

Program Exemptions

The Board may excuse students from a state-required program or learning activity for reasons of religion, disability or other reasons deemed appropriate by the district.

Exemption claims shall be promptly checked with staff and parents or legal guardians to determine the complete nature and validity of the exempting problem. When verified and a granting decision has been made, only relevant staff shall be notified of the specific exemption granted by the school administration.

Unit, competence and attendance requirements necessary for graduation may not be waived when they are in direct conflict with state requirements.

Where exemption on the grounds of disability or religious belief jeopardizes loss of unit, competence or attendance requirements for graduation, effort shall be made by administration and/or guidance counseling personnel to arrange alternative learning opportunities.

OAR 339.420 is applicable to this policy and is therefore quoted in full below. (See also district policy relating to special education for the disabled.)

“ORS 339.420 Attendance at religious instruction. Upon application of his/her parent or guardian, or, if the student has attained to age of majority, upon application of the student, a student attending the public school may be excused from school for periods not exceeding two hours in any week for elementary students and five hours in any week for secondary students to attend weekday schools giving instruction in religion.”

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 336.035\(2\)](#)
[ORS 336.465](#)
[ORS 336.615](#)
[ORS 336.625](#)

[ORS 336.635](#)
[OAR 581-021-0071](#)
[OAR 581-022-0612](#)

[OAR 581-022-1350](#)
[OAR 581-022-1440](#)
[OAR 581-022-1910](#)
[OAR 581-022-1920](#)

Cross Reference(s):

IGACA - Recognition of Religious Beliefs and Customs
IGAI - Human Sexuality, AIDS/HIV, Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Health Education
JED - Student Absences and Excuses