

# Enrolled House Bill 2283

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Pre-session filed (at the request of House Interim Committee on Education)

CHAPTER .....

AN ACT

Relating to high school completion; creating new provisions; amending ORS 329.451; and declaring an emergency.

**Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

**SECTION 1.** ORS 329.451 is amended to read:

329.451. (1)(a) At or before grade 12, a school district or public charter school shall award a high school diploma to a student who completes the requirements established by subsection (2) of this section.

(b) A school district or public charter school shall award a modified diploma to a student who satisfies the requirements established by subsection (7) of this section, an extended diploma to a student who satisfies the requirements established by subsection (8) of this section or an alternative certificate to a student who satisfies the requirements established by subsection (9) of this section.

(c) A school district or public charter school may not deny a student who has the documented history described in subsection (7)(b) or (8)(b) and (c) of this section the opportunity to pursue a diploma with more stringent requirements than a modified diploma or an extended diploma for the sole reason that the student has the documented history.

(d) A school district or public charter school may award a modified diploma or extended diploma to a student only upon the consent of [*the parent or guardian of the student.*]:

**(A) The parent or guardian of the student, if the student is under 18 years of age and is not emancipated pursuant to ORS 419B.550 to 419B.558 or has been determined by a court to not have the ability to give informed consent regarding the student's education; or**

**(B) The student, if the student is not described in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph.**

(2) In order to receive a high school diploma from a school district or public charter school, a student must satisfy the requirements established by the State Board of Education and the school district or public charter school and, while in grades 9 through 12, must complete at least:

- (a) Twenty-four total credits;
- (b) Three credits of mathematics; and
- (c) Four credits of English.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (2) of this section, a school district or public charter school may award a high school diploma to a student who does not satisfy the requirements of subsection (2)(b) or (c) of this section if the student:

- (a) Has met or exceeded the academic content standards for mathematics or English established by the board, as demonstrated on Oregon state assessments; or
- (b) Displays proficiency in mathematics or English at a level established by the board.

(4) A student may satisfy the requirements of subsection (2) of this section in less than four years. If a student satisfies the requirements of subsection (2) of this section and a school district or public charter school has the consent of the student's parent or guardian, the school district or public charter school shall award a high school diploma to the student upon request from the student.

(5) If a school district or public charter school has the consent of a student's parent or guardian, the school district or public charter school may advance the student to the next grade level if the student has satisfied the requirements for the student's current grade level.

(6) The requirement for obtaining the consent of a student's parent or guardian under subsections (4) and (5) of this section does not apply to a student who is:

- (a) Emancipated pursuant to ORS 419B.550 to 419B.558; or
- (b) 18 years of age or older.

(7) A school district or public charter school shall award a modified diploma only to students who have demonstrated the inability to meet the full set of academic content standards for a high school diploma with reasonable modifications and accommodations. To be eligible for a modified diploma, a student must:

(a) Satisfy the requirements for a modified diploma established by the State Board of Education; and

(b) Have a documented history of an inability to maintain grade level achievement due to significant learning and instructional barriers or have a documented history of a medical condition that creates a barrier to achievement.

(8) A school district or public charter school shall award an extended diploma only to students who have demonstrated the inability to meet the full set of academic content standards for a high school diploma with reasonable modifications and accommodations. To be eligible for an extended diploma, a student must:

(a) While in grade nine through completion of high school, complete 12 credits, which may not include more than six credits earned in a self-contained special education classroom and shall 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; and
- (G) One credit of the arts or a second language;

(b) Have a documented history of an inability to maintain grade level achievement due to significant learning and instructional barriers or have a documented history of a medical condition that creates a barrier to achievement; and

(c)(A) Participate in an alternate assessment beginning no later than grade six and lasting for two or more assessment cycles; or

(B) 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.

(9) A school district or public charter school shall award an alternative certificate to a student who does not satisfy the requirements for a high school diploma, a modified diploma or an extended diploma if the student meets requirements established by the board of the school district or public charter school.

**(10) A student shall have the opportunity to satisfy the requirements of subsection (7), (8) or (9) of this section by the later of:**

**(a) Four years after starting grade nine; or**

**(b) The student reaching the age of 21 years, if the student is entitled to a public education until the age of 21 years under state or federal law.**

(11)(a) A student may satisfy the requirements described in subsection (7), (8) or (9) of this section in less than four years if consent is provided by:

(A) The parent or guardian of the student, if the student is under 18 years of age and is not emancipated pursuant to ORS 419B.550 to 419B.558 or has been determined by a court to not have the ability to give informed consent regarding the student's education; or

(B) The student, if the student is not described in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph.

(b) The consent provided under this subsection must be written and must clearly state that the parent, guardian or student is waiving the time allowed under subsection (10) of this section. A consent may not be used to allow a student to satisfy the requirements of subsection (7), (8) or (9) of this section in less than three years.

(c) A copy of all consents provided under this subsection for students in a school district must be forwarded to the district superintendent.

(d) Each school district must provide to the Superintendent of Public Instruction information about the number of consents provided during a school year.

~~[(10)]~~ (12)(a) A student who receives a modified diploma, an extended diploma or an alternative certificate shall:

(A) Have the option of participating in a high school graduation ceremony with the class of the student[.]; and

(B) Have access to instructional hours, hours of transition services and hours of other services that are designed to:

(i) Meet the unique needs of the student; and

(ii) When added together, provide a total number of hours of instruction and 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.

(b)(A) The number of instructional hours, hours of transition services and hours of other services that are appropriate for a student shall be determined by the student's individualized education program team. Based on the student's needs and performance level, the student's individualized education program team may decide that the student will not access the total number of hours of instruction and services to which the student has access under paragraph (a)(B) of this subsection.

(B) A school district may not unilaterally decrease the total number of hours of instruction and services to which the student has access under paragraph (a)(B) of this subsection, regardless of the age of the student.

(c) If a student's individualized education program team decides that the student will not access the total number of hours of instruction and services to which the student has access under paragraph (a)(B) of this subsection, the school district shall annually:

(A) Provide the following information in writing to the parent or guardian of the student:

(i) The school district's duty to comply with the requirements of paragraph (a)(B) of this subsection; and

(ii) The prohibition against a school district's unilaterally decreasing the total number of hours of instruction and services to which the student has access.

(B) Obtain a signed acknowledgment from the parent or guardian of the student that the parent or guardian received the information described in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph.

(C) Include in the individualized education program for the student a written statement that explains the reasons the student is not accessing the total number of hours of instruction and services to which the student has access under paragraph (a)(B) of this subsection.

(d) For purposes of paragraph (a)(B) of this subsection, transition services and other services designed to meet the unique needs of the student may be provided to the student through an interagency agreement entered into by the school district if the individualized education program developed for the student indicates that the services may be provided by another agency. A school district that enters into an interagency agreement as allowed under this paragraph retains the responsibility for ensuring that the student has access to the

**number of service hours required to be provided to the student under this subsection. An agency is not required to change any eligibility criteria or enrollment standards prior to entering into an interagency agreement as provided by this paragraph.**

[(11)] (13) A school district or public charter school shall:

(a) Ensure that students have **on-site** access to the appropriate resources to achieve a high school diploma, a modified diploma, an extended diploma or an alternative certificate at each high school in the school district or at the public charter school.

(b) Provide literacy instruction to all students until graduation.

(c) Beginning in grade five, annually provide information to the parents or guardians of a student taking an alternate assessment of the availability of a modified diploma, an extended diploma and an alternative certificate and the requirements for the diplomas and certificate.

[(12)] (14) The State Board of Education shall submit for review by the legislative committees on education or the interim legislative committees on education, as appropriate, any proposed rules to implement requirements for a high school diploma, a modified diploma, an extended diploma or an alternative certificate prior to the adoption of those rules by the board.

**SECTION 2. The amendments to ORS 329.451 by section 1 of this 2011 Act apply to modified diplomas, extended diplomas and alternative certificates awarded on or after July 1, 2011.**

**SECTION 3. This 2011 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2011 Act takes effect July 1, 2011.**

Passed by House March 2, 2011

Received by Governor:

Repassed by House May 25, 2011

.....M.,....., 2011

Approved:

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Ramona Kenady Line, Chief Clerk of House

.....M.,....., 2011

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Bruce Hanna, Speaker of House

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John Kitzhaber, Governor

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Arnie Roblan, Speaker of House

Filed in Office of Secretary of State:

Passed by Senate May 23, 2011

.....M.,....., 2011

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Peter Courtney, President of Senate

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Kate Brown, Secretary of State