

**DIFFERENTIAL GRADUATION AND COMPETENCY  
STANDARDS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

**7702.02 (6146.4)**

The Board of Trustees recognizes that students with disabilities are entitled to a course of study that provides them with a free appropriate public education (FAPE) and that modifications to the district's regular course may be needed on an individualized basis to provide FAPE. In accordance with law, each student's individualized education program (IEP) team shall determine the appropriate goals, as well as any appropriate individual accommodations necessary for measuring the academic achievement and functional performance of the student on state and districtwide assessments.

**Certificate of Completion**

Instead of a high school diploma, a student with disabilities may be awarded a certificate of 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 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 IEP goals and objectives during high school as determined by the IEP team
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

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. (Education Code 56391)

**Legal Reference:**

**EDUCATION CODE**

56341 Individualized education program team

56345 Elements of the IEP

56390-56392 Certificate of completion, special education

**CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5**

3070 Graduation

**UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20**

1400-1482 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

**CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34**

300.1-300.818 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, especially:

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300.320 Definition of IEP

Management Resources:

**WEB SITES**

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services:  
<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ose/index.html?src=mr>

Board of Trustees

June 2000

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