



SECTION IV: STUDENTS

POLICY 4040

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS (LENGTH OF DAY) HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Policy Statement

The formal educational program for public schools is designed to be completed with 13 years of formal instruction.

A student who has been promoted under an authorized acceleration placement in elementary or middle school grades, in accordance with School District policy, shall be expected to complete all other basic requirements for graduation.

Even though a student may have completed a sufficient number of credits to meet graduation requirements or would lack only a few credits during the senior year, the policy of the Broken Arrow Public Schools shall be that a senior student must attend six hours of classes for two full semesters, with exceptions provided for students who are approved by the principal for career technology programs, work-study programs, concurrent college courses, and early graduation. Requests for career technology programs, work-study programs, concurrent enrollment, and early graduation shall be submitted to the building principal through the counseling department. Although a student is academically talented to the degree that he or she can finish most of his or her requirements for graduation by the senior year, to attend only two or three (some cases, one) class(es) a day, could result in a regression in the learning process rather than progression. For a student preparing to attend college, the loss of almost all of the learning experience during the year prior to entering college could be detrimental.

Both college bound and non-college bound students can benefit greatly by enrolling in non-required courses during the senior year to broaden their background as well as provide the opportunity to just enroll in courses for enjoyment, rather than merely fulfilling requirements.

Research indicates that students who work a majority of the school hours during the senior year or work a year following graduation in many cases obligate themselves financially and cannot quit working and go to school. This choice is fine if it is what the individual wants and will provide success and happiness in the long run; however, in most cases, the student remains out of college by necessity and must forego the opportunity to reach his or her full potential. The public school educational program is established on the basis of 13 years of in-class instruction based on mental, social and physical maturity. In most cases, an abbreviated school program curtails growth in one or more of these areas of the maturation process.

The requirements for graduation represent a minimum program, not the maximum. The intent of this type of program is to ensure that all students attain at least a minimum education regardless of their future plans and then build on this base with electives of their choice.

Definition of a Fifth Year Senior

A fifth year senior is defined as a student who was scheduled to graduate the previous year, who participated in all activities including graduation ceremonies, and for whom a diploma was ordered, but who did not meet minimum graduation requirement to receive the diploma. This student may make up credit deficiencies by enrolling in night or summer school or by enrolling the following year in those courses needed to complete their requirements. Classes for this student will be scheduled as early in the day as possible, and the student will be requested to leave the campus as soon as possible



SECTION IV: STUDENTS

POLICY 4040

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS (LENGTH OF DAY) HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

after dismissal of their last class. Upon completion of the course requirements needed for graduation, this student will pick up his/her diploma from the counseling office. This student will not be participating in extra-curricular activities. Any exception must be approved by the building principal.

Source: *Broken Arrow Board of Education Policy adopted in 1971.*
Broken Arrow Board of Education Policy affirmed, August 1, 1977.
Broken Arrow Board of Education Policy affirmed, November 2, 1981.
Broken Arrow Board of Education Policy revised, August 20, 1990.
Broken Arrow Board of Education policy revised, July 13, 2009.
Broken Arrow Board of Education policy revised, June 25, 2018.