

Phoenix-Talent
School District 4

Code: **IKF-AR(2)**
Revised/Reviewed: 5/12/11; 5/19/16

Modified Diploma Consent Form

OAR 581-022-1134: Modified Diploma

Adopted by the State Board of Education January 20, 2012

(4)(b) A school district or public charter school may award a modified diploma to a student only upon the consent of the parent or guardian of the student or upon the consent of the adult student or emancipated minor student. A district or school must receive the consent in writing and during the school year in which the modified diploma is awarded.

Student's Name _____ SSID _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

I, _____, have been fully informed regarding the requirements for the above cited student entering into and completing the District's "Modified Diploma Plan" on _____. Furthermore, I have been provided with updated information regarding the impact, requirements and/or parameters related to receiving a "Modified Diploma" during a 504/IEP meeting held on _____.

All of the above subjects may be taken with or without modifications.

- Yes, I agree and give my consent for _____, to be awarded a Modified Diploma Plan upon completion of the required coursework and the Essential Skills Proficiency Assessment.
- No, I do not agree nor give consent for _____, to earn a Modified Diploma Program.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

I, _____, understand that I will be awarded a Modified Diploma.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Modified Diploma Summary

This form is designed to summarize some of the rules related to a Modified Diploma, for a more thorough understanding, please go to <http://www.ode.state.or.us/gradelevel/hs/transition/moddipfaq-final.pdf>

OAR 581-022-1134

(4)(e) A student's school team may formally decide to revise a modified diploma decision.

(5)(c) Students may earn units of credit through regular education with or without accommodations or modifications and through modified courses.

(7) A school district or public charter school shall award a regular diploma under OAR 581-022-1130 if all requirements for a regular diploma are met. Completion of one or more modified courses shall not prohibit a student from earning a regular diploma.

(13) Each student receiving a modified diploma shall have the option of participating in the high school graduation ceremony with the members of their class receiving a high school diploma.

Implications

Will the modified diploma be accepted by four-year universities or community colleges?

Most four-year universities do not accept a modified diploma; however, an appeal may be considered by some universities. Community college courses are available to students who have a modified diploma. At the community college level, all new, non-transfer freshmen are required to take a placement exam that indicates course levels required in reading, language arts (comprehension and writing), and mathematics. Community colleges also offer remedial courses that do not count toward college credit.

Will the modified diploma be accepted by the military?

Some branches of the military may accept a modified diploma. Acceptance depends on the current needs of the military; however, criteria may change quickly. Students and their parents should check with recruiters to determine if a modified diploma is currently being accepted. All branches of the service have minimum scores required for entry on a placement test called the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB).

Will students who receive a modified diploma be eligible for federal or state financial aid at a post-secondary institution?

The United States Department of Education (USDE) stated that the Oregon Modified Diploma does not meet this eligibility requirement. However, as an alternative to having a high school diploma or its' recognized equivalent, a student may establish eligibility for Federal Student Financial Aid by passing an independently administered ability-to-benefit test approved by the Department of Education.

Update

Ability-to-Benefit - Public Law 112-74 amended HEA section 484(d) to eliminate Federal student aid eligibility for students without a "certificate of graduation from a school providing secondary education or the recognized equivalent of such a certificate." The law makes an exception for students who have completed a secondary school qualify for Title IV student aid under one of the ability-to-benefit (ATB) alternatives if the student was enrolled in a Title IV eligible program prior to July 1, 2012.

We note that this change does not affect students with intellectual disabilities who are enrolled in approved Comprehensive Transition and Postsecondary Programs. Students who enroll in such programs remain eligible for Title IV assistance from the Federal Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, and Federal Work Study programs even if they do not have a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent.

The elimination of ATB alternatives to a high school diploma (or recognized equivalent) applies to students who first enroll in a program of study on or after July 1, 2012. Therefore, a student who does not possess a high school diploma, or a recognized equivalent, but who is, or was, enrolled in a Title IV eligible program any time prior to July 1, 2012, may be eligible to receive Title IV student assistance under ATB alternatives