

Opt-Out Process for Indiana's Core 40 Graduation Requirements

Indiana Code 20-32-4-7, 8, 9, 10

Beginning with students who entered high school in 2007–2008, the completion of Core 40 became an Indiana graduation requirement. Indiana's Core 40 curriculum provides the academic foundation all students need to succeed in college and the workforce.

To graduate with less than Core 40, the following formal opt-out process must be completed:

- The student, the student's parent/guardian, and the student's counselor (or another staff member who assists students in course selection) meet to discuss the student's progress.
- The student's career and course plan is reviewed.
- The student's parent/guardian determines whether the student will achieve greater educational benefits by completing the general curriculum or the Core 40 curriculum.

If the decision is made to opt-out of Core 40, the student is required to complete the course and credit requirements for a general diploma and the career/academic sequence the student will pursue is determined.

Core 40 Triggers

The following conditions may trigger a discussion about opting-out of Core 40:

- 1) A parent may request that a student be exempted from the Core 40 curriculum and be required to complete the general diploma to graduate, or
- 2) The student does not pass at least three (3) courses required under the Core 40 curriculum, or
- 3) The student receives a score on the graduation examination that is in the twenty-fifth percentile or lower when the student takes the graduation examination for the first time.

In each case, the student's parent and the student's counselor (or another staff member who assists students in course selection) shall meet to discuss the student's progress. Following the meeting, the student's parent shall determine whether the student will achieve greater educational benefits by:

- (1) continuing the general curriculum; or
- (2) completing the Core 40 curriculum.

Opt-Out Legislation

IC 20-32-4-7

Sec. 7. Upon the request of a student's parent, the student may be exempted from the Core 40 curriculum requirement set forth in section 1 of this chapter and be required to complete the general curriculum to be eligible to graduate. Except as provided in section 10 of this chapter, the student's parent and the student's counselor (or another staff member who assists students in course selection) shall meet to discuss the student's progress. Following the meeting, the student's parent shall determine whether the student will achieve greater educational benefits by:

- (1) continuing the general curriculum; or
- (2) completing the Core 40 curriculum.

IC 20-32-4-8

Sec. 8. This section applies to a student who does not pass at least three (3) courses required under the Core 40 curriculum. Except as provided in section 10 of this chapter, the student's parent and the student's counselor (or another staff member who assists students in course selection) shall meet to discuss the student's progress. Following the meeting, the student's parent shall determine whether the student will achieve greater educational benefits by:

- (1) continuing in the Core 40 curriculum; or
- (2) completing the general curriculum.

IC 20-32-4-9

Sec. 9. This section applies to a student who receives a score on the graduation examination that is in the twenty-fifth percentile or lower when the student takes the graduation examination for the first time. Except as provided in section 10 of this chapter, the student's parent and the student's counselor (or another staff member who assists students in course selection) shall meet to discuss the student's progress. Following the meeting, the student's parent shall determine whether the student will achieve greater educational benefits by:

- (1) continuing in the Core 40 curriculum; or
- (2) completing the general curriculum.

IC 20-32-4-10

Sec. 10. This section applies if the parent of a student to whom section 8 or 9 of this chapter applies does not attend a meeting with the student and the student's counselor after receiving two (2) written requests to attend a meeting. If the student's parent does not attend a meeting described in section 8 or 9 of this chapter, the student and the student's counselor shall meet and:

- (1) the student's counselor shall make a recommendation to the student as to whether the student will achieve greater educational benefits by:
 - (A) continuing in the Core 40 curriculum; or
 - (B) completing the general curriculum; and
- (2) the student shall determine which curriculum the student will complete.