

**MEDFORD AREA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT  
RURAL VIRTUAL ACADEMY**

**DATE ADOPTED: March 20, 2014      FILE SECTOR: RURAL VIRTUAL ACADEMY**  
**DATE REVISED: June 23, 2016      POLICY TITLE: COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES**  
**DATE REVISED: January 26, 2017**

It will be the policy of the Rural Virtual Academy (RVA), under the direction of the Medford Area Public School District Board of Education and RVA Governance Board, to have high school commencement exercises with the following guidelines:

- Students are eligible to participate in the commencement exercise once they have met all the graduation requirements of the RVA.
- Parent(s)/guardian(s) and/or adult students will be informed, in writing as to the student's eligibility to participate in the commencement exercise, location, date, and time of the ceremony.
- Participation in the virtual school commencement exercises is not a requirement.
- A diploma will only be issued after all graduation requirements are met.
- Foreign exchange students that have been here for the full academic senior year will be recognized at commencement exercises as a special guest with administrative approval.
- For students with disabilities, the Individual Education Program (IEP) team is responsible for determining whether a student has completed a course of study that makes him/her eligible to receive a diploma. Students meet graduation requirements when they complete a standard or modified course of study and/or IEP transition goals. Even if the student with disabilities will continue his/her education program until the end of the school year in which he/she reaches age 21, the IEP team may recommend that the student would benefit from participation in commencement exercises with his or her peers. They will not receive a signed diploma until the standard or modified course of study and/or the IEP transition goals have been completed.
- Students will participate in an RVA commencement exercise only one time.
- Students graduating early as outlined in policy RVA-IKFA will be allowed to participate in the next commencement exercise after graduation.
- Appropriate dress for commencement exercises will be determined by school administration.
- No student may be under the influence of or distribute alcohol or controlled substances. Students who violate this provision shall be prohibited from participating in or attending commencement exercise.

**CROSS REFERENCE:    RVA-IKF, RVA-IKFA**  
**LEGAL REFERENCE:**