

Linn Benton Lincoln Education Service District

Code: **IKF**

Adopted:

10/11/2016

Reviewed: 10/21/25

Graduation Requirements**

The Board will establish graduation requirements for the awarding of a high school diploma, modified diploma, extended diploma and a certificate of attendance which meet or exceed state requirements.

A student may satisfy graduation requirements in less than four years. The ESD will award a diploma to a student fulfilling graduation requirements in less than four years, if consent is given by the student's parent or guardian or by the student if they are 18 years of age or older or emancipated.

If the ESD requires diploma requirements beyond the state requirements, the ESD shall grant a waiver for those requirements to any student who, at any time from grade 9 to 12, was:

1. In foster care¹;
2. Experiencing homelessness²;
3. A runaway;
4. A child in a military family covered by the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children;
5. A child of a migrant worker; or
6. Enrolled in the Youth Corrections Education Program or the Juvenile Detention Education Program; or
7. Enrolled in an approved recovery school under ORS 336.680³.

For any student identified above, the ESD shall accept any credits earned by the student in an educational program⁴ in this state, applying those credits toward the state requirements for a diploma if the credits satisfied those requirements in that educational program in this state.

The ESD will ensure that all students have onsite access to the appropriate resources and courses to achieve high school diplomas, modified diplomas, extended diplomas or alternative certificate at each high school operated by the ESD. The ESD will provide age appropriate and developmentally appropriate literacy instruction to all students until graduation.

English Language Learner (ELL) Students

The ESD will develop procedures to provide local assessment options as described in the Local Performance Assessment Manual, in the ELL student's language of origin, and will develop procedures to ensure that locally scored assessment options administered in an ELL student's language of origin are scored by a qualified rater.

Other ESD Responsibilities

¹ "Foster child" is defined in ORS 30.297.

² ORS 329.451(2) and OAR 581-022-use the term "homeless." See OAR 581-022-2000 for additional information.

³ Applies to high school diplomas awarded on or after January 1, 2026.

⁴ "Educational program in this state" means an educational program that is provided by a school district, a public charter school, an approved recovery school (applies to diplomas awarded on or after January 1, 2026), the Youth Corrections Education Program or the Juvenile Detention Program, or funded as provided by ORS 343.243 for students in a long-term care or treatment facility described in ORS 343.962 or a hospital identified in ORS 343.261.

The ESD may not deny a student the opportunity to pursue a diploma with more stringent requirements than a modified diploma or an extended diploma for the sole reason the student has the documented history as described under the modified or extended diploma requirements.

The ESD may award a modified diploma or extended diploma to a student only upon the written consent of a student who is an emancipated minor or who has reached the age of 18 (adult student) at the time the modified or extended diploma is awarded, or the student's parent or guardian. The ESD shall receive the written consent during the school year in which the modified diploma or extended diploma is awarded.

A student shall have the opportunity to satisfy the requirements for a modified diploma, extended diploma or a certificate of attendance in either the later of 4 years after starting grade 9, or until the student reaches the age of 21 years, if the student is entitled to a public education until the age of 21 under state or federal law.

A student may complete the requirements for a modified diploma, extended diploma or a certificate of attendance in less than four years but not less than three years to satisfy the requirements for a modified diploma, extended diploma or a certificate of attendance in less than 4 years, the student's parent or guardian or a student who is emancipated or has reached the age of 18 must provide written consent which clearly states the parent, guardian or student is waiving the fourth year and/or years until the student reaches the age of 21. A copy of the consent will be forwarded to the ESD superintendent who will annually report to the Superintendent of Public Instruction the number of such consents.

For students with a documented history⁵, the ESD shall annually provide the parents or guardians of such students, beginning in grade five or after such a documented history has been established, the following:

1. Information about the availability of high school diplomas, modified diplomas, extended diplomas and the requirements for the diplomas; and
2. A disclosure that students awarded a certificate of attendance will not be counted as a high school graduate in any required reporting for the State or ESD and that such students awarded a certificate of attendance may not indicate they received a high school diploma on applications for employment, military service, financial aid, admittance to an institution of higher education or any other purpose.

A student who qualifies to receive or receives a modified diploma, extended diploma or a certificate of attendance shall have the option of participating in a high school graduation ceremony with the student's class.

A student who receives a modified diploma, an extended diploma or a certificate of attendance shall have access to instructional hours, hours of transition services and hours of other services that are designed to meet the unique needs of the student. When added together, the ESD will provide a total number of hours of instruction and services to the student that equals at least the total number of instructional hours that is required to be provided to students who are attending a public high school. The ESD may not unilaterally decrease the total number of hours of instruction and services to which the student has access regardless of the age of the student.

The ESD 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 IEP completes high school, the ESD will give the student an individualized summary of performance.

⁵ "Documented history" means evidence in the cumulative record and education plans of a student that demonstrates the inability over time to maintain grade level achievement even with appropriate modifications and accommodations.

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, an extended diploma, a certificate of attendance or completion of a General Education Development document. The continuance of services for students with disabilities for a modified diploma, an extended diploma or certificate of attendance is contingent on the IEP team determining the student's continued eligibility and special education services are needed.

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

The ESD may not deny a diploma to a student who has opted-out of the statewide assessments if the student is able to satisfy all other requirements for the diploma. Students may opt-out of the Oregon statewide assessments in language arts and/or mathematics by completing the Oregon Department of Education's Opt-out Form⁷ and submit the form to the ESD.

The ESD shall establish conduct and discipline consequences for student-initiated test impropriety. The act of students-initiated test impropriety is prohibited. A student that participates in an act of student-initiated test impropriety will be subject to discipline. "Student-initiated test impropriety" means student conduct that is inconsistent with the *Test Administrator Manual* accompanying guidance; or results in a score that is invalid.

⁷www.ode.state.or.us: Educator Resources > Student Assessment > Test Administration > Forms > 2018-2019 30-day notice and opt-out form
Oregon Department of Education page for: 30-day notice and opt-out form

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

ORS 329.007	OAR 581-022-2030
ORS 329.045	OAR 581-022-2505
ORS 329.479	
ORS 339.115	
ORS 339.505	
ORS 343.295	
ORS 334.125	
OAR 581-022-2115	
OAR 581-022-2120	
OAR 581-022-2000	
OAR 581-022-2025	
OAR 581-022-2015	
OAR 581-022-2010	
OAR 581-022-2020	

TEST ADMINISTRATION MANUAL, PUBLISHED BY THE OREGON DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
HOUSE BILL 2056 (2021)
SENATE BILL 744 (2021)

Certificates for School Completion: Questions and Answers Related to the Implementation of SB 992, published by the OREGON DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

** As used in this policy, the term parent includes legal guardian or person in a parental relationship. The status and duties of a legal guardian are defined in ORS 125.005(4) and 125.300 – 125.325. The determination of whether an individual is acting in a parental relationship, for purposes of determining residency, depends on the evaluation of the factors listed in ORS 419B.373. The determination for other purposes depends on evaluation of those factors and a power of attorney executed pursuant to ORS 109.056. For special education students, parent also includes a surrogate parent, an adult student to whom rights have transferred and foster parent as defined in OAR 581-015-200.