

Senate Bill 744

OVERVIEW AND EXPLANATION



OREGON DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

Requirements for an Oregon Diploma can be found at:

- https://www.oregon.gov/ode /students-and-family/oregond iploma
- OAR <u>581-022-2000</u>
- OAR <u>581-022-0106</u>

RESEARCH & ENGAGEMENT

Oregon's current diploma requirements were first adopted in 2007. In an effort to ensure equity and respond to changes in educational research, technology, society, and business and industry, Senate Bill 744 directs ODE to use a transparent process that is equitable, accessible, and inclusive to research other state graduation models and intentionally engage communities to put forward diploma requirement recommendations to the Legislature and State Board.

Senate Bill 744 maintains Oregon's stringent high school credit requirements for graduation. Students are required to have knowledge and skills in reading, writing, and math to graduate with a diploma in Oregon.

Senate Bill 744 directs ODE to use a transparent process that is equitable, accessible, and inclusive to:

- Review existing state requirements for earning each of the diplomas and alternative certificates as prescribed by state law and rules adopted by the State Board of Education.
- Review equity and disparities that may exist including identification of the causes of disparities that have resulted from the requirements and whether the requirements have been applied inequitably to different student populations.
- Research other state graduation models, to compare requirements.
- Examine local implementation and the expectations of employers and post-secondary institutions by engaging with Oregon's diverse communities, educators, and business and industry partners to hear what Oregonians value and expect of the Oregon Diploma.
- Temporarily suspend the requirement for students to demonstrate proficiency in the Essential Skills. The purpose is to research the current requirements to ensure that they are equitable, accessible, and inclusive.
- Produce a report to the Legislature and the State Board of Education by September 1, 2022 that includes a summary of the review and research conducted. The report will also make recommendations regarding graduation policy for legislative and State Board consideration.

Senate Bill 744 presents Oregonians with a unique opportunity to pause, review, and discuss the inequitable impacts of current graduation policy and make recommendations that incorporates equity, accessibility, and inclusion for all of Oregon's students.