

OAK PARK UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD POLICY

Series 6000

Instruction

BP 6146.1(a)

High School Graduation Requirements

The Governing Board desires to prepare all students to obtain a high school diploma to enable them to take advantage of opportunities for postsecondary education and employment.

(cf. 5127 - Graduation Ceremonies and Activities)

(cf. 5147 - Dropout Prevention)

(cf. 6143 – Courses of Study)

(cf. 6146.3 – Reciprocity of Academic Credit)

Course Requirements

To obtain a high school diploma, students shall complete at least the following courses in grades 9-12, with each course being one year unless otherwise specified:

1. Forty (40) semester credits in English
2. Thirty-five (35) semester credits of social science to include: ten (10) semester credits of United States history and geography; ten (10) semester credits of world history, culture, and geography; five (5) semester credits in American government and civics; five (5) semester credits in economics; and five (5) credits of world geography. (Education Code 51225.3)
3. Five (5) semester credits of health education.
4. Thirty (30) semester credits of science including biological and physical sciences (Education Code 51225.3) Students attending Oak View High School must complete twenty (20) semester credits of science including life science and physical science. An Oak View High school student may elect to complete ten (10) extra credits of science, including one year of global science, and be recognized as graduating with a “special emphasis in science”.

(cf. 6142.93 - Science Instruction)

5. Thirty (30) semester credits of mathematics including ten (10) semester credits of Algebra I (or twenty (20) semester credits of Algebra 1A and 1B ten (10) each) and ten (10) credits of geometry.

At least one mathematics course, or a combination of the two mathematics courses required for completion in grades 9-12, shall meet or exceed state academic content standards for Algebra 1. (Education Code 51224.5)

Completion, prior to grade 9, of algebra coursework that meets or exceeds state academic content standards shall satisfy the algebra coursework requirement, but shall not exempt a student from the requirement to complete three mathematics courses in grades 9-12. (Education Code 51224.5)

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(cf. 6011 – Academic Standards)

(cf. 6142.92 – Mathematics Instruction)

6. Twenty (20) semester credits of physical education. (Education Code 51225.3)

(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education)

7. Ten (10) semester credits of visual or performing arts, foreign language, or American Sign Language. (Education Code 51225.3)

(cf. 6142.2 – World/Foreign Language Instruction)

(cf. 6142.6 - Visual and Performing Arts Education)

8. Five (5) semester credits of practical skills (industrial arts, technology education [beyond required], journalism, yearbook, auto, architectural, or vocational education).

(cf. 6178 – Career Technical Education)

(cf. 6178.2 – Regional Occupational Center/Program)

9. Five (5) semester credits of computer education course.

10. Five (5) semester credits of a life skills course in senior year.

11. Fifty-five (55) additional general education elective credits to total two hundred and forty (240).

12. All freshmen and sophomore students will complete a standards based guidance program to develop a personal learning plan.

Oak View High School students will graduate with two hundred and thirty (230) credits unless they chose to complete an additional ten (10) credits of science as stated in #4 above.

Because the prescribed course of study may not accommodate the needs of some students, the Board shall provide alternative means for the completion of prescribed courses in accordance with law.

(cf. 6146.11 - Alternative Credits Toward Graduation)

(cf. 6146.2 - Certificate of Proficiency/High School Equivalency)

The Superintendent or designee shall exempt or waive specific course requirements for foster youth, homeless children, or children of military families in accordance with Education Code

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51225.1 and 49701

Exemptions and Waivers

A foster youth, homeless student, or former juvenile court school student who transfers into the district any time after completing his/her second year of high school shall be required to complete all graduation requirements specified in Education Code 51225.3 but shall be exempt from any additional district-adopted graduation requirements, unless the Superintendent or designee makes a finding that the student is reasonably able to complete the requirements in time to graduate by the end of his/her fourth year of high school. Within 30 days of the transfer, any such student shall be notified of the availability of the exemption and whether he/she qualifies for it. (Education Code 51225.1)

(cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

(cf. 6173 – Education for Homeless Children)

(cf. 6173.1 – Education for Foster Youth)

(cf. 6173.3 – Education for Juvenile Court School Students)

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall facilitate the on-time graduation of children of military families by waiving specific course requirements for graduation if the student has satisfactorily completed similar coursework in another district. (Education Code 49701)

(cf. 6173.2 – Education for Children of Military Families)

Retroactive Diplomas

Until July 31, 2018, any student who completed grade 12 in the 2003-04 school year or a subsequent school year and has met all applicable graduation requirements other than the passage of the high school exit examination shall be granted a high school diploma. (Education Code 60851.6)

In addition, the district may grant a diploma to a veteran who entered the military service of the United States while he/she was a district student in grade 12 and who had completed the first half of the work required for grade 12. (Education Code 51440)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

47612 Enrollment in charter school

48200 Compulsory attendance

48412 Certificate of proficiency

48430 Continuation education schools and classes

48645.5 Acceptance of coursework

48980 Required notification at beginning of term

49701 Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children

51224 Skills and knowledge required for adult life

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51224.5 Algebra instruction
51225.1 Exemption from district graduation requirements
51225.2 Pupil in foster care defined; acceptance of coursework, credits, retaking of course
51225.3 High school graduation
51225.35 Mathematics course requirements; computer science
51225.36 Instruction in sexual harassment and violence; districts that require health education for graduation
51225.5 Honorary diplomas; foreign exchange students
51225.6 Compression-only cardiopulmonary resuscitation
51228 Graduation requirements
51240-51246 Exemptions from requirements
51250-51251 Assistance to military dependents
51410-51412 Diplomas
51420-51427 High school equivalency certificates
51440 Retroactive high school diplomas
51450-51455 Golden State Seal Merit Diploma
51745 Independent study restrictions
56390-56392 Recognition for educational achievement, special education
60851.5 Suspension of high school exit examination
60851.6 Retroactive diploma; completion of all graduation requirements except high school exit examination
66204 Certification of high school courses as meeting university admissions criteria
67386 Student safety; affirmative consent standard
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
1600-1651 Graduation of students from grade 12 and credit toward graduation
4600-4687 Uniform complaint procedures
COURT DECISIONS
O'Connell v. Superior Court (Valenzuela), (2006) 141 Cal.App.4th 1452

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education, High School: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/gc/hs>

University of California, List of Approved a-g Courses:

<http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions/freshman/requirements>

Adopted: 4-26-78

Amended: 2-5-91, 8-14-01, 9-17-02, 3-22-05, 2-21-06, 2-17-10, 3-20-12, 4-8-14, 5-17-16,
4-18-17