

# When I Turn 18

## What happens when I become a senior?

Entering the senior year – the final year of your formal education - brings into focus the last eleven years. Completing the high school diploma requirements and receiving your diploma at graduation is a culminating life event, a rite of passage into adulthood, and the beginning of a new and exciting chapter in your life.

What is most important is that, as a senior, you should exhibit mature behavior and be a positive role model for everyone you meet. As long as you continue to achieve, attend, and demonstrate a positive, progress-oriented attitude, we will be there for you and you will succeed.

Because this is a **critical** time, your counselor and the administration, along with your teacher, will be constantly checking your **“graduation status,”** and meeting with you for reviews. You are ultimately responsible to know the amount of credit you are earning from every teacher and developing goals that enable you to complete classes and requirements. **Therefore, careful goal setting and consistent follow through will produce success and happiness.**

After each quarter you will receive an up-dated transcript. During the spring semester, we will be monitoring your progress and communicating with your parents. Graduation requirements are specific and we can project exact requirements and timelines. Our success record is founded on strong, consistent communication between you, your parents, and our staff.

The Creekside High School Graduation Ceremony is one of the most moving and rewarding events in the Irvine Unified School District. It is with great anticipation and excitement that each staff member looks forward to celebrating with a graduating senior and his/her families and friends. We want that person to be you!

## What happens when I turn 18?

Nothing, yet everything! You are now an adult with all the legal rights and responsibilities of adulthood.

We want you to succeed and graduate with your high school diploma.

You no longer need a student work permit to get a job.

We encourage you to register to vote, a privilege every responsible US citizen should exercise.

## Can I write my own absence or tardy excuse?

Yes. All 18 year-old students may write their own excuse for a legitimate, legal absence. However, since students are not allowed to leave campus without permission (Board Policy), 18 year-old students **MUST** also present a note signed by a parent/guardian or student, to the attendance clerk **BEFORE leaving campus** in order to be excused. Any 18 year-old adult student who does not follow this procedure and leaves campus without permission is considered truant. Any 18 year old adult student who is habitually tardy to class is also considered truant. You are “at risk” and will be referred to the Director of Alternative Education for possible further action.

## What if I choose to be a poor example to underclass students, teachers, and other adults?

Choosing to be a poor example (including truancy and tardiness) to the rest of our students, staff, and parents will result in a referral to the Director of Alternative Education for possible further action. ***Basically, think of it this way, you are still an IUSD student and must follow all school rules and regulations related to all students.***

***YOU Sign the 18 Year Old Adult Student Contract When You Turn 18***