

Certificate of Completion

A Certificate of Completion is not an academic credential. There are no state course or grade requirements for receiving a Certificate of Completion. Generally, students concentrate on their IEP goals. The student's IEP team will determine if the student will receive a High School Diploma or a Certificate of Completion. Students who do not receive a High School Diploma are eligible to continue receiving special education services until the age of 26 or per Rule 340.1702. The student who accepts a Certificate of Completion is still able to participate in senior graduation activities if they choose.



Oak Park School District



A Standard of Excellence

Options and Opportunities for Students Completing a Certificate of Completion

Options for students while attending Oak Park

- Completion of general education and special education classes when appropriate
- Community Based Instruction (CBI)
- School to Work Participation
- WorkKeys completion
- Michigan Rehabilitation Services



Certificate of Completion

Vs.

Michigan Merit Curriculum

What is the difference between a high school diploma and a certificate of completion?

A high school diploma requires successful completion of the Michigan Merit Curriculum. A Certificate of Completion follows as much of this rigor as possible while allowing students other opportunities to pursue post secondary goals.

How will the decision be made?

This is a very important decision and can only be made by the IEP Team.

Lanissa L. Freeman, Ph.D. Supervisor

Specialized Student Services

13900 Granzon

Oak Park, MI 48237

Phone: 248-336-7673

Fax: 248.336-7678

Oak Park Schools



*Office of
Specialized
Student Services*

**Students with an
Individualized Educational
Program (IEP)**

What are your choices?

**High School Diploma
Or
Certificate of Completion**



High School Diploma

A general education diploma is given to students meeting all of the graduation requirements as defined by Oak Park Schools.

- 4 credits in English Language Arts*
- 4 credits in Mathematics
- 3 credits in Science
- 3 credits in Social Studies
- 1 credit in Health and in Physical Education
- 1 credit in Visual, Performing and Applied Arts
- 3 credits of combination electives

*Beginning with the Class of 2015, students must have 2 credits in a language other than English.



Personal Curriculum

The Michigan Merit Curriculum requirements allows a parent or legal guardian of a student, or a student who is 18 years of age, to request certain modifications to the state high school graduation requirements under limited conditions. To ensure all students are effectively and consistently engaged in school regardless of need or disability, the use of a Personal Curriculum (PC) modification is allowed by state statute for only four reasons:

1. A student wishes to modify the math requirement.
2. A student wishes to go beyond the academic credit requirements by adding more math, science, English Language Arts or languages other than English credits.
3. A student with a disability needs to modify the credit requirements based on his/her disability.
4. If a student has transferred from out of state or non public school with two years of high school credit.

(NOTE: Specific requirements for items #1-4 per the Michigan Department of Education can be viewed at: www.michigan.gov. Search for "A Parent's Guide to Personal Curriculum Focus on Students with an IEP")

A parent, legal guardian, or a student who has adult status may submit a PC request form to the high school counselor. The PC committee, comprised of parent, student, guidance counselor, school psychologist or other appropriate staff members, will meet and review existing performance records, the Educational Development Plan (EDP), and the Individualized Education Program (IEP) if applicable. If approved, the committee will create a PC which includes measurable goals that are aligned with the student's IEP and EDP and methods to evaluate those goals.

Potential Adverse Effects of using a Personal Curriculum

A Personal Curriculum which allows for modifications for students with disabilities that reduces the number of content expectations mastered by the students may affect the student's readiness to:

- Pass the Michigan Merit Exam
- Be admitted to college
- Be eligible for college scholarships
- Be eligible for financial aid
- Enter a trade school
- Secure a job in the career of their choice
- Be eligible for NCAA athletic programs

