

## **EVERGREEN HIGH SCHOOL EARLY GRADUATION GUIDELINES**

The high school program is intended to be a four year experience. During that time each student must earn either 21 or 26 credits, depending on his/her program, in order to graduate. These credits must be distributed among specified areas in order to graduate. These credits are intended to be a minimum amount. Most students should, and do, earn more than the minimum. The high school offers extracurricular activities in the form of many clubs and athletic programs in which students may become involved. The student who takes more than the minimum number of courses and who becomes involved in some of the extracurricular offerings, benefits greatly from the experience.

The student who is contemplating early graduation needs to think through his/her reasons carefully, he/she needs to remember that many vocational courses may be taken free of charge while in high school. College courses may also be taken for free, for qualified students, through the College Credit Plus program. These courses are costly to take after high school.

For various reasons, some students feel that they would like to receive their diploma in fewer than four years. The State Board of Education discourages the granting of diplomas in fewer than four years, because they want the student to be involved in doing more than earning the minimum number of credits. However, if the student has a confirmed full-time job, confirmed date for military or college entrance the second term of the senior year and if the graduation requirements are met (including passing of all of the Ohio Graduation Tests), the student and his/her parent must request a conference with the counselor and/or the principal who may grant permission for exit in December of the senior year. This conference may be completed over the phone.

Students who exit early will receive a transcript showing that high school course and credit requirements have been met. The student may also request that the counselor give him/her a letter of completion. Students who exit school early may return in May and receive their diploma during the graduation ceremony with their class. Students who exit early are withdrawn from our school records and are no longer eligible to participate in athletics or extracurricular activities including the prom.

## SUMMARY OF EARLY GRADUATION GUIDELINES

1. Students who use four years to complete high school, benefit greatly from the experience.
2. Students who wish to graduate early are giving up the chance to receive an education free of charge, through the regular high school, the vocational high school or through post secondary institutions.
3. Students who elect to graduate early are withdrawn from the school records and are no longer eligible to participate in athletics or extracurricular activities including the prom.
4. Students who graduate early may do so no earlier than December of their senior year.
5. Students who graduate early may participate in commencement exercises with the senior class in May.
6. Students who graduate early will receive a transcript showing that high school course requirements are met, and may request a letter of completion from the counselor.
7. Students who graduate early will receive their diploma with the rest of the senior class in May.
8. Students who would like to graduate early must meet the following requirements:
  - A. Student must have a confirmed full-time job, confirmed date for military entrance, or a confirmed date for college entrance for the second semester of senior year.
  - B. Student must have met all requirements for graduation:
    - Met all credit requirements
    - Passed all sections of the Ohio Graduation Tests
  - C. Student and his or her parents must meet with the principal and/or the guidance counselor to discuss the above requirements. (This can be done over the phone)
  - D. The principal and the guidance counselor must grant permission for the early graduation.

We understand the summary of information regarding early graduation and would like to apply for early graduation:

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_ plans to:

\_\_\_\_\_ Work full time for \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Attend college full time at \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Enter the military service \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Student \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent please call Mrs. Roper at 644-2951 ext 1109 to discuss early graduation.

**Please return to Mrs. Roper in the guidance office by Nov. 21, 2019.**