

## **Online Learning Graduation Requirement Opt-Out Form**

### About the online learning graduation requirement

Students are required to earn two online learning credits to graduate from secondary school, beginning with every student who entered Grade 9 in the 2020-21 school year. The ministry recognizes the extraordinary circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic. (As a result, up to one secondary school credit completed by Grade 9 students in the 2020-2021 school year during the province-wide school closures (from April 2021 to June 2021) will be counted towards the graduation requirement).

Adult learners entering the Ontario secondary school system in 2023-24 or later will be required to meet this graduation requirement and may opt themselves out of the requirement. The graduation requirement is intended to support students in developing familiarity and comfort with working and learning in a fully online environment, as well as developing digital literacy and other important transferable skills that will help prepare them for success after graduation and in all aspects of their lives.

Meeting the online learning graduation requirement should not pose a barrier to graduation for students. As with all learning, students taking online courses will have access to the supports they need through their school, (e.g., guidance, nutrition programs, extra-curricular activities and services for English-language learners). If a student in a publicly funded school has an Individual Education Plan, the plan should be shared, when appropriate, with an educator instructing an online course delivered by another publicly funded school board, with the necessary consent.

Parents/guardians may choose to opt their child out of the mandatory online courses required for graduation. Students age 18 years of age or older or students who are 16 or 17 years of age and have withdrawn from parental control can also opt out of the graduation requirement. School boards must also allow for students and parents/guardians to opt back into the online learning graduation requirement should their decision change.

If you would like to opt-out, please read the following and complete the reverse side.

Parent/Guardians complete this page if your student is under the age of 18

### **I agree with the following statements:**

- Having reviewed the online learning graduation requirement and the availability of supports for online learning through my child's school, I would like to opt my child out of this requirement.
- The benefits of online learning have been shared with me by the school, including how the development of digital literacy and other important transferable skills are intended to help prepare students for success after graduation and in all aspects of their lives.

### **I understand the following statements:**

- Upon receipt of this form by the school, my child will not be required to earn two online learning credits to earn an Ontario Secondary School Diploma.

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- My child will face no academic penalties for opting out of this graduation requirement.
- My child will continue to complete all other applicable graduation requirements.
- This will be recorded on my child’s transcript as “Online Learning Graduation Requirement - Non-Applicable”.

Student’s First Name

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Student’s Last Name

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Parent/Guardian First Name

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Parent/Guardian Last Name

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Parent/Guardian Signature

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Date

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PLEASE NOTE: Upon receipt, this form will be included in the Ontario Student Record.

If you have questions, please contact the Guidance Department at Room A or email at [guidance@msaedu.ca](mailto:guidance@msaedu.ca).

*Students who are 18 years old or who are 16 or 17 and withdrawn from Parental Control complete this page*

**I agree with the following statements:**

- Having reviewed the online learning graduation requirement and the availability of supports for online learning through my school, I would like to opt out of this requirement.
- The benefits of online learning have been shared with me by the school, including how the development of digital literacy and other important transferable skills are intended to help prepare students for success after graduation and in all aspects of their lives.

**I understand the following statements:**

- Upon receipt of this form by the school, I will not be required to earn two online learning credits to earn an Ontario Secondary School Diploma.
- I will face no academic penalties for opting out of this graduation requirement.
- I will continue to complete all other applicable graduation requirements.
- This will be recorded on my transcript as “Online Learning Graduation Requirement - Non-Applicable”.

Student's First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature of Student Age 18 or Older, or Student who is 16 or 17 and has withdrawn from Parental Control

Date \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE NOTE: Upon receipt, this form will be included in the Ontario Student Record. If you have questions, please contact the Guidance Department at Room A or email at [guidance@msaedu.ca](mailto:guidance@msaedu.ca).