

Douglas County School District 4

Code: **IKF-AR**
 Adopted: 5/14/08
 Revised: 2/11/09
 3/11/10
 3/3/11

Graduation Requirements

I. Regular High School Diploma

The Board will establish graduation requirements which meet or exceed state standards. The requirements will be published yearly for students and their parents/guardians.

A high school diploma will be awarded to students in grades 9 through 12 who complete a minimum of 24 credits depending upon when the student first enrolled as a freshman according to the following table:

Subject	Student graduates on or after July 1, 2009, and first enrolled in grade nine before 2008-09* (Graduates of 2010 and 2011)	Student first enrolled in grade nine during 2008-09 or 2009-10 school year (Graduates of 2012 and 2013)	Student first enrolled in grade nine during 2010-11 school year or first enrolled in grade nine in any subsequent years (Graduates of 2014 and beyond)
English	4	4	4
Math	3	3	3 (at Algebra I level and higher)
Science	2	3 (2 with Lab experiences)	3 (2 with Lab experiences)
Social Studies	3	3	3
Health	1	1	1
PE	1	1	1
Career Technical Ed, The Arts or Second Language (in any one or combination thereof)	1	3	3
Electives	9	6	6
Total credits required to graduate:	24	24	24
Essential Skills required:		Enrolled in grade nine during 2008-09 school year (Graduates of 2012): Read and comprehend a variety of text.	Enrolled in grade nine during 2010-11 school year (Graduates of 2014): Read and comprehend a variety of text, write clearly and accurately, apply math.

<p>Other graduation requirements:</p>	<p>Develop an education plan and build an education profile</p>	<p>Enrolled in grade nine during 2009-10 school year (Graduates of 2013): Read and comprehend a variety of text, write clearly and accurately.</p>	<p>Enrolled in grade nine during 2011-12 school year or first enrolled in grade nine in any subsequent school year (Graduates of 2015 and beyond): Read and comprehend a variety of text, write clearly and accurately, apply math, any additional Essential Skills adopted by the State Board of Education.</p>
	<p>Demonstrate extended application through a collection of evidence</p>	<p>Develop an education plan and build an education profile</p>	<p>Develop an education plan and build an education profile</p>
	<p>Participate in career-related learning experiences</p>	<p>Demonstrate extended application through a collection of evidence</p>	<p>Demonstrate extended application through a collection of evidence</p>

The district shall offer students credit options provided the method for obtaining such credit is described in the student’s personal education plan and the credit is earned by meeting requirements described in [OAR 581-022-1131](#).

The district may award a diploma to a student who does not satisfy the above math and English requirements if the student has met or exceeded the academic content standards for or displays proficiency in mathematics or English, as demonstrated on Oregon state assessments.

II. Modified Diploma

A modified diploma will be awarded only to students who have demonstrated the inability to meet the full set of academic content standards even with reasonable modifications and accommodations.

On or after July 1, 2009, a modified diploma may only be awarded to a student who meets the eligibility criteria listed below:

- a. Has a documented history of an inability to maintain grade level achievement due to significant learning and instructional barriers inherent in the student; or
- b. Has a documented history of a medical condition that creates a barrier to achievement.

"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. "Modified course" means a course that has been systematically changed or altered for a student only after reasonable alternative instructional strategies (e.g. accommodations, remediation) are exhausted.

Date of Implementation

The requirements of this rule for a modified diploma apply to all students who enter 9th grade on or after July 1, 2009. If a student enters 9th grade prior to July 1, 2009, the student's team shall decide whether the student must meet the requirements of this rule to receive a modified diploma. A school district or public charter school may award a student who enters 9th grade prior to July 1, 2009 a modified diploma if the student meets the requirements for a modified diploma specified by the district or school and the student's team.

Having met the above eligibility criteria, a modified diploma will be awarded to students who, while in grade nine through completion of high school, complete 24 credits which shall include:

Subject	Modified Diploma requirements	
English	3	
Math	2	
Science	2	
Social Studies	2	
Health	1	
PE	1	
Career Technical Ed, The Arts or Second Language	1	
Electives	12	
Total credits required for modified diploma:	24	
Essential Skills required:	<p>Enrolled in grade nine during 2008-09 school year (Graduates of 2010): Read and comprehend a variety of text.</p> <p>Enrolled in grade nine during 2009-10 school year (Graduates of 2013): Read and comprehend a variety of text, write clearly and accurately.</p>	<p>Enrolled in grade nine during 2010-11 school year (Graduates of 2014): Read and comprehend a variety of text, write clearly and accurately, apply math.</p> <p>Enrolled in grade nine during 2011-12 school year or first enrolled in grade nine in any subsequent school year (Graduates of 2015 and beyond): Read and comprehend a variety of text, write clearly and accurately, apply math, any additional Essential Skills adopted by the State Board of Education.</p>
Other graduation requirements:	<p>Develop an education plan and build an education profile.</p> <p>Demonstrate extended application through a collection of evidence.</p>	

A student may not be required to earn more than 24 units of credit to receive a modified diploma. The school district and public charter school shall be flexible in awarding the remaining 12 units of credit. These credits must be awarded to meet the needs of the individual student as specified in the education plan of the student with the expectations and standards aligned to the appropriate grade level academic content standards. Students may earn units of credit through regular education with or without accommodations or modifications and through modified courses.

Districts may make modifications to the assessment for students who seek a modified diploma when the following conditions are met:

1. For a student on an IEP, any modifications to work samples must be consistent with the requirements established in the IEP. Modifications are changes to the achievement level, construct, or measured outcome of an assessment. This means that IEP or school teams responsible for approving modifications for a student's assessment may adjust the administration of the assessment and/or the assessment's achievement standard.
2. For a student not on an IEP, any modifications to work samples must have been provided to the student during his/her instruction in the content area to be assessed, and in the year in which the student is being assessed, and modifications must be approved by the school team that is responsible for monitoring the student's progress toward the modified diploma.
3. Students not on an IEP or a 504 Plan may not receive a modified OAKS assessment.

Decision-Making Team and Timeline

A school team, including the parent(s) or guardian of the student, will be responsible to decide if a student will work toward obtaining a regular diploma, modified diploma or alternative certificate. In the case of a student receiving special education and related services the resident school district of a public charter school student shall determine the school team for that student. The school team shall decide that a student should work toward a modified diploma no earlier than the end of the 6th grade and no later than 2 years before the student's anticipated exit from high school.

Notification Requirements

The school district shall notify all students and their parents or guardians the availability of all diploma and certificate options including the modified diploma in the fifth grade and shall ensure that parents or guardians are involved in the decision to pursue a modified diploma for a student. The notification must clearly state how modified diplomas are generally accepted by four year universities, community colleges, and the military. After students working toward a modified diploma complete the 8th grade modified diploma information shall be reviewed annually with the parent or guardian of a student.

The student's school team may formally decide to revise a modified diploma decision. The student's school team may decide that a student who was not previously working towards a modified diploma should work toward a modified diploma when a student is less than 2 years from anticipated exit from high school if the documented history of the student has changed.

Conditions Related to Use of Illegal Drugs

A modified diploma is not an option for students currently engaged in the use of illegal drugs or illegal use of alcohol if the significant learning and instructional barriers are due to drug and alcohol use. Students currently engaged in the illegal use of alcohol are not eligible for a modified diploma if the significant learning and instructional barriers are due to the alcohol abuse, regardless of whether that student is disabled under Section 504 on the basis of alcoholism.

The school district or public charter school may grant eligibility for a modified diploma to a student who is no longer engaging in illegal use of drugs or alcohol if the student:

- a. Has successfully completed a supervised drug or alcohol rehabilitation program and are no longer engaged in the illegal use of drugs or alcohol; or
- b. Has been rehabilitated successfully and is no longer engaged in the illegal use of drugs or alcohol; or
- c. Is participating in a supervised rehabilitation program and is no longer engaging in the illegal use of drugs or alcohol.

Acceptance of Modified Diploma

It is understood that a modified diploma will not be considered as evidence of graduation in the calculations for graduation rate. It may or may not be regarded as meeting an entrance requirement for the military. Most four-year universities will not accept a modified diploma for entrance requirements. Community Colleges typically will accept a modified diploma providing the student is able to pass an entrance exam.

The school districts and public charter school shall ensure that students have access to needed courses, modifications and supports to pursue a modified diploma and to progress in the general education curriculum.

The school district and public charter school shall grant credit toward a modified diploma only for courses that contain substantial academic content. A school district or public charter school shall grant credit for a modified diploma through a continuum of instruction beginning at basic skills and progressing through high level skills.

Regular Diploma Option

A regular diploma shall be awarded if all requirements for a regular diploma are met. Completion of one or more modified courses shall not prohibit a student from earning a regular diploma. "Modified course" means a course that has been systematically changed or altered for a student only after reasonable alternative instructional strategies (e.g. accommodations, remediation) are exhausted. The school district shall inform the student and parent or guardian of the student if the courses in grades 9-12 have been modified for an individual student.

Participation in Graduation

Each student receiving a modified diploma shall have the option of participating in the high school graduation ceremony with the members of their class receiving a regular high school diploma

III. Extended Diploma

An extended diploma will be awarded only to students who have demonstrated the inability to meet the full set of academic content standards even with reasonable accommodations but who fulfill all state requirements as described below.

An extended diploma will be a considered option for a student who has:

- a. A documented history of an inability to maintain grade level achievement due to significant learning and instructional barriers inherent in the student; or
- b. A documented history of a medical condition that creates a barrier to achievement.
- c. Participated in an alternate assessment beginning no later than grade six and lasting for two or more assessment cycles; or
- d. Have a serious illness or injury that occurs after grade eight, that changes the student's ability to participate in grade level activities and that results in the student participating in alternate assessments.

"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. "Modified course" means a course that has been systematically changed or altered for a student only after reasonable alternative instructional strategies (e.g. accommodations, remediation) are exhausted.

Date of Implementation

The requirements of this rule for an extended diploma apply to all students who enter 9th grade on or after July 1, 2009. If a student enters 9th grade prior to July 1, 2009, the student's team shall decide whether the student must meet the requirements of this rule to receive an extended diploma. A school district or public charter school may award a student who enters 9th grade prior to July 1, 2009 an extended diploma if the student meets the requirements for an extended diploma specified by the district or school and the student's team.

Extended Diploma

While in grade nine through completion of high school, complete 12 credits, which may not include more than six credits in a self-contained special education classroom and will include:

Subject	Extended Diploma requirements
English	2
Math	2
Science	2
History, Geography, Economics or Civics	3
Health	1
PE	1
The Arts or Second Language	1
Total credits required for modified diploma:	12
Essential Skills required:	Exempt
Other Graduation Requirements:	Exempt

A student may not be required to earn more than 12 units of credit to receive an extended diploma. The school district and public charter school shall be flexible in awarding any additional units of credit. These credits must be awarded to meet the needs of the individual student as specified in the education plan of the student with the expectations and standards aligned to the appropriate grade level academic content standards. Students may earn units of credit through regular education with or without accommodations or modifications and through modified courses.

Students shall have the option to earn credit for demonstrating proficiency. A student may be given credit for successful demonstration of knowledge and skills that meets or exceeds defined levels of performance. Students may demonstrate proficiency through classroom work or documentation of learning experiences outside of school, or through a combination of these means.

Decision-Making Team and Timeline

A school team, including the parent(s) or guardian of the student, will be responsible to decide if a student will work toward obtaining a regular diploma, modified diploma, extended diploma or alternative certificate. In the case of a student receiving special education and related services the resident school district of a public charter school student shall determine the school team for that student. The school team shall decide that a student should work toward an extended diploma no earlier than the end of the 6th grade and no later than 2 years before the student's anticipated exit from high school.

Notification Requirements

The school district shall notify all students and their parents or guardians the availability of all diploma and certificate options including the extended diploma in the fifth grade and shall ensure that parents or guardians are involved in the decision to pursue an extended diploma for a student. The notification must clearly state how

extended diplomas are generally accepted by four year universities, community colleges, and the military. After students working toward an extended diploma complete the 8th grade extended diploma information shall be reviewed annually with the parent or guardian of a student.

The student's school team may formally decide to revise an extended diploma decision. The student's school team may decide that a student who was not previously working towards an extended diploma should work toward an extended diploma when a student is less than 2 years from anticipated exit from high school if the documented history of the student has changed.

Conditions Related to Use of Illegal Drugs

An extended diploma is not an option for students currently engaged in the use of illegal drugs or illegal use of alcohol if the significant learning and instructional barriers are due to drug and alcohol use. Students currently engaged in the illegal use of alcohol are not eligible for an extended diploma if the significant learning and instructional barriers are due to the alcohol abuse, regardless of whether that student is disabled under Section 504 on the basis of alcoholism.

The school district or public charter school may grant eligibility for an extended diploma to a student who is no longer engaging in illegal use of drugs or alcohol if the student:

- a. Has successfully completed a supervised drug or alcohol rehabilitation program and are no longer engaged in the illegal use of drugs or alcohol; or
- b. Has been rehabilitated successfully and is no longer engaged in the illegal use of drugs or alcohol; or
- c. Is participating in a supervised rehabilitation program and is no longer engaging in the illegal use of drugs or alcohol.

Acceptance of Extended Diploma

It is understood that an extended diploma will not be considered as evidence of graduation in the calculations for graduation rate. It is not likely to be regarded as meeting an entrance requirement for the military, four year universities or community colleges. In order to be considered in any of these settings the student would need to be able to pass any entrance exam required by the institution.

The school districts and public charter school shall ensure that students have access to needed courses, modifications and supports to pursue an extended diploma and to progress in the general education curriculum.

The school district and public charter school shall grant credit toward an extended diploma only for courses that contain substantial academic content. A school district or public charter school shall grant credit for an extended diploma through a continuum of instruction beginning at basic skills and progressing through high level skills.

Participation in Graduation

Each student receiving an extended diploma shall have the option of participating in the high school graduation ceremony with the members of their class receiving a regular high school diploma.

IV. Alternative Certificates

Roseburg Public Schools will make an alternative certificate available to students as a planned option for students who do not obtain the regular diploma, modified diploma, or extended diploma. Alternative certificates include a Certificate of Attendance and a Certificate of Achievement. Neither of these options are a default track for students who can and should earn a standard diploma.

A school team will be responsible to decide if a student will work toward obtaining a regular diploma, modified diploma, extended diploma, or alternative certificate. A student's school team must include a parent or guardian of the student. In the case of a student receiving special education and related services, the resident school district of a

public charter school student shall determine the school team for that student. There must be a clear plan developed for each student working towards an alternative certificate at the beginning of 9th grade or date of transfer to the Roseburg Public Schools.

Certificate of Attendance:

The Certificate of Attendance will be awarded to a student who

- Is not on track to receive a standard diploma in four years as agreed upon by a school team
- Can choose to return to school after receiving the certificate and walking at graduation as outlined under educational OARs to work on transition or diploma requirements
- Has participated significantly in modified curriculum as a part of the student's regular instruction
- Has met specified goals of required learning/credit achievement outlined in their Personal Educational Plan

A Certificate of Attendance may lead to:

- Transition from high school to the community
- Workforce opportunities that do not require a standard high school diploma
- The possibility of additional vocational training or enrollment in a community college if entrance requirements are met
- The need for further coursework to pursue post-secondary opportunities
- Additional year(s) to work on standard or modified diploma

A Certificate of Attendance may or may not lead to eligibility for acceptance into the armed forces.

Participation in Graduation

The Certificate of Attendance is not intended to be an option for all students who need additional time to complete their credit requirements for a standard or modified diploma. This may serve as a "place holder" for students who would like to participate in graduation with their class but who intends to return to Roseburg High School to work toward additional goals or credit requirements for a standard or modified diploma or certificate of achievement as deemed appropriate by a school team.

Certificate of Achievement:

A Certificate of Achievement will be awarded to a student who

- Completes Transition goals and/or ages out at 21
- Has participated significantly in modified curriculum (focus on life skills)
- Is not on a standard diploma track as agreed upon by a school team and may be on a modified diploma track (that is not completed.)
- Has met specified goals of required learning/credit achievement outlined in their Personal Educational Plan

A Certificate of Achievement may lead to:

- Transition from high school to the community
- Preparation for programs supported by social services
- Workforce opportunities that do not require a modified or standard high school diploma

Participation in Graduation

Each student receiving a Certificate of Achievement shall have the option of participating in the high school graduation ceremony with the members of their class receiving a regular high school diploma

Stat. Auth.: [ORS 329.451](#)

Stats. Implemented: [ORS 329.451](#)

Hist.: ODE 15-2008, f. & cert. ef. 5-23-08

Related OARS:

OAR [581-022-1134](#)

OAR [581-022-1130](#)

OAR [581-022-0102](#)