

California Department of Education

Executive Office

SBE-006 (REV. 1/2018)

Specific Waiver

# California State Board of Education January 2025 Agenda Item #W-02

## Subject

Request by the **El Dorado Union High School District** to waive California *Education Code* Section 51224.5(b), the requirement that all students graduating in the 2024–25 school year be required to complete a course in Algebra I (or equivalent) to be given a diploma of graduation. The waiver applies to two students with disabilities based on *Education Code* Section 56101, the special education waiver authority.

## Waiver Number

* El Dorado Union High School District 5-10-2024
* El Dorado Union High School District 6-10-2024

## Type of Action

Action, Consent

## Summary of the Issue(s)

The El Dorado Union High School District (EDUHSD) requests to waive the requirement in California *Education Code (EC)* Section 51224.5(b) that all students graduating in the 2024–25 school year be required to complete a course in Algebra I (or equivalent) to be given a diploma of graduation, for two students with disabilities based on *EC* Section 56101, the special education waiver authority.

## Authority for Waiver

*EC* Section 56101

## Recommendation

* Approval: No
* Approval with conditions: Yes
* Denial: No

The California Department of Education (CDE) recommends the State Board of Education (SBE) approve the request from the EDUHSD to waive the requirement to successfully complete a course in Algebra I (or its equivalent) for the 2024–25 graduation year for two students, with the condition the students meet all other course requirements stipulated by the governing board of the school district and California *EC* Section 51225.3, in order to receive a high school diploma.

## Summary of Key Issues

For the review of this waiver request, the EDUHSD provided the following documentation for the student:

* Valid copies of the students’ individualized education programs (IEPs) for grades 9 through 12 highlighting the areas of mathematical deficiencies, and how the students’ needs in mathematics were addressed.
* The specific assistance the district provided to the students which included supplementary aids, services, accommodations, test modifications, and supports to attain the diploma-track goal for the algebra requirement.
* A copy of the students’ educational transcript showing the student has completed all other graduation requirements.

The above documentation was confidentially reviewed and approved by CDE staff, which includes an Education Programs Consultant and a CDE Education Administrator I.

The EDUHSD submitted waiver requests for two students with disabilities and provided documentation which suggest both students have attempted to meet the academic requirements to successfully work towards the completion of the Algebra I requirement in grades 9 through 12. Per the EDUHSD, contributing factors associated with the students’ disabling conditions prevented them from successfully fulfilling this requirement. The EDUHSD states that the students were unable to meet or exceed the rigor of the content standards of the Algebra I requirement, as adopted by the SBE, which would result in the students not meeting graduation requirements.

**Demographic Information:**

The EDUHSD has a student population of 6,541 and is located in a rural area in   
El Dorado County.

## Summary of Previous State Board of Education Discussion and Action

In 2000, *EC* Section 51224.5 was enacted to require students to complete a course in Algebra I, as a condition of receiving a high school diploma. The Algebra I requirement applied to students who were scheduled for graduation beginning in 2003−04. All waiver requests of this type have been granted by the SBE for students with disabilities.

## Fiscal Analysis (as appropriate)

There is no statewide fiscal impact of waiver(s) approval.

## Attachment(s)

* **Attachment 1:** Summary Table (2 pages)
* **Attachment 2:** El Dorado Union High School District Specific Waiver Request 5-10-2024 (2 pages) (Original waiver request is signed and on file in the Waiver Office.)
* **Attachment 3:** El Dorado Union High School District Specific Waiver Request 6-10-2024 (2 pages) (Original waiver request is signed and on file in the Waiver Office).

# Attachment 1: Summary Table

California *Education Code (EC)* Section 56101

| Waiver Number | School District, School | Period of Request | District’s Request | CDE Recommendation | Local Board Approval Date | Penalty Without Waiver |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 5-10-2024 | El Dorado Union High School District | **Requested:**  July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025  **Recommended:**  July 1, 2024, through June 30 30, 2025 | To waive the Algebra I (or equivalent) graduation requirement for one student to receive a diploma of graduation | Approval with conditions to waive the Algebra I (or equivalent) graduation requirement for one student to receive a diploma of graduation | October 8, 2024 | Failure to approve the waiver request would result in the student not meeting graduation requirements |

| Waiver Number | School District, School | Period of Request | District’s Request | CDE Recommendation | Local Board Approval Date | Penalty Without Waiver |
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| 6-10-2024 | El Dorado Union High School District | **Requested:**  July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025  **Recommended:**  July 1, 2024, through June 30 30, 2025 | To waive the Algebra I (or equivalent) graduation requirement for one student to receive a diploma of graduation | Approval with conditions to waive the Algebra I (or equivalent) graduation requirement for one student to receive a diploma of graduation | October 8, 2024 | Failure to approve the waiver request would result in the student not meeting graduation requirements |

Created by California Department of Education   
January 2025

# Attachment 2: El Dorado Union High School District Specific Waiver Request 5-10-2024

**California Department of Education**

**WAIVER SUBMISSION – Specific**

CD Code: 0961853

Waiver Number: 5-10-2024

Active Year: 2024

Date In: 10/11/2024 12:38:52 PM

Local Education Agency: El Dorado Union High

Address: 4675 Missouri Flat Rd.

Placerville, CA 95667

Start: 7/1/2024

End: 6/30/2025

Waiver Renewal: No

Waiver Topic: Special Education Program

Ed Code Title: Algebra I Requirement for Graduation

Ed Code Section: 51224.5

Ed Code Authority: 56101

Ed Code or *CCR* to Waive: 51224.5

Outcome Rationale: This student has history of significant disability-related challenges with Math. He has attempted to meet the standards of the Algebra I course numerous times. Despite multiple, varied interventions and Special Education services, this student has been unsuccessful in meeting the state standards for Algebra. Therefore, we are requesting the Algebra I Waiver so that the student may earn their high school diploma in accordance with the graduation requirements of the El Dorado Union High School District.

Student Population: 6561

City Type: Rural

Local Board Approval Date: 10/8/2024

Audit Penalty Yes or No: No

Categorical Program Monitoring: No

Submitted by: Ms. Pamela Bartlett

Position: Senior Director of Student Success

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# Attachment 3: El Dorado Union High School District Specific Waiver Request 6-10-2024

**California Department of Education**

**WAIVER SUBMISSION – Specific**

CD Code: 0961853

Waiver Number: 6-10-2024

Active Year: 2024

Date In: 10/11/2024 12:47:56 PM

Local Education Agency: El Dorado Union High

Address: 4675 Missouri Flat Rd.

Placerville, CA 95667

Start: 7/1/2024

End: 6/30/2025

Waiver Renewal: No

Waiver Topic: Special Education Program

Ed Code Title: Algebra I Requirement for Graduation

Ed Code Section: 51224.5

Ed Code Authority: 56101

Ed Code or *CCR* to Waive: 51224.5

Outcome Rationale: This student has history of significant disability-related challenges with Math. He has attempted to meet the standards of the Algebra I course numerous times. Despite multiple, varied interventions and Special Education services, this student has been unsuccessful in meeting the state standards for Algebra. Therefore, we are requesting the Algebra I Waiver so that the student may earn their high school diploma in accordance with the graduation requirements of the El Dorado Union High School District.

Student Population: 6561

City Type: Rural

Local Board Approval Date: 10/8/2024

Audit Penalty Yes or No: No

Categorical Program Monitoring: No

Submitted by: Ms. Pamela Bartlett

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