

## Graduation Requirements

The Board will establish graduation requirements for the awarding of a regular high school diploma which meet or exceed state standards. The Board will also establish minimum credit requirements for the awarding of an alternative certificate. Students in grades 9 through 12 must complete a minimum of 24½ credits, three credits of mathematics graduation class of 2010 and four credits of English. The district may award a diploma to a student who does not satisfy these requirements if the student has exceeded the academic content standards for or displays proficiency in mathematics or English, as demonstrated on Oregon state assessments.<sup>1</sup>

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

In addition to credit requirements, as outlined in OAR 581-022-1130, a student must:

1. Demonstrate proficiency in the essential learning skills;
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.

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 upon the student's request and, if required, if the student's parent or guardian consents.

A modified diploma will be awarded to students who have met specific requirements established by the State Board of Education and have demonstrated an inability to meet the full set of academic standards even with reasonable modifications and accommodations. To be eligible for a modified diploma a student must have a documented history of an inability to maintain grade level achievement due to significant learning and instructional barriers or a documented history of a medical condition that creates a barrier to achievement.

Alternative certificates will be awarded to a student who does not satisfy the requirements for a diploma or modified diploma if the student meets minimum credit requirements established by the district. Alternative certificates will be awarded based on individual student's needs and achievement. A student

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<sup>1</sup>These graduation requirements apply to students who receive a high school diploma on or after July 1, 2009.

who receives a modified diploma or alternative certificate will have the option of participating in a high school graduation ceremony with the student's class.

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, certificate of attendance or completion or a General Education Development document. The continuance of services for students with modified diplomas is contingent on the IEP team determining services are needed.

Students and their parents will be notified of graduation and diploma requirements.

The district will review graduation requirements as needed in conjunction with the secondary school improvement plan. Graduation requirements may be revised to address student benchmark performance.

The district will issue a high school diploma, upon request, to a person who served in the Armed Forces<sup>2</sup>, 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

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<sup>2</sup>The 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.

**Legal Reference(s):**

[ORS 329.095](#)

[ORS 329.451](#)

[ORS 332.107](#)

[ORS 332.114](#)

[ORS 339.115](#)

[ORS 343.295](#)

[OAR 581-021-0071](#)

[OAR 581-022-0615](#)

[OAR 581-022-1130](#)

[OAR 581-022-1210](#)

[OAR 581-022-1350](#)

HB 2061 (2009)

HB 2507 (2009)

**Cross Reference(s):**

IKFA - Early Graduation