

Browning Public Schools

Policy #4510

Policy Name: *Early Graduation*

Regulation:

Browning Public Schools believes that high school provides students with valuable learning experiences and a full four year schedule offers students multiple opportunities to participate, mature, and learn from course offerings and extra curricular activities. However, early graduation will be considered for students who have committed to the following post graduation plans or have the following circumstances:

1. Entrance into an advanced program of vocational education.
2. Entrance into the armed services to obtain specialized training which will be utilized in the job market later on.
3. The need to work to help support a family that requires the student to become a wage earner.
4. Marriage or family obligations that require the student to be a primary care giver.
5. Early entry into college.
6. Exceptional documented hardship.

An early graduation form will be provided to students upon their request. Students must complete five semesters and/or eight trimesters of school attendance and be 17 years old prior to making the request. The student will need to develop a plan to meet minimal graduation requirements within the existing standard curriculum in seven semesters. Requests must be made prior to May 30th of the school year prior to the proposed early graduation date. (Spring semester of the student's junior year)

The student requesting early graduation shall have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 and core course requirements which indicate a minimum GPA of 2.0. Normative assessment results such as the ITBS or TAP indicating skill development at the 4th stanine or above are required.

The Board of Trustees shall require the following information in order to consider a request for early graduation:

- An Early graduation Request Form to be completed by the student which includes a handwritten letter from the student outlining the reasons for the student's request.
- A letter from the parents or guardian supporting the student's request.
- A high school counselor shall compile an information packet for the Board regarding the student's school history and performance which will include a transcript; the student's attendance; GPA; and the history, number, and basis of behavioral referrals. This information packet or portfolio will also include projected course plan for the remainder of the student's high school career and the counselor's recommendation regarding the request.

- A letter from an academic department head in support of the request.
- A letter from the principal supporting the request based on the reasons for the student request, and consideration of the student's maturity in planning and follow through regarding post graduation prospects shall also be obtained.

Cross Reference: #4500 Graduation

Legal Reference: 20-1-301, MCA Graduation Seniors Requirement

Policy History:

Adopted on: 1/12/99

Revised on: 8/14/07, 1/8/08