

Graduation Requirements**

The Board will establish graduation requirements for the awarding of a high school diploma, modified diploma, extended diploma and alternative certificate 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. A foster child as defined in ORS 30.297;
2. Homeless;
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.

For any student identified above, the ESD shall accept any credits earned by the student in another school district or public charter school, applying those credits toward the state requirements for a diploma if the credits satisfied those requirements in that other school district or public charter school.

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

Essential Skills

The ESD will allow English Language Learner (ELL) students to demonstrate proficiency in the Essential Skill of Apply Mathematics, in a variety of settings, in the student's language of origin for those ELL students who by the end of high school:

1. Are on track to meet all other graduation requirements; and
2. Are unable to demonstrate proficiency in the Essential Skills in English.

The ESD will allow ELL students to demonstrate proficiency in Essential Skills other than Apply Mathematics, in a variety of settings, in the student's language of origin for those ELL students who by the end of high school:

1. Are on track to meet all other graduation requirements;
2. Are unable to demonstrate proficiency in the Essential Skills in English;
3. Have been enrolled in a U.S. school for five years or less; and

4. Have demonstrated sufficient English language skills using the English Language Proficiency Assessment for the 21st Century (ELPA21), after the 2017-2018 school year.

The ESD will develop procedures to provide assessment options as described in the Essential Skills and Local Performance Assessment Manual, in the ELL student's language of origin for those ELL students who meet the criteria above, 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

The ESD may not deny a student, who has the documented history of an inability to maintain grade level achievement due to significant learning and instructional barriers, or of a medical condition that creates a barrier to achievements, 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.

The ESD may award a modified diploma or extended diploma to a student only upon the written consent of 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 who is emancipated or has reached the age of 18 at the time the modified diploma or extended diploma is awarded may sign the consent.

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

A student may satisfy the requirements for a modified diploma, extended diploma or alternative certificate in less than four years but not less than three years. In order to satisfy the requirements for a modified diploma, extended diploma or alternative certificate in less than four 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.

Beginning in grade five or after a documented history to qualify for an extended diploma has been established, the ESD will annually provide to the parents or guardians of a student, information on the availability and requirements of a modified diploma, an extended diploma, and an alternative certificate.

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

A student who receives, an extended diploma or alternative certificate shall have access to individually designed instructional hours, hours of transition services and hours of other services that equals at least the total number of instructional hours that are required to be provided to students who are attending a public high school, as determined by the IEP team.

A student who qualifies to receive a modified diploma but has not yet been awarded the modified diploma shall continue to have access to individually designed instructional hours, hours of transition services and hours of other services that are designed to meet the unique needs of the student. A student who received a modified diploma prior to July 1, 2018 shall continue to have access to instructional hours of transition services and other services that are designed to meet the unique needs of the student.

The ESD will issue a high school diploma, upon request, and pursuant to Oregon law (ORS 332.114), to a person or a representative of a deceased person who served in the Armed Forces¹, and was discharged or released under honorable conditions.

The ESD shall establish conduct and discipline consequences for student-initiated test impropriety. “Student-initiated test impropriety” means student conduct that is inconsistent with the *Essential Skills and Local Performance Assessment* or accompanying guidance; or results in a score that is invalid.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 329.095](#)
[ORS 329.451](#)
[ORS 329.479](#)
[ORS 332.107](#)
[ORS 332.114](#)
[ORS 339.115](#)
[ORS 339.505](#)
[ORS 343.295](#)

[OAR 581-022-1910](#)
[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](#)

[OAR 581-022-2030](#)
[OAR 581-022-2505](#)

TEST ADMINISTRATION MANUAL, PUBLISHED BY THE OREGON DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (FEBRUARY 4, 2016).

ESSENTIAL SKILLS AND LOCAL PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT MANUAL, PUBLISHED BY THE OREGON DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (MARCH 17, 2016).

** 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.

¹The 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.