

Morrow County School District

Code: IKF
Adopted: 5/10/10
Revised/Readopted: 3/09/15; 3/14/16; 8/15/16;
12/11/17; 5/14/18; 9/10/18;
6/10/19; 11/12/19; 1/10/22;
10/10/22; 2/12/24; 6/9/25

Graduation Requirements**

The Board establishes graduation requirements for awarding of a high school diploma, a modified diploma, an 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 district 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 the student is 18 years of age or older or emancipated.

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

1. ~~A~~ In foster care~~child~~¹;
2. Experiencing Houselessness²~~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~~;~~or
- ~~6-7.~~ ³Enrolled in an approved recovery school under ORS 336.680.

For any student identified above, the district shall accept any credits earned by the student in an educational program²⁴ 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.

¹~~As~~ "Foster child" is defined in ORS 30.297.

² See OAR 541-022-2000 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 343.961 or a hospital identified in ORS 343.261

Oregon Diploma

A high school diploma will be awarded to students in grades 9 through 12 who complete a minimum of 24 credits which include at least:

1. Three credits in mathematics (shall include one unit at the Algebra I level and two units that are at a level higher than Algebra I ~~courses aligned to the adopted Algebra, Geometry, and Data Reasoning standards meet this requirement~~);
2. Four credits in language arts⁵ (shall include the equivalent of one unit in written composition);
3. Three credits in science ~~(must include scientific inquiry and lab experiences as outlined in the standards; lab experiences can take place outside of school, in field-based experiences)~~;
4. Three credits in social sciences (~~including history~~ shall include 0.5 units of US; civics⁶ credit in addition to at least 2.5 units of credit aligned to the Oregon State Board adopted standards for the US and world history, geography, and economics. ~~geography and economics (must include at least .5 credit from civics and inclusive instruction in tribal history/shared history, holocaust/genocide, and ethnic studies, starting with students graduating in 2026)~~);
5. One credit in health education;
6. One credit in physical education;
7. Three credits in career and technical education, the arts or world languages⁷ (units shall be earned in any one or a combination);
8. One credit career education;
9. One-half credit Personal Financial Education (this requirement begins in January, 2027);
10. One-half credit Higher Education and Career Path Skills ~~(2~~(this requirement begins in January, 2027);

~~11. Five elective credits. Beginning in 2027, 4 credits of electives are required.~~

11. The remaining credits are elective.

The district shall offer students credit options provided the method for obtaining such credits is described in the student's personal education plan and the credit is earned by meeting requirements described in Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 581-022-2025.

To receive a diploma, in addition to credit requirements outlined in OAR 581-022-2000, a student must⁸:

⁵ "Language Arts" includes reading, writing and other communications in any language, including English.

⁶ Civics becomes a half-credit requirement beginning on January 1, 2026 (Senate Bill 513, 2021).

⁷ "World Language" includes sign language, heritage language and languages other than a student's primary language.

⁸ ~~The proficiency in Essential Skills requirement has been waived and is not a condition of receiving a high school diploma during the 2021-2022, 2022-2023 or 2023-2024 school year (Senate Bill 744, 2021).~~

1. ⁹Demonstrate proficiency in the Essential Skills of reading, writing and apply mathematics in a variety of settings;
- ~~1-2.~~ Develop an education plan and build an education profile;
- ~~2-3.~~ Demonstrate extended application of standards through a collection of evidence (or include evidence in existing collections(s); and
4. Participate in career-related learning experiences~~-culminating in a senior presentation.~~
- ~~3-5.~~ Senior Presentation: presentation of education plan and profile, career-related learning experience, and extended application, and 20 hours of volunteer/community service is presented during the spring senior year.

MCSD STANDARD DIPLOMA

A high school standard diploma will be awarded to students in grades 9 through 12 who complete a minimum of 26 credits which include at least:

1. Three credits of mathematics (shall include one unit at the Algebra I level and two units that are at a level higher than Algebra I);~~Four credits of English language arts (shall include the equivalent of one unit in written composition);~~
2. Four credits in language arts¹⁰ (shall include the equivalent of one unit in written composition);~~Three credits of mathematics (courses aligned to the adopted Algebra, Geometry, and Data Reasoning standards meet this requirement);~~
3. Three credits of in science;~~(must include scientific inquiry and lab experiences as outlined in the standards; lab experiences can take place outside of school, in field-based experiences);~~
4. Three credits of in social sciences (must shall include at least .5 unit of US Civics credit in addition to at least 2.5 units of credit aligned to the Oregon State Board adopted standards for US world history, geography, and economics; from civics and inclusive instruction in tribal history/shared history, holocaust/genocide, and ethnic studies, starting with students graduating in 2026);
5. One credit in health education;
6. One credit in physical education;
7. Three credits in Arts to include career technical education (CTE), the arts or world languages (units shall be earned in any one or a combination);
8. One credit in Career Education;

⁹ The State Board of Education has waived this requirement in Essential Skills for students graduating through the 2027-2028 school year.

¹⁰ “Language Arts” includes reading, writing and other communications in any language, including English.

9. Two credits in Career Pathways - including but not limited to:

- a. Agriculture;
- b. Business;
- c. Manufacturing;
- d. Information and computer technology;
- e. Health sciences; or
- f. Education.

10. One-half credit personal finance (beginning with the class of 2027);

11. Four and one-half elective credits (beginning with the class of 2027).

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 Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 581-022-2025.

To receive a diploma, in addition to credit requirements as outlined in OAR 581-022-2000, a student must:

1. ¹¹Demonstrate proficiency in the Essential Skills of reading, writing and apply mathematics in a variety of settings;

~~1-2.~~ Develop an education plan and build an education profile;

~~2-3.~~ Demonstrate extended application of standards through a collection of evidence (or include evidence in existing collection(s));

~~3-4.~~ Participate in career-related learning experiences; and outlined in the education plan;

~~4-5.~~ Senior Presentation: presentation of education plan and profile, career-related learning experience, and extended application and 20 hours of volunteer/community service is presented during the spring senior year. presentation during the students' senior year; and

~~5-6.~~ Documentation of 20 hours of volunteer/community service.

MCSD HONORS DIPLOMA

Purpose

1. Provide a valuable framework of standard requirements for students who are four-year college/university bound.
2. Offer an incentive for students to take challenging courses throughout their high school tenure.
3. Reward students who challenge themselves academically.
4. Provide students distinction when applying for college admittance and scholarships.

¹¹ The State Board of Education has waived this requirement in Essential Skills for students graduating through the 2027-2028 school year.

Requirements

1. Is required to be considered for the Salutatorian or Valedictorian designation at graduation.
- ~~1.2.~~ No D or F on transcript. Core classes must all be for letter grades.
- ~~2.3.~~ Pass grade 11 state tests*, complete **and** pass all work samples** (e.g., writing, speaking and mathematics problem solving, scientific inquiry).
- ~~3.4.~~ Must meet all Oregon State Graduation requirements established in Board policy IKF~~Additional requirements as per Board policy IKF—Graduation Requirements.~~
- ~~4.5.~~ Grade point average (GPA) of 3.5 or a 3.25 with a score ~~at or above the of 1190 SAT or 24 ACT~~ 85th percentile score determined annually by the Director of Educational Services.

Credit Requirements - Rigorous coursework for all four high school years as described below for Class of 2027 and on:

1. Four credits of language arts: one credit must be advanced/honors/college level;
2. Three credits of mathematics: one credit must be at or above Algebra III/Pre-calculus level;
3. Three credits of science: one credit must be advanced science, i.e., Physics, Chemistry, Honors Biology;
4. Four credits of social sciences: one credit must be advanced area, i.e., law. psychology, Honors History;
5. One credit in health education;
6. One credit in physical education;
7. Two credits world language: two credits in the study of the same language;
8. One credit in Career Education;
9. One credit in CTE: CTE/business/ag. science/computers;
10. One credit in fine arts: art/music, etc.;
11. One-half credit personal finance (beginning with the class of 2027);
12. Seven elective credits. Six and one-half credits beginning with the class of 2027;
13. Two career pathways credits, including but not limited to:
 - a. Agriculture;
 - b. Business;
 - c. Manufacturing;
 - d. Information and computer technology;
 - e. Health services; or

f. Education.

14. A minimum of 12 credits need to be connected to college credit: Eastern Promise/dual credit/expanded options.

Implementation and Guidance

Honors Diploma criteria will be published in all junior/senior high school student handbooks and other pertinent school materials.

Students interested in attaining an Honors Diploma must begin planning with their guidance counselors, class advisors and parent(s)/guardian(s) early on in their high school careers to insure GPA and credit requirements are being met.

*State tests at the 11th grade include Science, Math, and Language Arts (reading and writing)

Alternative benchmark assessments may include ~~passing scores as identified by ODE in these alternative assessments:~~

Math

ACT
PSAT
SAT
GED

Accuplacer MA 111

Compass MA 111

Reading

ACT
Accuplacer WR 121
Compass WR 121

PSAT

SAT

Writing

ACT
Compass
SAT

(ACT / SAT tests will be based on the 85th percentile score determined annually by the Director of Educational Services)

Science

Individual Science Project or

4th year of college science taken through Early College

**Completing the following classes with an “A” automatically demonstrates a passing work sample in that subject.

Math 111

WR 121 (writing and speaking)

Honors Chemistry / Honors Biology

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 adopted by the State Board of Education for a high school diploma while receiving reasonable modifications and accommodations. A modified diploma may only be awarded to a student who meets the eligibility criteria below and other criteria, if applicable, outlined in OAR 581-022-2010(3):

1. The student Hhas a documented history of an inability to maintain grade level achievement due to significant learning and instructional barriers; or
2. The student Hhas a documented history of a medical condition that creates a barrier to achievement.

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:

1. Three credits in language arts;
2. Two credits in mathematics;
3. Two credits in science;
4. Two credits in social sciences (which may include history, civics, geography and economics (including personal finance));
5. ¹²One-half credit in personal financial education
- ~~4.6.~~ ¹³One-half credit in higher education and career path skills;
- ~~5.7.~~ One credit in health education;
- ~~6.8.~~ One credit in physical education; and
- ~~7.9.~~ One credit in career technical education, the arts or world languages (units may be earned in any one or a combination).
- ~~8.10.~~ One credit career education;
- ~~9.11.~~ ~~Eleven~~ ^{Ten} elective credits.

Students may earn additional credits to earn a modified diploma pursuant to OAR 581-022-2010.

In addition to credit requirements as outlined in OAR 581-022-2010, a student must:

1. ¹⁴Demonstrate proficiency in the Essential Skills of reading, writing and apply mathematics in a variety of settings;
- ~~1.2.~~ Develop an education plan and build an education profile; and
- ~~2.3.~~ Demonstrate extended application of standards through a collection of evidence or include evidence in existing collection(s).

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 individualized education program (IEP) or Section 504 plan, any modifications to work samples must be consistent with the requirements established in the IEP or 504 plan. Modifications include practices and procedures that compromise the intent of the assessment through

¹² This unit of credit applies to all students who are awarded a modified diploma on or after January 1 2027.

¹³ This unit of credit applies to all students who are awarded a modified diploma on or after January 1 2027.

¹⁴ The State Board of Education has waived this requirement in Essential Skills for students graduating through the 2027-2028 school year.

a change in ~~learning expectations~~ the achievement level, construct, or ~~content that is to be measured, grade-level standard, or~~ measured outcome of the assessment. This means that IEP or 504 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.¹⁵ The IEP or 504 team must inform the student's parent that the use of a modification on an assessment will result in an invalid assessment;

2. For a student not on an IEP or 504 plan, any modifications to work samples must have been provided to the student during their 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.

Students not on an IEP or a Section 504 Plan may not receive a modified ~~Smarter-Balanced~~ statewide assessment.

A student's school team shall decide that a student should work toward a modified diploma no earlier than the end of grade six and no later than two years before the student's anticipated exit from high school. A student's school team may decide to revise a modified diploma decision.

A student's school team may decide that a student who was not previously working toward a modified diploma should work toward one when the student is less than two years from anticipated exit from high school if the documented history has changed.

~~Beginning in grade five or beginning after a documented history to qualify for a modified diploma, the district shall annually provide to the parents or guardians of the student, information about the availability and requirements of a modified diploma.~~ For students with a documented history, the district shall annually provide the parents or guardians of such students, beginning in grade five or after such documented history has been established, the following:

1. Information about the availability of high school diplomas, modified diplomas and the requirements for such diplomas; and
2. A disclosure that students awarded a certificate of attendance will not be counted as a high school graduate in any reporting for the state or district 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.

Essential Skills

¹⁵The district will allow English Language Learner (ELL) students to demonstrate proficiency in Essential Skills in the student's language of origin for a high school diploma or a modified diploma.

The district will develop procedures to provide local performance 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.

¹⁵ OAR 581-022-2120(2) requires districts to have "policy whether to allow ELL students to demonstrate proficiency in all required Essential Skills in the students' language of origin." OAR 581-022-2120(4) waives this requirement through the 2027-28 school year.

Essential Skills Appeal

The district will follow Board policy KL - Public Complaints in the event of an appeal for the denial of a diploma based on the Essential Skills graduation requirement. The district will retain student work samples and student performance data to ensure that sufficient evidence is available in the event of an appeal.

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 adopted by the State Board of Education for a high school diploma while receiving reasonable modifications and accommodations.

To be eligible for an extended diploma, a student must:

1. While in grade nine through completion of high school, complete 12 credits, which may not include more than ~~six~~6 credits in a self-contained special education classroom, and will include:
 - a. Two credits in mathematics;
 - b. Two credits in language arts;
 - c. Two credits in science;
 - d. Three credits in history, geography, economics or civics;
 - e. One credit in health;
 - f. One credit in physical education; and
 - g. One credit in the arts or a world language-; and
2. Have a documented history of:
 - a. An inability to maintain grade level achievement due to significant learning and instructional barriers;
 - b. A medical condition that creates a barrier to achievement; or
 - c. A change in the student's ability to participate in grade level activities as a result of a serious illness or injury that occurred after grade eight.

~~Beginning in grade five or beginning after a documented history to qualify for an extended diploma, the district shall annually provide to the parents or guardians of the student, information about the availability and requirements of an extended diploma.~~

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

3. Information about the availability of high school diplomas, modified diplomas and the requirements for such diplomas; and
4. A disclosure that students awarded a certificate of attendance will not be counted as a high school graduate in any reporting for the state or district 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.

Certificate of Attendance

~~certificate of attendance will be awarded to students who do not satisfy the requirements for a diploma, a modified diploma, or an extended diploma if the student has maintained regular full-time attendance for at least four years beginning in grade nine and meets minimum requirements established by the district.~~

~~Beginning in grade five or beginning after a documented history to qualify for an Certificate of Attendance, the district shall annually provide to the parents or guardians of the student, information about the availability and requirements of high school diplomas, modified diplomas, extended diplomas and certificate of attendance. This includes a disclosure that a student awarded a certificate of attendance will not be counted as a high school graduate in any reporting for the state or school district and that a student awarded a certificate of attendance may not indicate that the student received a high school diploma on applications for employment, military service, financial aid, admittance to an institution for higher education or any other purpose~~

A certificate of attendance¹⁶ will be awarded to students who:

1. Have maintained regular full-time attendance¹⁷ for at least four years beginning in grade nine;
2. Do not satisfy requirements for a high school diploma, modified diploma or extended diploma; and
3. Have a documented history¹⁸.

For students with a documented history¹⁹, the district 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:

Information about the availability of high school diplomas, modified diplomas and the requirements for the diplomas; and

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 district 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.

¹⁶ A student who began grade 9 before July 1, 2020, may be awarded an alternative certificate if the student satisfies the requirements for an alternative certificate which are in effect on the day before July 1, 2024.

¹⁷ “Regular full-time attendance” means not having eight or more unexcused absences in any four-week period during which school is in session. See ORS 339.065 for definition of irregular attendance. This will be calculated on an annual basis and equates to having unexcused absences for less than 20 percent of the days or class periods during which school is in session.

¹⁸ “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.

¹⁹ “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.

Other District Responsibilities

The district will ensure that all students have onsite access to the appropriate resources, and courses to achieve a high school diplomas, a modified diplomas, an and extended diplomas, or an certificate of attendance at each high school in the district. The district will provide age-appropriate and developmentally appropriate literacy instruction to all students until graduation.

The district 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 who~~ has the documented history listed under the above modified diploma or extended diploma requirements outlined above the opportunity to pursue a diploma with more stringent requirements, for the sole reason the student has the document history.

The district 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 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 district ~~shall~~ must 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, an extended diploma or ~~an alternative certificate~~ a certificate of attendance ~~-in the later of four years after starting the~~ ninth 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 ~~satisfy the~~ complete the requirements for a modified diploma, an extended diploma or ~~an alternative certificate~~ certificate of attendance in less than four years but not less than three years. To satisfy the requirements for a modified diploma, an extended diploma or ~~an~~ certificate of attendance 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 students reaches the age of 21. A copy of the consent will be forwarded to the district superintendent who will annually report to the Superintendent of Public Instruction the number of such consents.

A student who qualifies to receive or receives a modified diploma, an extended diploma, or ~~an~~ 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, 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 unique needs of the student. ~~and w~~ When added together, the district will provide a total number of hours of instruction or 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 district 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 district 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 district will give the student an individualized summary of performance.

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, ~~an alternative certificate~~ a certificate of attendance or completion of a General Education Development document. The continuance

of services for students with disabilities for a modified diploma, extended diploma or ~~alternative certificate~~ 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 district 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 ~~Smarter Balanced or alternate Oregon Extended Assessment~~ Oregon statewide assessments in language arts and/or mathematics by completing the Oregon Department of Education’s Opt-out Form²⁰ and submitting the form to the district.

The district will issue a high school diploma ~~pursuant to Oregon law (ORS 332.114)~~, to a veteran if the veteran resided within the boundaries of the district or is an Oregon resident and attended high school of the district, or to a deceased veteran, upon request from a representative of the veteran, if the deceased veteran resided within the boundaries of the district at the time of death or was an Oregon resident at the time of death and attended a high school of the district.

The act of student-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 Administration Manual* or accompanying guidance; or results in a score that is invalid.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

ORS 329.007	ORS 339.115	OAR 581-022-2010
ORS 329.045	ORS 339.505	OAR 581-022-2015
ORS 329.451	ORS 343.295	OAR 581-022-2020
ORS 329.479		OAR 581-022-2025
ORS 332.107	OAR 581-021-0009	OAR 581-022-2030
ORS 332.114	OAR 581-022-0102	OAR 581-022-2115
ORS 336.585	OAR 581-022-2000	OAR 581-022-2120
ORS 336.590	OAR 581-022-2005	OAR 581-022-2505

Test Administration Manual, published by the OREGON DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

~~Senate Bill 1522 (2022).~~

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

~~Cross Reference(s):~~

~~IKFA—Exceptions to Four Year Attendance Requirement for Graduation~~
~~IL—Assessment Program~~

²⁰ Oregon Department of Education page for: [30-day notice and opt-out form](#)