## **Graduation Requirements – Modified & Extended Diplomas**

## **Modified Diploma**

A modified diploma will be awarded only to students who have demonstrated the inability to meet the full set of academic standards for a high school diploma even with reasonable accommodations. On or after July 1, 2009, a <u>A</u> modified diploma may only be awarded to a student who meets the eligibility criteria listed below:

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

For a student who entered grade nine before July 1, 2007, the student's team shall decide whether the student must meet the unit of credit requirements set by the State Board of Education or the credit requirements specified by the district for a modified diploma at the time the student entered grade nine.

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 <b>7 or 8 PERIOD DAY</b>	
English	3	
Math	2	
Science	2	
Social Studies	2	
Health	1	
PE	1	
Career Technical Ed, The Arts or Second Language	1	
Career Ed	1	
Electives	11	
Total credits required for modified diploma:	24	
Essential Skills	Read and comprehend a variety of text.	Demonstrate proficiency
	Write clearly & accurately	Demonstrate proficiency
	Apply mathematics in a variety of settings	Demonstrate proficiency

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.

Students not on an IEP or a 504 Plan may not receive a modified OAKS 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 towards a modified diploma should work towards one when the student is less than two years from anticipated exit from high school if the documented history has changed.

## **Extended Diploma**

Beginning in the 2009-2010 school year, a <u>A</u>n extended diploma will be awarded only to students who have demonstrated the inability to meet the full set of academic content standards for a diploma while receiving 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 credits in a self-contained special education classroom and will include:
  - a. Two credits of mathematics;
  - b. Two credits of English;
  - c. Two credits of science;
  - d. Three credits of history, geography, economics or civics;
  - e. One credit of health;
  - f. One credit of physical education;
  - g. One credit of the arts or a second world language.
- 3. Have a documented history of an inability to maintain grade level achievement due to significant learning and instructional barriers; or
- 4. Have a documented history of a medical condition that creates a barrier to achievements; and
- 5. Participate in an alternate assessment beginning no later than grade six and lasting for two or more assessment cycles; or

- 6. 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.
- 2. Have a documented history of:
  - a. <u>An inability to maintain grade level achievement due to significant learning and</u> <u>instructional barriers; or</u>
  - b. <u>A medical condition that creates a barrier to achievement; or</u>
  - c. <u>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.</u>

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

## **Alternative Certificates**

Alternative certificates will be awarded to students who do not satisfy the requirements for a diploma, modified diploma or extended diploma if the students meet minimum credit requirements established by the district. Alternative certificates will be awarded based on individual student needs and achievement.