



Annual Expanded Options Program Notification

The district will send the parent or guardian a notice as required by law to notify them of potential opportunities under the Expanded Options Program (EOP) for their student. Students may qualify as an eligible student to participate in the EOP if they meet the criteria below.

Definitions

Students may be permitted to participate if they are eligible students applying to an eligible post-secondary institution for an eligible post-secondary course. An “eligible student” means a student enrolled in a public school and who:

1. Is 16 years of age or older at the time of enrollment in a course under the Expanded Options Program;
2. Is in grade 11 or 12 at the time of enrollment in the course under the EOP or has not yet completed the required credits to be in grade 11 or 12, but the district has allowed the student to participate in the program;
3. Has developed an educational learning plan as described in Board policy IGBHE - Expanded Options Program;
4. Has not successfully completed the requirements for a high school diploma; and
5. Is not a foreign exchange student enrolled in a school under a cultural exchange program.

An “eligible post-secondary institution” means:

1. A community college;
2. A public university listed in ORS 352.002; and
3. The Oregon Health and Sciences University.

An “eligible post-secondary course” means any nonsectarian course or program offered through an eligible post-secondary institution if the course or program may lead to high school completion, a certificate, professional certification, associate degree or baccalaureate degree. It includes academic courses, career and technical education courses and distance education courses. It does not include a duplicate course, which is defined as “a course with a scope that is identical to the scope of another course”.

Purpose

The purpose of this program is to:

1. Allow eligible students who participate in the EOP to enroll full-time or part-time in an eligible post-secondary institution; and.
2. Provide public funding to the eligible post-secondary institutions for educational services to eligible students to offset the cost of tuition, fees, textbooks, equipment and materials for students who participate in the EOP.

Graduation and Course Credit

Participating in the EOP will not adversely affect a student's ability to graduate because credit received from successfully completing an eligible post-secondary course may be applied towards high school graduation requirements. If, however, a student does not receive a passing grade in the eligible post-secondary course, they may not receive credit towards high school graduation.

Selection

All eligible students may apply for the EOP, but all eligible students who apply may not be accepted because of space limitations. Enrollment in EOP may be limited because of caps on total credit hours that will be awarded by the high school. Unless notified otherwise, the total number of credits awarded under EOP by each high school equals one-third of its enrollment in grades 9 through 12. (For example, if high school enrollment in grades 9 through 12 is 1,000 students, the high school may award no more than 330 credit hours for all students in EOP.) If qualified applications to the EOP exceed space limitations, the district will establish a process that gives priority to at-risk students.

Enrollment and Participation

To be eligible for participation in the EOP depends on a student's acceptance by an eligible post-secondary institution to take an eligible post-secondary course. A student will not be eligible for state financial aid. A student will have all costs paid for by the district in the same manner as if the student was attending the public high school. The district will pay for textbooks, fees, equipment or materials, and any other cost associated with enrollment. Parents/Guardians will be responsible for providing transportation to the eligible post-secondary institution. The district and the eligible post-secondary institution may be able to arrange transportation services, although this service may not always be available, depending on circumstances. If a student receives special education services, the district will continue to provide special education services under an individualized education program (IEP).

A student is expected to comply with the same behavior and attendance standards if the student was attending the public high school. Failure to successfully complete an eligible post-secondary course or make satisfactory progress in the course may result in no credit receive toward graduation, removal from the EOP, disciplinary action or referral to law enforcement.

A student may participate in the EOP for no more than two years. After two years, a student is no longer eligible. If a student is in grade 12 when he or she first enrolls, he/she may participate no more than the equivalent of one academic year in the EOP. If they are enrolled in high school full-time and they are taking a post-secondary course, they will not be awarded credit for that course under the EOP. If a student

first enrolls in an eligible post-secondary course in the middle of the school year, the time of participation shall be reduced proportionately. If a student is enrolled in a year-round program and begins each grade in the summer session, summer sessions are not counted against the time of participation.

If a student intends to enroll in a course that is already offered by the district, *i.e.*, a duplicate course, the student will not be eligible to participate in the EOP. A “duplicate course” is one with a scope that is identical to the scope of another course. A student should consider district-provided, educational alternative programs that offer post-secondary level courses.

If a parent/guardian disagrees with the district’s assessment that a course is a duplicate course as determined by the district, they appeal the decision under the procedures outlined below.

Contested Decisions/Appeal

If a parent/guardian disagrees with the district’s determination that a course is a duplicate course, they may appeal first to the superintendent. The appeal must be in writing and contain at a minimum the following information: (1) name of the student; (2) name of the post-secondary course; (3) detailed description of the post-secondary course; (4) name of the duplicate course offered by high school; (5) detailed description of the duplicate course offered by high school; and (6) reasons why they believe the course is not a duplicate. They must initiate their appeal within five days of receiving notification that the post-secondary course is a duplicate.

The Board will issue a written decision within 30 days.

If dissatisfied with the Board’s decision, they may appeal the decision to the Superintendent of Public Instruction or designee under ORS 340.030.

Student Notification to District

The parent or guardian should respond to the notice before May 15 if a student decides to enroll in an eligible post-secondary course during the following school year. The district will schedule a meeting with an advisory support team to develop an educational learning plan that addresses short- and long-term academic and career goals.