

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 at a minimum 26 credits, three credit of mathematics, two credits of science, and four credits of English. Starting in 2012 students in grades 9-12 must complete 85% (rounded up) of all possible credits as determined by the possible number of credits over four years.

The district may award a diploma to a student who does not satisfy these requirements if the student has exceeded the academic content standards in mathematics or English, as demonstrated on Oregon state assessments.¹

Students receiving their diploma in 2012 will need to complete three credits of science, three credits in either arts, applied arts or a second language (CTE), six credits of electives and a portfolio of essential skills. Students who receive their diploma in 2014 must complete their math credits at the Algebra I level or higher.

A student may satisfy graduation requirements in less than four years. The district will award a diploma to a student fulfilling graduation requirements in accordance with policy IKFA.

Starting with the graduating class of 2012 a modified diploma shall 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 as defined on the Students Educational Plan (SEP). 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.

Starting with the graduating class of 2012 an alternative certificate of graduation 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 of graduation will be awarded based on individual student's needs and achievement. A student who receives a modified diploma or alternative certificate and completes the 12th grade will have the option of participating in a high school graduation ceremony with the student's class.

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

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 reserves the right to review graduation requirements biennially in conjunction with the secondary school improvement plan. Graduation requirements may be revised to address student benchmark performance.

Individual situations regarding transfer students not addressed by this policy will be handled on a case by case basis at the school level. The approval of the Superintendent of Schools is required for variations from this policy.

The district will issue a high school diploma, upon request, to a person who served in the Armed Forces², 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

²The 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