

Graduation Requirements

The public charter school 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 requirements. A student may satisfy graduation requirements in less than four years. The public charter school 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. A student may choose to graduate from their resident district as long as the student meets the graduation requirements of the resident district and the resident district agrees to award the diploma.

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

The public charter school will allow English Language Learner (ELL) students to demonstrate proficiency in Essential Skills 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 public charter school 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 public charter school 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.

The public charter school 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 public charter school may award a modified diploma or extended diploma to a student only upon the written consent of the student's parent or guardian. The public charter school shall receive the written consent during the school year in which the modified diploma or 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, extended diploma or 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, 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 sponsoring district's superintendent who will annually report to the Superintendent of Public Instruction the number of such consents.

Beginning in grade five, the public charter school will annually provide information of 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 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.

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 charter high school, unless reduced by the IEP team.

The public charter school 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 public charter school 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 alternate 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 public charter school will issue a high school diploma, upon request, to a person who served in the Armed Forces¹, 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

Legal Reference(s):

ORS 329.095	OAR 581-021-0071	OAR 581-022-1134
ORS 329.451	OAR 581-022-0615	OAR 581-022-1135
ORS 332.114	OAR 581-022-0617	OAR 581-022-1210
ORS 338.115(11)	OAR 581-022-1130	OAR 581-022-1215
ORS 339.115	OAR 581-022-1131	OAR 581-022-1350
ORS 343.295	OAR 581-022-1133	

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

¹The 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.