

Instructions for Petitioning for a Diploma

O.C.G.A. § 20-2-281.1

On Monday, March 30, 2015, Governor Nathan Deal signed House Bill 91 into law, thereby creating a new code section, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-281.1. This law became effective upon the Governor's signature. This law provides that students shall no longer be required to earn a passing score on any graduation tests to earn a high school diploma. The law also contains additional details and requirements regarding the ability of students no longer enrolled to petition the local board of education for a diploma and a requirement for local school systems to advertise the availability of this opportunity for students whose sole reason for not receiving a high school diploma was due to not passing any part of the graduation tests.

Students desiring to petition the Tift County Board of Education for a diploma from Tift County High School must adhere to the following:

- The student must complete a Petition Form available from the Guidance Department at Tift County High School or from the school's website, tchs.tiftschools.com.
- The student must provide a scanned/copied image of his/her government issued photo identification, such as a driver's license or other state-issued identification.
- The completed petition and photo identification may be submitted in person to the school's Guidance Department or mailed to:
Tift County High School
ATTN: Diploma Department
One Blue Devil Way
Tifton, GA 31794

Once the completed petition and identification are received by the school, school personnel will verify that the student has met all requirements for graduation with the exception of passing one or more sections of the Georgia High School Graduation Tests (English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies), Georgia High School Writing Test, and Basic Skills Tests (Reading, Mathematics, and Writing). Students will be notified whether or not they have met requirements to receive a diploma by phone or by mail. Please allow up to eight weeks for a petition to be processed. If you have not been notified by the school after eight weeks, please call the Tift County High School Guidance Department at (229) 387-2475.



Tift County High School

One Blue Devil Way
TIFTON, GEORGIA 31794-1702

Telephone (229) 387-2475
FAX (229) 386-1022
www.tiftschools.com/tchs

Assistant Principals:
Don Jarrett
Eric Holland
Misty Tucker
Shae Tucker

Kim Seigler
Principal

O.C.G.A. § 20-2-281.1 Graduation Diploma Petition Form

An individual (hereinafter referred to as "Student") no longer enrolled in a Georgia public school and who previously failed to receive a high school diploma in this state or was denied graduation solely for failing to achieve a passing score on one or more portions of the Georgia High School Graduation Tests or its predecessor or the Georgia High School Writing Test or its predecessor may petition the local board of education in which he or she was last enrolled to determine the Student's eligibility to receive a high school diploma pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 20-2-281.1 based on the graduation requirements in effect when the Student first entered ninth grade.

Submit this completed, signed form by **mail** to: Tift County High School ATTN: Diploma Department, One Blue Devil Way, Tifton GA 31794, OR submit in person at Tift County High School. If submitting a petition by mail, include a scanned/copied image of your government issued photo identification such as your driver's license or other state-issued identification. Incomplete petitions will delay processing.

Student's contact Information

Name _____ Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

Mailing Address _____

Student's Information

First _____ Middle _____ Last _____ Maiden _____

Date of Birth _____ State ID Number/Last 4 digits of SS _____ Gender _____ Expected Year of Graduation _____

I verify the above information is complete and accurate.

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

For Office Use Only

Petition Received by: _____ Date: _____

The Petitioner has met the requirements to receive a regular high school diploma. _____

The Petitioner has not met the requirements to receive a regular high school diploma. _____

Principal's Signature _____ Date _____

I have received my diploma _____
Student's Signature _____ Date _____