

Instruction

Differential Graduation and Competency Standards for Students with Disabilities

The Individualized Education Program (IEP) team shall determine the appropriate standards and assessments, as well as the accommodations that may be required for students with disabilities.

No student shall be classified as eligible for differential standards of proficiency for the purpose of circumventing the legal requirement to maintain academic eligibility for extracurricular or cocurricular activities. (Education Code 35160.5)

High School Diploma and Certificate of Educational Achievement/ Completion

Beginning in 2005-2006, a student with disabilities may be awarded a high school diploma upon satisfactory completion of the course of study specified in his/her IEP and upon completion of the high school exit exam. The high school exit exam shall be administered in accordance with requirements and accommodations as specified in the student's IEP.

All students subject to the requirements of the high school exit exam shall receive "adequate notice" as specified in law and Board policy. (Education Code 48980, 60850)

Instead of a high school diploma, a student with disabilities may be awarded a certificate or document of educational achievement or completion if the student has met one of the following requirements: (Education Code 56390)

1. Satisfactorily completed a prescribed alternative course of study approved by the Governing Board of the District in which the student attended school or the District with jurisdiction over the student as identified in his/her IEP
2. Satisfactorily met his/her goals and objectives during high school as identified in his/her IEP
3. Satisfactorily attended high school, participated in the instruction as prescribed in his/her IEP, and met the objectives of the statement of transition services

In accordance with Education Code 56391, a student with disabilities who meets any of the criteria specified above shall be eligible to participate in any graduation ceremony and any school activity related to graduation in which a graduating student of similar age without disabilities would be eligible to participate.

(Legal references next page)

Legal References:

EDUCATION CODE

35160.5 Extracurricular and cocurricular activities; differential standards

48980 Parental notifications

56000 Education of individuals with exceptional needs

56341 Individualized education program team

56345 Elements of the IEP

56390-56393 Certificate of completion, special education

60850-60856 High school exit exam

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

3070 Graduation

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1412 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

300.1-300.756 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

Adopted: 3-08

ORANGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Orange, California