



ADULT DOGWOOD PROGRAM PLACEMENT

Context

The Board of Education and the Ministry of Education and Child Care are responsible for providing inclusive education programs for all students that lead to a Dogwood Diploma, an Adult Dogwood Diploma, or a School Completion (“Evergreen”) Certificate at the completion of their education programs. The Adult Graduation Diploma Program (“Adult Dogwood”) is intended for students who are adult learners (past the age of 18).

The Adult Dogwood is an important and valuable graduation credential with fewer and different required credits than a Dogwood Diploma. Students awarded the Dogwood Diploma earn a minimum of 80 credits with specific requirements. Students who earn the Adult Dogwood earn a minimum of 20 credits (5 courses) with specific requirements. For many post-secondary programs, the Adult Dogwood is not a satisfactory prerequisite, and students may need to upgrade. It is important that students and their parent(s)/guardians clearly understand that the Adult Dogwood is a graduation credential but is significantly different than the Dogwood Diploma.

Procedures

1. There are both Ministry of Education and Child Care requirements for an Adult Dogwood credential and Central Okanagan Public Schools requirements for enrollment in the Adult Dogwood Program.
2. The following are the Ministry of Education and Child Care requirements for an Adult Dogwood.
 - 2.1 Students may not be enrolled in the Adult Dogwood Program until their 18th birthday.
 - 2.2 Course requirements (four (4) credits each, totaling at least 20 credits, 5 courses):
 - 2.2.1 a required Language Arts 12 course (English Studies 12, English First Peoples 12, or Français Langue 12);
 - 2.2.2 a Mathematics 11 or 12 course (Foundations of Math 11/12, Pre-Calculus 11 or 12, Workplace Math 11 or 12, or Accounting 11 or 12); and
 - 2.2.2.1 three (3) Grade 12 level Ministry-authorized courses; or,
 - 2.2.2.2 two (2) Grade 12 level Ministry-authorized courses and a Grade 11 Social Studies course.
 - 2.3 Students may choose to earn credits for courses from either or both the public secondary or post-secondary programs.
 - 2.4 At least three (3) of the courses must be completed after the adult student has been enrolled in the Adult Graduation Program.
3. The following are the Central Okanagan Public Schools requirements for enrollment in an Adult Dogwood Program:
 - 3.1 The decision to place a student in the Adult Dogwood Program must not be made prior to the school year that a student has their 18th birthday because the program is intended for adult learners.

- 3.2 For all students, placement must be approved in advance by the Family of Schools Assistant Superintendent.
 - 3.3 For students with Ministry of Education and Child Care designations, placement must be approved in advance by the Director of Instruction – Inclusive Education.
 - 3.4 For students with Indigenous ancestry, placement must be approved in advance by the Director of Instruction – Indigenous Education, Diversity and Student Wellbeing.
 - 3.5 For students who are refugee or immigrant status, placement must be approved in advance by the Director of Instruction – Student Transitions.
 - 3.6 For students on the Nominal Roll, placement must include the informed consent of the Band Education Department.
 - 3.7 For students in care, placement must include the informed consent of the Ministry of Children and Family Development social worker or appropriate organization.
 - 3.8 Placement must include the informed consent of the student.
 - 3.9 If the student is under the age of 19, placement must also include the informed consent of the student’s parent(s)/guardian(s).
4. Schools are not permitted to intentionally stream students to the Adult Dogwood Program. There shall be evidence of collaboration with the Inclusive Education staff, interventions, and support to maintain a student’s progress toward a Dogwood Diploma.
 5. Students enrolled in the Adult Dogwood Program must have a history of chronic non-attendance or extended absences from school that has led to a lack of progress toward a Dogwood in the number of credits earned. These absences may be due to a variety of factors (e.g. extended illnesses, mental health treatment or challenges, frequent school movement, or home situations).
 6. Students enrolled in the Adult Dogwood Program may receive credit for current or past work skills or post-secondary training courses by undertaking a Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) at the discretion of the principal and in consultation with the Family of Schools Assistant Superintendent.
 7. Once the decision is made to place a student in the Adult Dogwood Program, school clerical will:
 - 7.1 change the student’s Program of Study in Education to the Adult Dogwood Program; and
 - 7.2 the completed Adult Dogwood Informed Consent form should be placed in the student file and uploaded directly into the student management system (MyEd) - documents section. In addition, a copy should be provided to the Family of Schools Assistant Superintendent.

References:

Ministry of Education and Child Care School Completion Program found at https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/adult-education/adult-graduation/adult_at_a_glance.pdf; Ministry of Education and Child are Graduation Program Handbook of Procedures (2024) found at https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/administration/kindergarten-to-grade-12/graduation/handbook_of_procedures.pdf

Relevant Board Policy:

Developed by: Assistant Superintendent

Date Agreed: May 2026

Date Amended:

Related Documents:



BC ADULT GRADUATION DIPLOMA APPLICATION

NAME	TODAY'S DATE	PEN NUMBER
BIRTHDATE	Do you have an IEP? Please select	Do you identify as having Indigenous ancestry? Please select
GOALS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION		
<input type="checkbox"/> I would like to book an appointment with a school counsellor to explore future work and career possibilities.		

Description

The BC Adult Graduation Diploma (Adult Dogwood) is for adult learners (18 years of age and older) who want to take courses in order to complete high school and obtain their adult high school diploma. Students can be enrolled and courses counted from any of Central Okanagan Public School District's high school programs (George Elliott Secondary, Kelowna Secondary, Mount Boucherie Secondary, Okanagan Mission Secondary, Rutland Senior Secondary, Central School Programs, or E-school) or a post-secondary system (Okanagan College, UBCO).

Important Reminder:

Graduation reports in MyEd may not accurately reflect a student's status in the Adult Graduation Program. For a course to be eligible toward adult graduation, the **student must be officially enrolled in the Adult Grad program in MyEd before the course is submitted**. Schools should verify this status using the Ministry's official Transcript of Grades to ensure accurate credit recognition.

Admission Requirements

The Adult Dogwood is for students who are **18** or older and **have not yet graduated** with a BC Certificate of Graduation (Dogwood Diploma).

Please confirm:

- I am 18 years of age, or older.
- I have not yet graduated from high school.

Curricular Requirements

To graduate with an Adult Dogwood, students must have:

- A required Language Arts 12 course
- A Math 11 or 12 course
- At least three additional Grade 12 electives, or a Grade 11 Social Studies and two additional Grade 12 electives.

Courses and credits can be counted from either or both the public secondary and post-secondary systems.

Of the five courses required for the Adult Dogwood, at least three must be completed **after** the adult student has entered the Adult Graduation Program, either through enrolment or [Prior Learning Assessment](#). This means that students can receive credit toward the Adult Dogwood for no more than two qualifying courses completed while in the B.C. (school-aged) Graduation Program. You cannot receive an Adult Dogwood using only courses completed prior to enrolling in the Adult Graduation Program.

Credential Awarded

Upon successful completion of this program, students are eligible to receive a **BC Adult Graduation Diploma**.

Please note, graduation from high school does not automatically guarantee entrance to a specific post-secondary institution (PSI) or program. Students are encouraged to work with their school counsellor to understand which high school courses are needed to apply to specific PSIs and programs.

Please confirm:

I understand that graduation requirements may be different than entrance requirements for certain PSIs and programs. Other courses and requirements may be needed to apply to specific PSIs and programs.

I have discussed the differences between the BC Certificate of Graduation (Dogwood Diploma) and the BC Adult Graduation Diploma (Adult Dogwood) with a school counsellor, administrator, or other educator.

Upon successful completion of this program, students are eligible to receive a [BC Adult Graduation Diploma](#). It is important to note that this is not the same diploma as the BC Certificate of Graduation (aka, Dogwood Diploma). Students receiving the BC Adult Graduation Diploma may need to complete additional coursework in order to be eligible for post-secondary institutions or programs. Students who receive the BC Adult Graduation Diploma are encouraged to work with their school counsellors and contact their intended post-secondary institution to confirm the entrance requirements.

NAME OF SCHOOL COUNSELLOR, ADMINISTRATOR, OR OTHER EDUCATOR

Signatures

STUDENT NAME	Signature
GUARDIAN NAME (if under 19)	Signature
PRINCIPAL NAME	Signature

*Please print and submit or email a copy of this form to your school counsellor.

For office use only:

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

DATE APPROVED

* Please ensure a copy of this approved form is in the student file and sent to the Family of Schools Assistant Superintendent.