



Frequently Asked Questions:
International Baccalaureate Program
Completion and Oregon Diploma Credit
Requirements

Supporting the implementation of HB 4137

Table of Contents

- Overview 3
- Which students qualify for being considered to have met their Oregon Diploma credit requirements by participating in an IB program? 3
- What are the requirements for a student to be an IB program completer?..... 3
- Does a student who has taken IB courses, but does not complete a full IB program, be considered to have met all the credit requirements for an Oregon Diploma? 3
- What counts as “completing” IB program requirements? Who can evaluate that completeness? 3
- What if a student decides to not complete an IB program? 3
- When does this law and rule take effect? 3
- Can districts add additional requirements for IB program completers? 4
- What about the SB 3 courses: Personal Financial Education and Higher Education and Career Path Skills? 4
 - What did the State Board of Education adopt based on the legislation for SB 3?..... 4
 - What is a standalone course? 4
 - How does the PFE and HECPS standalone course requirement impact IB program completers?..... 4
- How can IB completers get a waiver for the Personal Financial Education and/or Higher Education and Career Path Skills credit requirements? 5
 - Which students can get a waiver for the PFE and/or HECPS course requirements? 5
 - What counts as “not having a reasonable opportunity”? 5
 - How does a district apply for this waiver on behalf of a student?..... 5
 - How long is this waiver available?..... 5
- What should the curriculum map for Health and Civics look like?..... 5
- Are districts required to submit the curriculum map for Health and Civics to ODE? 5
- Appendix A: Sample IB Program Acknowledgment Form..... 6
- Appendix B: Sample form for Health and Civics curriculum map..... 7

Overview

This document provides clarification to districts and schools on the requirements related to International Baccalaureate (IB) program completion and the credit requirements for an Oregon Diploma, in accordance with HB 4137 ([ORS 329.451](#)) and [OAR 581-022-2000](#).

Which students qualify for being considered to have met their Oregon Diploma credit requirements by participating in an IB program?

Any student who completes all the requirements, as described by the International Baccalaureate Organization, for an International Baccalaureate Diploma Program or an International Baccalaureate Career-Related Program are considered to have met all the credit requirements for an Oregon Diploma except .5 credit of Personal Financial Education (PFE) and .5 credit of Higher Education and Career Path Skills (HECPS). In this document, those students who complete the IB program requirements are called ***IB program completers***.

What are the requirements for a student to be an IB program completer?

If a student has completed all the requirements, as described by the International Baccalaureate Organization, for an International Baccalaureate Diploma Program or an International Baccalaureate Career-Related Program they are considered IB program completers.

Does a student who has taken IB courses, but does not complete a full IB program, be considered to have met all the credit requirements for an Oregon Diploma?

No, only IB program completers are considered to have met all Oregon Diploma credit requirements (except PFE and HECPS). Students taking one or more IB courses can have credit for those courses applied to their Oregon Diploma requirements, but no other requirements will be considered to have been met.

What counts as “completing” IB program requirements? Who can evaluate that completeness?

For the purposes of meeting Oregon Diploma requirements in a timely manner for graduation, not all elements of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program or an International Baccalaureate Career-Related Program need to be graded by outside IB examiners to determine completeness. Local IB staff may determine the completeness of the program requirements. ODE recommends that IB programs create a written policy defining what “completeness” looks like in their program.

What if a student decides to not complete an IB program?

Students who are not IB program completers will need to meet all Oregon Diploma requirements to graduate, even if they participated in an IB program. Districts may want to create and use an IB Program acknowledgement form to ensure students and families are aware of how the student must meet graduation requirements if the student begins but does not complete an IB Program. An example of this kind of form is found in Appendix A of this document.

When does this law and rule take effect?

The law took effect on January 1, 2025. After that date, all Oregon IB program completers are considered to have met the credit requirements for an Oregon Diploma, Diploma except .5 credit of Personal Financial Education (PFE) and .5 credit of Higher Education and Career Path Skills (HECPS).

Can districts add additional requirements for IB program completers?

Yes, districts can add additional requirements, but when doing so they must “attempt not to discourage access to IB programs,” as required by [ORS 329.451](#). This means that the district must carefully consider any additional requirements added, and the impact on students’ decisions to pursue an IB program. If an additional credit requirement or the overall amount of additional credit requirements included by a district would discourage a student from participation in the IB program, the district could be in violation of this directive.

As districts consider adding local credit requirements for IB program completers, here are some questions to consider:

- Is the content of this course essential for all graduates of our district to know before they graduate?
- Are there places in the IB program curriculum where students will learn this content? Could it be integrated into an IB program course?
- Will this addition likely require IB program students to spend money to access the course, or to take courses outside of the regular school day?
- What is the likely impact of adding this requirement on students who don’t decide to participate in an IB program until late in 10th grade?

What about the SB 3 courses: Personal Financial Education and Higher Education and Career Path Skills?

What did the State Board of Education adopt based on the legislation for SB 3?

The Personal Financial Education and Higher Education and Career Path Skills standards and rules were adopted in June 2024. Beginning with the class of 2027, the Oregon Diploma and Modified Diploma requirements will include a 0.5 credit in Personal Financial Education, and a 0.5 credit in Higher Education and Career Path Skills as part of the total credit requirements. Starting January 1, 2027, districts and public charter schools must verify that students earning high school diplomas earn these credits via standalone courses.

What is a standalone course?

A standalone course refers to a single course that appears on a student's transcript. Course credits for PFE and HECPS must be awarded in a standalone course that includes the adopted standards. These courses may include integration of standards and concepts from other content areas, such as math, the economics standards from social science, or CTE Program of Study requirements. However, PFE or HECPS credits cannot be awarded if the PFE or HECPS standards are integrated into other courses, including IB courses.

How does the PFE and HECPS standalone course requirement impact IB program completers?

Because of the standalone course requirement, IB program completers must also earn 0.5 credit of Personal Financial Education and 0.5 credit of Higher Education and Career Path Skills. By requiring “standalone” courses, these credits are treated differently from other credits included in the Oregon Diploma, which is why they are still required of IB program completers.

How can IB completers get a waiver for the Personal Financial Education and/or Higher Education and Career Path Skills credit requirements?

Which students can get a waiver for the PFE and/or HECPS course requirements?

If a student does not have a reasonable opportunity to take PFE and HECPS during their regular high school day while they are in grades 9-12, that student is eligible for a student-level waiver.

What counts as “not having a reasonable opportunity”?

If a student’s only chances to take PFE or HECPS conflicts with a core IB program class or is only available outside the normal school day (i.e. during the summer, or before or after the regular school hours), that student will qualify for a student-level waiver.

How does a district apply for this waiver on behalf of a student?

The district will need to complete the waiver form and have the waiver request approved by the school board, and then submit that form to ODE. Waiver forms will be available on the ODE website before September of 2026.

How long is this waiver available?

This waiver is only available until **July 1, 2030**. It is intended to apply to students who are in grades 9 and 10 during the implementation of SB 3 course requirements.

What should the curriculum map for Health and Civics look like?

While transcribed credit for Health and Civics courses is not required for IB program completers, [OAR 581-022-2000](#) asks that all IB programs ensure that IB completers receive content aligned to the Oregon adopted standards for [Health](#) and [Civics](#). This alignment is shown by creating a curriculum map which details when and in what course each standard will be taught.

ODE is developing a sample template for this curriculum map, which will be included in Appendix B of this document when it is available.

Are districts required to submit the curriculum map for Health and Civics to ODE?

No. Districts are required to keep a copy of the map on file that is available to ODE upon request.

Appendix A: Sample IB Program Acknowledgment Form

Student Name (Print): _____

Grade Level: _____

School: _____

Date: _____

IB Program Acknowledgment: By signing this form, the student and their family confirm their understanding of the following:

1. **Pursuing the IB Diploma or Career-Related Program:** IB Programs are rigorous pathways that fulfill both the International Baccalaureate requirements and, as per House Bill 4137, the Oregon diploma credit requirements.
2. **Exiting the IB Diploma or Career-Related Program:** If the student decides to exit an IB program, they will be responsible for meeting the standard Oregon diploma requirements or local district diploma requirements. This includes completing any missing credits that may have been waived for full IB program candidates.
3. **Making Up Credits:** Upon exiting an IB Program, the student will be required to work with their counselor to adjust their course schedule and ensure they are on track to complete all required credits for the Oregon or local district diploma before graduation.
4. **Counselor Support:** The student will receive ongoing support from their school counselor to adjust their course selections and ensure they meet the necessary graduation requirements in a timely manner.
5. **Implications of Exiting the IB Program Early:** Exiting the IB program may affect the student's academic schedule and could require taking additional courses to meet Oregon or local district diploma standards. Students and families should carefully consider this decision.

Signatures: We have read and understand the above information. We acknowledge the responsibilities and potential consequences of exiting an IB Program.

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Print): _____

Counselor Signature: _____

Date: _____

Counselor Name (Print): _____

Administrator Signature: _____

Date: _____

Administrator Name (Print): _____

This form will be kept on file to document that the student and family have been informed of their responsibilities should they exit the IB program.

Appendix B: Sample form for Health and Civics curriculum map

COMING SOON!