

|                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Policy Name            | <b>Graduation Policy</b> |
| Policy Number          |                          |
| Date Created           | <b>January 2025</b>      |
| Date Revised           |                          |
| Date of Implementation | <b>January 2025</b>      |

## Purpose

To clarify OneSchool Global's procedures regarding grade 12 graduation.

[BC Graduation Policy 2019.pdf](#)

## Policy

All teachers, students and parents are familiar with OneSchool Global's graduation policies and procedures.

## Procedure

OneSchool Global's graduation (grade 10-12) program is designed to meet BC's grade 12 graduation requirements.

### GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- All students are required to obtain at least 80 credits total (52 required credits + 28 elective credits).
- Two mandatory stand-alone provincial assessments: numeracy and literacy.
- 8 credits of new career education courses are required for graduation.
- Letter grades and percentages continue to appear on formal report cards and transcripts for all courses taken
- No changes to Independent Directed Studies, External Credentials, Course Challenges, Dual Credit courses, Equivalency credits or scholarships.
- Board/Authority Authorized (BAA) courses must now be reviewed periodically, and revised according to the new BAA guidelines; July 1, 2018 (Grade 10) and July 1, 2019 (Grades 11 & 12).
- The requirements to graduate with a Dual Dogwood for Francophone and French Immersion students remain the same.

## Dogwood Diploma

B.C. Certificate of Graduation (Dogwood Diploma) The B.C. Certificate of Graduation, or Dogwood Diploma, is awarded to students who successfully complete the provincial graduation requirements.

| Required courses for Dogwood Diploma                                                                                   | Credits |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| English 10 or First Peoples 10                                                                                         | 4       |
| English 11 or First Peoples 11                                                                                         | 4       |
| English 12 or First Peoples 12                                                                                         | 4       |
| A Social Studies 10 course                                                                                             | 4       |
| A Social Studies 11 or 12 course                                                                                       | 4       |
| A Math 10 course (Workplace, or Foundations & Pre-Calculus)                                                            | 4       |
| A Math 11 or 12 course                                                                                                 | 4       |
| Science 10                                                                                                             | 4       |
| A Science 11 or 12 course                                                                                              | 4       |
| Physical and Health Education 10                                                                                       | 4       |
| Arts OR Applied Design, Skills & Tech course grade 10, 11 or 12                                                        | 4       |
| Career Life Education                                                                                                  | 4       |
| Career Life Connections                                                                                                | 4       |
| Total required course credits                                                                                          | 52      |
| Electives: 28 credits minimum<br><small>*Note: locally developed courses do not count towards elective credits</small> | 28      |
| Total credits to graduate (minimum)                                                                                    | 80      |

The B.C. Certificate of Graduation or "Dogwood Diploma" is awarded to students who successfully complete the provincial graduation requirements.

Students require a minimum of 80 credits to graduate.

Of these 80 credits:

- At least 16 credits must be at the Grade 12 level, including a required Language Arts 12 and Career Life Connections
- At least 28 credits must be elective course credits
- 52 credits are required from the following:
  - Career-Life Education (4 credits), and Career-Life Connections (4 credits)
  - Physical and Health Education 10 (4 credits)
  - Science 10 (4 credits), and a Science 11 or 12 (4 credits)
  - Social Studies 10 (4 credits), and a Social Studies 11 or 12 (4 credits)
  - A Math 10 (4 credits), and a Math 11 or 12 (4 credits)
  - A Language Arts 10, 11 and a required 12 (12 credits total)
  - An Arts Education 10, 11, or 12 and/or an Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies 10, 11, or 12 (4 credits total)
  - Indigenous-focused (4 credits)

In addition, students must also complete three graduation assessments:

- The Grade 10 Numeracy Assessment
- The Grade 10 Literacy Assessment
- The Grade 12 Literacy Assessment

## International Student Graduation Credit

To earn a Dogwood Diploma, international students must meet all graduation requirements and demonstrate competence in one of Canada's two official languages. There are a number of specific conditions that pertain to international students. They must earn credit for courses from a British Columbia certified teacher as per the International Student Graduation Credit Policy. No Equivalency review or Challenge process is permitted for these courses.

## Completion Certificate (Evergreen Certificate)

The School Completion ("Evergreen") Certificate is intended to celebrate success in learning that is not recognized in a Certificate of Graduation (Dogwood Diploma). The Evergreen Certificate is not a graduation certificate. Students who receive an Evergreen Certificate have completed their K-12 education experience; they have not graduated.

An Evergreen Certificate is used to recognize the accomplishments of students with special needs and an Individual Education Plan (IEP), who have met the goals of their education program, other than graduation (not all students with special needs should be in an Evergreen Certificate Program.)

A student enrolled in an educational program other than the graduation program will be eligible for a British Columbia School Completion Certificate.

When a student has met the following requirements, OneSchool Global will recommend to the Ministry of Education and Child Care that they receive this certificate.

## Definitions

School Completion Certificate is a document, distinct from the British Columbia Certificate of Graduation (Dogwood Diploma), awarded by the Ministry of Education to students who meet the goals of an educational program other than the graduation program. The School Completion Certificate is not a graduation certificate and does not signify that a student has graduated; rather, it demonstrates that a student has completed their K-12 educational journey.

## Procedures

1. The principal at OneSchool Global will be responsible for making the Administrative Procedure available to parents if there is consideration by the school, parent(s) or a student for an Evergreen Certificate.

2. After determining first, if a student meets the criteria for an Evergreen Certificate, Principals must clearly describe for parents and students what an Evergreen Certificate is, the difference between a Dogwood Diploma and an Evergreen Certificate.

3. When a student has met the following requirements, the principal will recommend to the Ministry of Education and Child Care that they receive this certificate.

#### 4.1 Requirements:

a. Capstone

b. Completion of at least 5 IEP goals as identified in the student's current IEP:

- Transitions to adult community
- Work Experience
- Life Skills
- Academic achievement
- Core competencies as determined by the student

5. A student with special needs will be determined to have met the requirements if:

5.1 The student has an Individual Education Plan (IEP) and is enrolled in an educational program not designed to meet the graduation program requirements, and

5.2 The student meets the learning outcomes contained in the IEP, or, where not all learning outcomes of the student's educational program are included in the IEP, the student has successfully completed the educational program provided.

6. The Principal is responsible for sending to the Ministry of Education and Child Care their students' demographic data, including the educational program completion dates.

7. The Principal is responsible for applying for a Descriptive Transcript where applicable.

This is a transcript of successfully completed Grades 10-12 courses, both for-credit and noncredit, including Ministry-authorized, Board/Authority Authorized (BAA), and Locally Developed (LD) courses (e.g. IEP courses).

8. The Principal will distribute School Completion (“Evergreen”) Certificate and Descriptive Transcripts (where applicable) to students when the certificates are received from the Ministry of Education and Child Care.

## Challenge and Equivalency

### Definitions

**Equivalency Credits:** Credits awarded to students for prior learning that aligns with BC Ministry of Education learning outcomes and standards. These credits are based on documented proof of formal education outside of BC.

**Challenge Credits:** Credits awarded to students who demonstrate, through assessment, that they have met the learning outcomes of a specific BC course without having formally completed it.

**International Students:** Students enrolled in BC schools who have received a significant portion of their education outside Canada.

### CHALLENGE PROCESS

The Challenge process allows students to earn credit for a Grade 10, 11, or 12 course if they have already acquired the necessary learning elsewhere. All students have the right to request an opportunity to challenge a course for credit. However, students must provide strong, compelling evidence of their ability to succeed in the challenge, and demonstrate that challenging the course is in their best interests. Successful completion of a Challenge results in the student receiving credit for the course, as well as a school-assigned mark.

It is strongly recommended that students challenge a Grade 11 course while in Grade 10, and not before. Students should typically be in Grade 11 when applying to challenge a Grade 12 course, so they can take the course in Grade 12 if the Challenge is unsuccessful.

Challenge provides an opportunity for students to demonstrate that they have met the learning outcomes of a course in the Graduation Program and to earn credit without taking the course. However, Challenge should only be used in exceptional circumstances.

The Challenge process is designed to be rigorous, ensuring that the integrity of the curriculum and quality of education are maintained. It is intended for students with exceptional abilities or those who have had unique learning opportunities due to special circumstances.

Challenge is not intended for students seeking to improve their course marks, nor is it a replacement for the valuable experience of classroom learning. The goal of the Challenge process is to recognize student learning so they do not have to repeat content. It also allows students to broaden their high school program by selecting additional courses or pursuing personal interests in areas such as the Fine Arts or Athletics.

Students should demonstrate readiness to challenge a course by showing:

- Exceptional ability related to the course, without needing documentation to support equivalency;
- Knowledge, understanding, and skills that are equivalent to the prescribed learning outcomes for the course;
- Evidence that challenging the course is in the student's best interest.

### Challenge Credits

International students may challenge courses to earn credits if they can demonstrate mastery of the course content without formal enrollment. This process is designed to acknowledge informal or non-traditional learning experiences.

To be eligible for challenge credits:

- a) Students must be currently enrolled in a BC high school.
- b) Students must submit a formal application, providing evidence of prior learning or experience relevant to the course being challenged.

Students may not challenge courses for which they have already received equivalency credits.

A meeting with a school counselor or subject teacher will determine the student's readiness for the challenge process. Eligible students will complete required assignments which may include written exams, practical demonstrations and/or portfolio submissions.

A teachers will evaluate the assessments based on the BC curriculum standards and determine if credit should be granted. If challenge credits are determined to have met the criteria, students and their guardians will be notified, and appropriate credits will be awarded and recorded on the student's transcript.

---

## EQUIVALENCY

Equivalency refers to documented prior learning and applies to Grade 10, 11, or 12 Ministry-developed or board/authority-authorized courses completed outside the BC school system. Students who have completed equivalent coursework elsewhere may apply to have that coursework recognized for credit by OneSchool Global. To qualify, the coursework must match at least 80% of the B.C. curriculum. There is no limit to the number of credits students may earn through Equivalency.

### Equivalency Credits

OneSchool Global will award equivalency credits to international students for prior learning that is demonstrably equivalent to BC Ministry of Education courses, i.e. the prior courses must align with BC provincial standards in content, depth, and learning outcomes. 10.

Students must submit official transcripts, certificates, or other credible documentation from accredited international educational institutions as proof of prior learning. Official translated transcripts from their previous school(s) must be validated by an authorized agency.

Admissions team will verify and evaluate the submitted documents for alignment with BC learning standards.

If prior learning is determined to have met the equivalency criteria, students and their guardians will be notified, and appropriate credits will be awarded and recorded in the student's file.

---

## EXTERNAL CREDITS

External Credits refer to Ministry-approved documented prior learning. An official list of approved External Credits is provided to schools annually. Some external credentials are classified as required courses, while others are considered electives. External credits cannot be granted for courses required for graduation. There is no limit to the number of credits a student may earn through external credentials, though there may be restrictions if the external courses or programs are deemed equivalent to others.

### Policy Statements

1. OneSchool Global adheres to Ministry of Education policies regarding credit recognition and ensures that all awarded credits align with approved learning standards and graduation requirements.
2. All students, regardless of background or enrollment status, will have equal access to the opportunities and processes to demonstrate their knowledge and skills, and to have their prior educational achievements assessed fairly and consistently.
3. OneSchool Global will provide clear guidelines and support to students and parents/guardians to assist them in navigating the equivalency and challenge credit processes effectively.
4. OneSchool Global will establish a fair, transparent, and timely process for resolving conflicts related to credit recognition and graduation requirements.

### Procedures

1. Upon enrollment, international students will meet with school counselors to discuss their educational background and review options for equivalency and challenge credits. This meeting will establish a pathway to meet graduation requirements.
2. OneSchool Global will periodically review equivalency and challenge credit processes to ensure alignment with BC Ministry of Education policies.
3. Educators will receive ongoing training on evaluating international transcripts and administering challenge assessments.
4. Students and guardians will be encouraged to provide feedback on the process, which will be used to guide future improvements.

For more information about students earning credits through Challenge, Equivalency and External Credentials please refer to the information in the [Ministry of Education website](#).

