

**DIFFERENTIAL GRADUATION AND COMPETENCY STANDARD  
FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH EXCEPTIONAL NEEDS**

The Governing Board recognizes that proficiency standards adopted for students enrolled in regular educational programs may not be appropriate for all students enrolled in district special education programs. Certain students with diagnosed disabilities that prevent them from attaining the district's regularly adopted proficiency competencies may need differential standards.

Students with exceptional needs should meet the regular district graduation standards to the extent that their handicaps or disabilities permit.

The Individualized Education Program Team (IEP) will determine if a student's handicaps or disabilities preclude the student from attaining the district's regular standards. The determination and development of appropriate differential proficiency standards will be included in the process of developing and managing the student's individualized education program.

*(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)*

*(cf. 6159.1 - Procedural Safeguards and Complaints for Special Education)*

*(cf. 6162.52 - High School Exit Examination)*

*(cf. 6164.4 – Identification, Evaluation and Education of Students Who are Qualified Disabled Persons Within the Meaning of Section 4504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973)*

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

*51215(d) Proficiency standards in basic skills*

*56000 Education of individuals with exceptional needs*

*56341(b) Individualized Education Program Team*

*56345(b) Elements of program*

*Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations*

*Title 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations*