMENT OF ESSENTIAL SKILLS.