

Information System and this should be reflected when reporting through the Ontario School Information System (OnSIS) towards the student's online learning graduation requirement.

4. OPT-OUT PROCESS

A parent/guardian, a student who is 18 years of age or older, or a student who is 16 or 17 years of age and has withdrawn from parental control, may opt out of the graduation requirement for any reason during the student's secondary school program by submitting the form (Appendix A) to the school that the student attends. Once the form has been submitted, the school will acknowledge receipt. In any school year, the form must be submitted by May 30th.

5.

The principal of the school will have the discretion to exempt students under 18 years old and still under parental control from the online learning graduation requirement without parental consent if they determine the need is pressing and in the best interests of the student and the parent cannot be reached. However, this authority shall not be used to circumvent parent/guardian choice.

Where principals make a determination to exempt a student, if possible, the parent/guardian shall be electronically or physically mailed a notification by the principal in writing with a rationale outlining why the exemption was made, and a copy of the notification must be included in the student's Ontario Student Record. Once the notification is included in the student's Ontario Student Record, the graduation requirement shall not apply to the student.

**NNDSB Form for Opting Out of the e-Learning Graduation Requirement****Part 1: The New e-Learning Graduation Requirement**

Students are required to earn two e-Learning credits to graduate from secondary school, beginning with students who entered Grade 9 in the 2020-21 school year. Adult learners entering the Ontario secondary school system in 2023-24 or later will be required to meet this graduation requirement.

This 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 e-Learning graduation requirement should not pose a barrier to graduation for students. As with all learning, students taking e-Learning courses will have access to the supports they need through their school including guidance and services for English Language Learners. If the student has an Individual Education Plan, the plan will 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 e-Learning courses required for graduation. Students 18 years of age or older or students who are 16 or 17 years of age and have withdrawn from parental control may also opt out of the graduation requirement. Students and parents/guardians may choose to opt back into the e-Learning graduation requirement should their decision change.

If you have decided now to opt out your child or yourself (18 years of age or older or student who is 16 or 17 years of age and has withdrawn from parental control), please complete and submit this form at this time.

Part 2: Confirmation

I agree with the following statements:

Having reviewed the e-Learning graduation requirement and the availability of supports for e-Learning through this school, I would like to opt my child/myself out of this requirement. The benefits of e-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 my child's school/my school, my child/I will not be required to earn two e-Learning credits to earn an Ontario Secondary School Diploma.
My child/I will face no academic penalties for opting out of this graduation requirement.
My child/I will continue to complete all other applicable graduation requirements.
My child/I has/have the opportunity to opt back into the e-Learning graduation requirement.
This will be recorded on my child's/my transcript as "Online Learning Graduation Requirement - Non-Applicable."

Part 3: Student/Parent/Guardian Confirmation of Opting Out of e-Learning Graduation Requirement

Student's Last Name, First Name

Parent Email

Parent/Guardian Last Name, First Name (if applicable)

Date (YYYY/MM/DD)

Signature of Parent/Guardian or Student Age 18 or older, or Student who is 16 or 17 and has withdrawn from parental control

Please note: When you return this form, it will be included in your child's/your Ontario Student Record.

For additional information about the opt-out process, please contact your school.

Disclaimer

The information on this form is collected under the authority of the *Education Act* R.S.O. 1990, c E.2, s.8.1, and will be used by the NNDSB for the general administration of its schools. All personal information collected on this form will be maintained in accordance with the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, R.S.O., 1990, c. M.56, s. 29. Questions or concerns about this collection should be directed to NNDSB Communications Officer, 963 Airport Road, North Bay, ON P1B 8H1.