

Omaha Public Schools
Early Graduation Application for 3 ½-Year Graduate

Name _____ ID _____ Date _____

Original Month and Year of Graduation _____

Month and Year of Graduation Being Requested _____

The mission of Omaha Public Schools is to prepare all students for success in college, career, and life. **Early Graduation for 3 ½-Year Graduate** (completion of all 48 high school credits in 3 ½ years instead of usual 4) is a consideration offered to a small number of students whose plan for college, career and life will be best served by an Early Graduation.

Omaha Public Schools staff cannot guarantee that any particular course, number of courses, accrual credits, or specific credits will be offered during any given school year or summer term. Omaha Public Schools can only accept transfer credits from accredited schools, per Board Policy 5003.

Eligibility

- 1) Must complete the **Early Graduation Application for 3 ½-Year Graduate** form during or prior to 1st semester of their 11th grade year.
- 2) Must have earned a minimum of 32 credits by January of their 11th grade year.
- 3) Students who fail one or more of the courses on their course plan will no longer be eligible for early graduation.

Process

- Student and parent/guardian meet with school counselor
 - Complete a manual graduation credit check
 - Create a draft of a course plan that includes all 48 required graduation credits
- If course plan includes courses from an accredited institution other than Omaha Public schools, parent/guardian and student are responsible for registering and paying for those courses.
- Student and parent/guardian complete **Early Graduation Application for 3 ½-Year Graduate** and submit to Principal.
- Principal makes decision and adds their input on **Early Graduation Application for 3 ½-Year Graduate** Form.

Other Considerations for Student and Parent/Guardian

- Early graduates might not qualify for senior class honors, National Honor Society, or scholarships awarded by the high school scholarship committee.
- Seniors planning to attend a four-year university remove themselves from convenient access and support with the scholarship application process.
- Students and families should contact their post-secondary institution regarding any changes in opportunity based on Early Graduation.
- Students involved in athletics, activities, and advanced coursework in areas of interest are advised to complete their last year in those programs.
- Are there ways that OPS/your school can meet your interests and needs, other than Early Graduation?
- There is no graduation ceremony in December/January. Early graduates who wish to participate in their school's May graduation ceremony must notify the staff member in charge of graduation.

Student Section

I am planning to leave my high school program early for the following reasons:

After I have earned my diploma from an OPS high school, my next step will be to:

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Section

I support my student's choice to graduate early and have investigated the considerations listed above. I understand that Omaha Public Schools may not be able to provide all of the required courses in a shortened time frame and that if my child needs to complete additional courses not provided by OPS to meet the shortened time frame that I will be responsible for finding, registering, and paying for courses provided by an accredited high school program.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Counselor's Recommendation and Notes (attach draft of course plan completed during meeting with student and parent/guardian):

_____ Approve _____ Do Not Approve Signature _____

Principal's Decision

_____ Approve _____ Do Not Approve Signature _____

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