

Chapter 180-51 WAC
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Last Update: 12/29/23

WAC

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DISPOSITION OF SECTIONS FORMERLY CODIFIED IN THIS CHAPTER

180-51-001	Education reform vision. [Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 00-19-108, § 180-51-001, filed 9/20/00, effective 10/21/00.] Repealed by WSR 20-01-101, filed 12/13/19, effective 1/13/20. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090.
180-51-003	Intent of graduation requirements. [Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 07-07-051, § 180-51-003, filed 3/14/07, effective 4/14/07; WSR 00-23-032, § 180-51-003, filed 11/8/00, effective 12/9/00.] Repealed by WSR 20-01-101, filed 12/13/19, effective 1/13/20. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090.
180-51-010	Purpose. [Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.05 RCW. WSR 84-11-049 (Order 7-84), § 180-51-010, filed 5/17/84.] Repealed by WSR 00-23-032, filed 11/8/00, effective 12/9/00. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090.
180-51-055	Minimum credits for high school graduation. [Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090 and 28A.230.100. WSR 93-04-115, § 180-51-055, filed 2/3/93, effective 3/6/93. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.05.060. WSR 85-12-041 (Order 12-85), § 180-51-055, filed 6/5/85. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.05 RCW. WSR 84-11-049 (Order 7-84), § 180-51-055, filed 5/17/84.] Repealed by WSR 00-19-108, filed 9/20/00, effective 10/21/00. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090.
180-51-060	Minimum subject areas for high school graduation—Students entering the ninth grade before July 1, 2004. [Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.305.215(8), 28A.230.090. WSR 08-18-013, § 180-51-060, filed 8/22/08, effective 9/22/08. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 01-13-112, § 180-51-060, filed 6/20/01, effective 7/21/01; WSR 00-19-108, § 180-51-060, filed 9/20/00, effective 10/21/00. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.05.062 and 28A.05.064. WSR 88-01-109 (Order 18-87), § 180-51-060, filed 12/22/87. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.05.060. WSR 85-12-041 (Order 12-85), § 180-51-060, filed 6/5/85. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.05 RCW. WSR 84-11-049 (Order 7-84), § 180-51-060, filed 5/17/84.] Repealed by WSR 20-01-101, filed 12/13/19, effective 1/13/20. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090.
180-51-061	Minimum requirements for high school graduation—Students entering the ninth grade as of July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2009. [Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.305.215(8), 28A.230.090. WSR 08-18-013, § 180-51-061, filed 8/22/08, effective 9/22/08. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 07-07-051, § 180-51-061, filed 3/14/07, effective 4/14/07; WSR 04-23-004, § 180-51-061, filed 11/4/04, effective 12/5/04; WSR 04-04-092, § 180-51-061, filed 2/3/04, effective 3/5/04; WSR 01-13-114, § 180-51-061, filed 6/20/01, effective 7/21/01; WSR 00-23-032, § 180-51-061, filed 11/8/00, effective 12/9/00.] Repealed by WSR 20-01-101, filed 12/13/19, effective 1/13/20. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090.
180-51-062	Fine, visual, or performing arts requirement. [Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.05.060. WSR 85-12-041 (Order 12-85), § 180-51-062, filed 6/5/85.] Repealed by WSR 88-01-109 (Order 18-87), filed 12/22/87. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.05.062 and 28A.05.064.
180-51-063	Certificate of mastery—High school graduation requirement—Effective date. [Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 03-14-118, § 180-51-063, filed 6/30/03, effective 7/31/03; WSR 01-13-113, § 180-51-063, filed 6/20/01, effective 7/21/01; WSR 00-13-039, § 180-51-063, filed 6/14/00, effective 7/15/00; WSR 00-04-047, § 180-51-063, filed 1/27/00, effective 2/27/00.] Repealed by WSR 04-23-010, filed 11/4/04, effective 12/5/04. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090.
180-51-064	Certificate of mastery—Validity and reliability study. [Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 00-04-047, § 180-51-064, filed 1/27/00, effective 2/27/00.] Repealed by WSR 04-23-010, filed 11/4/04, effective 12/5/04. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090.

- 180-51-065 Sequential requirement for English, mathematics, and science—Exception for transfer students from without the state, for students who fail a required course, and special accommodations. [Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.05.060. WSR 85-12-041 (Order 12-85), § 180-51-065, filed 6/5/85. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.05 RCW. WSR 84-11-049 (Order 7-84), § 180-51-065, filed 5/17/84.] Repealed by WSR 00-19-108, filed 9/20/00, effective 10/21/00. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090.
- 180-51-066 Minimum requirements for high school graduation—Students entering the ninth grade on or after July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2012. [Statutory Authority: 2014 c 217 and RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 14-19-032, § 180-51-066, filed 9/8/14, effective 10/9/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090, 28A.230.093, 28A.230.050, 28A.230.170, 28A.230.060, and 28A.305.215(8). WSR 12-03-073, § 180-51-066, filed 1/13/12, effective 2/13/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.305.215(8), 28A.230.090. WSR 10-19-118, § 180-51-066, filed 9/21/10, effective 10/22/10; WSR 09-16-028, § 180-51-066, filed 7/27/09, effective 8/27/09; WSR 08-18-013, § 180-51-066, filed 8/22/08, effective 9/22/08.] Repealed by WSR 20-01-101, filed 12/13/19, effective 1/13/20. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090.
- 180-51-070 Laboratory science requirement. [Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.05.060. WSR 85-12-041 (Order 12-85), § 180-51-070, filed 6/5/85. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.05 RCW. WSR 84-11-049 (Order 7-84), § 180-51-070, filed 5/17/84.] Repealed by WSR 00-19-108, filed 9/20/00, effective 10/21/00. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090.
- 180-51-075 Social studies requirement—Mandatory courses—Equivalencies. [Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.170, 28A.230.060. WSR 00-19-011, § 180-51-075, filed 9/7/00, effective 10/8/00. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.170, 28A.230.060, and 28A.230.090. WSR 00-05-010, § 180-51-075, filed 2/4/00, effective 3/6/00. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.410.010. WSR 94-03-104 (Order 5-94), § 180-51-075, filed 1/19/94, effective 2/19/94. Statutory Authority: 1990 c 33. WSR 90-17-009, § 180-51-075, filed 8/6/90, effective 9/6/90. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.05.060. WSR 85-12-041 (Order 12-85), § 180-51-075, filed 6/5/85. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.05 RCW. WSR 84-11-049 (Order 7-84), § 180-51-075, filed 5/17/84.] Repealed by WSR 20-01-101, filed 12/13/19, effective 1/13/20. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090.
- 180-51-080 Occupational education requirement. [Statutory Authority: 1990 c 33. WSR 90-17-009, § 180-51-080, filed 8/6/90, effective 9/6/90. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.05.060. WSR 85-12-041 (Order 12-85), § 180-51-080, filed 6/5/85. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.05 RCW. WSR 84-11-049 (Order 7-84), § 180-51-080, filed 5/17/84.] Repealed by WSR 00-19-108, filed 9/20/00, effective 10/21/00. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090.
- 180-51-085 Physical education requirement—Excuse. [Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 00-19-108, § 180-51-085, filed 9/20/00, effective 10/21/00. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.100. WSR 92-08-078, § 180-51-085, filed 3/31/92, effective 5/1/92; WSR 91-11-018, § 180-51-085, filed 5/6/91, effective 6/6/91. Statutory Authority: 1990 c 33. WSR 90-17-009, § 180-51-085, filed 8/6/90, effective 9/6/90. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.05.060. WSR 85-12-041 (Order 12-85), § 180-51-085, filed 6/5/85. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.05 RCW. WSR 84-11-049 (Order 7-84), § 180-51-085, filed 5/17/84.] Decodified by WSR 06-14-009, filed 6/22/06, effective 6/22/06. Statutory Authority: 2006 c 263. Recodified as § 392-410-136.
- 180-51-100 Temporary exemption from course and credit requirements. [Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 00-19-108, § 180-51-100, filed 9/20/00, effective 10/21/00. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090 and 28A.230.100. WSR 93-04-115, § 180-51-100, filed 2/3/93, effective 3/6/93. Statutory Authority: 1990 c 33. WSR 90-17-009, § 180-51-100, filed 8/6/90, effective 9/6/90. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.05.060. WSR 85-12-041 (Order 12-85), § 180-51-100, filed 6/5/85. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.05 RCW. WSR 84-11-049 (Order 7-84), § 180-51-100, filed 5/17/84.] Decodified by WSR 06-14-009, filed 6/22/06, effective 6/22/06. Statutory Authority: 2006 c 263. Recodified as § 392-410-117.
- 180-51-105 Exceptions to graduation requirements for former educational center students. [Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 00-19-108, § 180-51-105, filed 9/20/00, effective 10/21/00. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.410.010. WSR 94-03-103 (Order 4-94), § 180-51-105, filed 1/19/94, effective 2/19/94. Statutory Authority: 1990 c 33. WSR 90-17-009, § 180-51-105, filed 8/6/90, effective 9/6/90. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.05 RCW. WSR 84-11-049 (Order 7-84), § 180-51-105, filed 5/17/84.] Decodified by WSR 06-14-009, filed 6/22/06, effective 6/22/06. Statutory Authority: 2006 c 263. Recodified as § 392-410-330.
- 180-51-110 Equivalency credit for alternative learning experiences, nonhigh school courses, electronically mediated courses, work experience, and challenges. [Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 05-23-058, § 180-51-110, filed 11/10/05, effective 12/11/05; WSR 00-19-108, § 180-51-110, filed 9/20/00, effective 10/21/00. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.05.060. WSR 85-12-041 (Order 12-85), § 180-51-110, filed 6/5/85. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.05 RCW. WSR 84-11-049 (Order 7-84), § 180-51-110, filed 5/17/84.] Decodified by WSR 06-14-009, filed 6/22/06, effective 6/22/06. Statutory Authority: 2006 c 263. Recodified as § 392-410-340.
- 180-51-120 Washington National Guard youth challenge program—Course content—Credits. [Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 05-23-058, § 180-51-120, filed 11/10/05, effective 12/11/05.] Decodified by WSR 06-14-009, filed 6/22/06, effective 6/22/06. Statutory Authority: 2006 c 263. Recodified as § 392-410-327.

WAC 180-51-005 Authority and purpose. (1) The authority for this chapter is RCW 28A.230.090 which authorizes and requires the state board of education to establish state high school graduation requirements.

(2) The purpose of this chapter is to establish high school graduation requirements, for students who commence the ninth grade or the

equivalent of a four-year high school program subsequent to July 1, 2012. Graduation requirements and policies and procedures for equivalencies for students who commence the ninth grade or the equivalent of a four-year high school program prior to July 1, 2012, are codified in WAC 180-51-056 and shall remain in effect for such students pursuant to WAC 180-51-035.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 20-01-101, § 180-51-005, filed 12/13/19, effective 1/13/20; WSR 00-23-032, § 180-51-005, filed 11/8/00, effective 12/9/00. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090 and 28A.230.100. WSR 93-04-115, § 180-51-005, filed 2/3/93, effective 3/6/93. Statutory Authority: 1990 c 33. WSR 90-17-009, § 180-51-005, filed 8/6/90, effective 9/6/90. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.05.062. WSR 86-20-053 (Order 11-86), § 180-51-005, filed 9/29/86. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.05 RCW. WSR 84-11-049 (Order 7-84), § 180-51-005, filed 5/17/84.]

WAC 180-51-015 Application of chapter to charter and tribal compact schools, approved private schools, and community colleges. High school diplomas granted by a charter school established under chapter 28A.710 RCW, tribal compact school operated according to the terms of state-tribal education compacts authorized under chapter 28A.715 RCW, approved private schools under chapter 28A.195 RCW and by community colleges under RCW 28B.50.535 shall meet the requirements of this chapter. References in this chapter to the board of directors of a school district shall apply to the governing board of the charter school, tribal compact school, approved private school or the community college district affected. References within this chapter to school district shall refer to the charter school, tribal compact school, approved private school or community college district. References within this chapter to high school shall refer to each charter school, tribal compact school, approved private school or community college.

[Statutory Authority: 2020 c 7 § 10-12 and RCW 28A.195.010, 28A.230.090, 28A.150.220(7). WSR 21-01-077, § 180-51-015, filed 12/10/20, effective 1/10/21. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.05 RCW. WSR 84-11-049 (Order 7-84), § 180-51-015, filed 5/17/84.]

WAC 180-51-020 Additional local standards. Nothing within this chapter shall preclude the board of directors of any district offering a high school diploma from establishing such additional course, credit, and test requirements as deemed desirable. A district may not adopt any policy which requires enrollment for either (a) a minimum number of semesters or trimesters or (b) a minimum number of courses in a semester or trimester which exceeds the enrollment time or courses necessary for a student to meet established course, credit, and test requirements for high school graduation.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.05 RCW. WSR 84-11-049 (Order 7-84), § 180-51-020, filed 5/17/84.]

WAC 180-51-025 Local school district application of state requirements. The content of courses and the determination of which courses satisfy particular subject area requirements and whether a

particular course may satisfy more than one subject area requirement shall be determined locally in accordance with written policies adopted by boards of directors of districts: Provided, that if a world language graduation requirement is established, credits earned in American sign language shall count toward the completion of the requirement.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 20-01-101, § 180-51-025, filed 12/13/19, effective 1/13/20; WSR 00-19-108, § 180-51-025, filed 9/20/00, effective 10/21/00. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090 and 28A.230.100. WSR 93-04-115, § 180-51-025, filed 2/3/93, effective 3/6/93. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.05.060. WSR 89-12-061 (Order 10-89), § 180-51-025, filed 6/6/89. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.05 RCW. WSR 84-11-049 (Order 7-84), § 180-51-025, filed 5/17/84.]

WAC 180-51-030 High school credit for courses taken before attending high school. (1) A student who has completed high school courses as defined in RCW 28A.230.090(4) with a passing grade before attending high school shall automatically be given high school credit which shall be applied to fulfilling high school graduation requirements, unless requested otherwise by the student and the student's parent or guardian.

(2) At the request of the student and the student's parent or guardian, high school credit earned before high school may be transcribed with a nonnumerical grade, such as "pass" or "credit." A nonnumerical grade will not be included in the student's high school grade point average calculation. High school credit earned prior to high school and transcribed with a nonnumerical grade will apply to fulfilling high school graduation requirements.

(3) A student and the student's parent or guardian must inform the school before the end of the 11th grade if they do not want credit for the course(s) taken before attending high school, or if they want to request that credit be transcribed with a nonnumerical grade.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 20-01-101, § 180-51-030, filed 12/13/19, effective 1/13/20; WSR 00-19-108, § 180-51-030, filed 9/20/00, effective 10/21/00. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090 and 28A.230.100. WSR 93-04-115, § 180-51-030, filed 2/3/93, effective 3/6/93; WSR 91-01-066, § 180-51-030, filed 12/14/90, effective 1/14/91. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.05 RCW. WSR 84-11-049 (Order 7-84), § 180-51-030, filed 5/17/84.]

WAC 180-51-035 Applicable standards for graduation for students under age twenty-one—Applicable standards for graduation for students age twenty-one or older—Amendments to this chapter. (1) All students entering a high school program in Washington state shall be assigned an expected graduation year as required by federal law and this section. Once students are assigned a graduation year, they will be aligned to the requirements for that specific graduating class and subject to the provisions of this section.

(a) Students shall be assigned an expected graduation year based on the year they commence ninth grade, or for out-of-district and out-of-state transfer students, based on local district policy, provided that the expected graduation year for students receiving special edu-

cation services shall be assigned and based on an individualized education program (IEP) team determination in the year in which the student turns sixteen.

(b) Students shall have the right and the obligation to meet the minimum graduation requirements in place for their ninth grade cohort at the time they enter a public high school, regardless of whether their expected graduation year has been extended or what year they actually graduate.

(2)(a) A student age twenty-one or older who earns a high school diploma through the adult high school completion option under WAC 180-51-053 shall be required to meet the state minimum graduation credit established when the student began their high school program. Such students shall not be required to earn a certificate of academic achievement, a certificate of individual achievement, or meet pathway graduation requirements under WAC 180-51-210;

(b) The state board of education reserves the prerogative to determine if and when the waived requirements under (a) of this subsection shall be required to earn an adult high school completion diploma.

(3) Unless otherwise required by statute, all subsequent amendments to credit graduation requirement rules and all subsequent local standards shall apply prospectively to the students who enter the ninth grade or begin the equivalent of a four-year high school program subsequent to the amendments.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 20-01-101, § 180-51-035, filed 12/13/19, effective 1/13/20. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.230 RCW and RCW 28B.50.915. WSR 05-21-007, § 180-51-035, filed 10/6/05, effective 11/6/05; WSR 04-20-093, § 180-51-035, filed 10/5/04, effective 11/5/04. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 00-19-108, § 180-51-035, filed 9/20/00, effective 10/21/00. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.05 RCW. WSR 84-11-049 (Order 7-84), § 180-51-035, filed 5/17/84.]

WAC 180-51-040 Copies of graduation requirements for each year.

(1) Each high school shall keep on file for student and public inspection a copy of the state board of education rules and guidelines regarding high school graduation requirements and procedures for equivalencies applicable for the school year, including the preceding ten years. Any locally adopted high school graduation requirements and procedures for equivalencies shall also be kept on file with such state requirements. Copies of state requirements by year also shall be kept on file in the office of the state board of education.

(2) The state board of education and the superintendent of public instruction are not authorized by law to issue a high school diploma.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 20-01-101, § 180-51-040, filed 12/13/19, effective 1/13/20; WSR 00-19-108, § 180-51-040, filed 9/20/00, effective 10/21/00. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.05 RCW. WSR 84-11-049 (Order 7-84), § 180-51-040, filed 5/17/84.]

WAC 180-51-045 Notice to students, parents, and guardians. Commencing with the beginning of the ninth grade, or the equivalent of a four-year high school program, and each year thereafter, each high school shall provide each student and his or her parents or guardians

with a copy of the high school graduation requirements applicable to each student and a progress report at the close of each school year thereafter of each individual student's progress toward meeting those requirements. If a student is not making normal progress toward such requirements, the high school shall notify the student and parents or guardians of alternative education experiences, including summer school opportunities available in the community, if any, or in close proximity.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 00-19-108, § 180-51-045, filed 9/20/00, effective 10/21/00. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.05 RCW. WSR 84-11-049 (Order 7-84), § 180-51-045, filed 5/17/84.]

WAC 180-51-050 High school credit—Definition. As used in this chapter the term "high school credit" shall mean:

(1) Grades nine through twelve or the equivalent of a four-year high school program, or as otherwise provided in RCW 28A.230.090(4):

(a) Successful completion, as defined by written district policy, of courses taught to the state's learning standards. If there are no state-adopted learning standards for a subject, the local governing board, or its designee, shall determine learning standards for the successful completion of that subject; or

(b) Satisfactory demonstration by a student of proficiency/competency/mastery, as defined by written district policy, of the state's learning standards.

(2) College and university course work. At the college or university level, five quarter or three semester hours shall equal one high school credit: Provided, that for the purpose of this subsection, "college and university course work" means course work that generally is designated 100 level or above by the college or university.

(3) Community/technical college high school completion program - Diploma awarded by community/technical colleges. Five quarter or three semester hours of community/technical college high school completion course work shall equal one high school credit: Provided, that for purposes of awarding equivalency credit under this subsection, college and university high school completion course work includes course work that is designated below the 100 level by the college and the course work is developmental education at grade levels nine through twelve or the equivalent of a four-year high school program. (See also WAC 180-51-053)

(4) Community/technical college high school completion program - Diploma awarded by school district. A minimum of one-half and a maximum of one high school credit may be awarded for every five quarter or three semester hours of community/technical college high school completion course work: Provided, that for purposes of awarding equivalency credit under this subsection, college and university high school completion course work includes course work that is designated below the 100 level by the college and the course work is developmental education at grade levels nine through twelve or the equivalent of a four-year high school program. (See also WAC 180-51-053)

(5) Each high school district board of directors shall adopt a written policy for determining the awarding of equivalency credit authorized under subsection (4) of this section. The policy shall apply uniformly to all high schools in the district.

(6) Each high school district board of directors shall adopt a written policy regarding the recognition and acceptance of earned credits. The policy shall apply to all high schools in the district. The policy may include reliance on the professional judgment of the building principal or designee in determining whether or not a credit meets the district's standards for recognition and acceptance of a credit. The policy shall include an appeal procedure to the district if it includes reliance on the professional judgment of the building principal or designee.

(7) A student must first obtain a written release from their school district to enroll in a high school completion program under subsection (3) of this section if the student has not reached age eighteen or whose class has not graduated.

[Statutory Authority: 2020 c 7 § 10-12 and RCW 28A.195.010, 28A.230.090, 28A.150.220(7). WSR 21-01-077, § 180-51-050, filed 12/10/20, effective 1/10/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 20-01-101, § 180-51-050, filed 12/13/19, effective 1/13/20; WSR 12-03-052, § 180-51-050, filed 1/11/12, effective 2/11/12. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.230 RCW. WSR 05-19-105, § 180-51-050, filed 9/20/05, effective 10/21/05. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.230 RCW and RCW 28B.50.915. WSR 04-20-093, § 180-51-050, filed 10/5/04, effective 11/5/04. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.150.220(4), 28A.305.140, and 28A.305.130(6). WSR 04-04-093, § 180-51-050, filed 2/3/04, effective 3/5/04. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 00-23-032, § 180-51-050, filed 11/8/00, effective 12/9/00; WSR 99-10-093, § 180-51-050, filed 5/4/99, effective 6/4/99. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090 and 28A.305.130. WSR 97-08-020, § 180-51-050, filed 3/25/97, effective 4/25/97; WSR 96-09-027, § 180-51-050, filed 4/9/96, effective 5/10/96. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090, 28A.305.130 and 1994 c 222. WSR 95-16-063, § 180-51-050, filed 7/27/95, effective 8/27/95. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090(1) and 28A.305.130 (8) and (9). WSR 94-13-017, § 180-51-050, filed 6/3/94, effective 7/4/94. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 94-03-100 (Order 1-94), § 180-51-050, filed 1/19/94, effective 9/1/94. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.05.060. WSR 85-12-041 (Order 12-85), § 180-51-050, filed 6/5/85. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.05 RCW. WSR 84-11-049 (Order 7-84), § 180-51-050, filed 5/17/84.]

WAC 180-51-051 Procedure for granting students mastery-based credit. (1) Definitions. The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(a) Per WAC 180-51-015, references to "district" within this section means a school district, a charter school established under chapter 28A.710 RCW, a tribal compact school operated according to the terms of state-tribal education compacts authorized under chapter 28A.715 RCW, and community and technical colleges per WAC 180-51-015.

(b) Per E2SHB 1599 (section 301, chapter 252, Laws of 2019), "mastery-based learning" means:

- (i) Students advance upon demonstrated mastery of content;
- (ii) Competencies include explicit, measurable, transferable learning objectives that empower students;
- (iii) Assessments are meaningful and a positive learning experience for students;
- (iv) Students receive rapid, differentiated support based on their individual learning needs; and

(v) Learning outcomes emphasize competencies that include application and creation of knowledge along with the development of important skills and dispositions.

(2) Per WAC 180-51-050, a district may award credit to a student who demonstrates mastery on the state learning standards. If no state standard is available for a subject the district may award credit based on mastery of locally adopted standards.

(3) A district's written policy for awarding mastery-based credit must include:

(a) A provision that details how the district will ensure cultural responsiveness and equity in awarding of mastery-based credit. Each district shall maintain disaggregated student data and periodically review which subgroups of students are receiving mastery-based credit. If the district finds disproportionality among student groups receiving mastery-based credit, the district should be prepared to take appropriate actions to ensure equitable access to mastery-based credit opportunities.

(b) Which subjects or courses are eligible for mastery-based credit.

(c) Other methods allowable for a student to demonstrate proficiency and qualify for mastery credit, beyond what is established in subsection (4)(b) of this section for locally developed assessment options.

(4) Student demonstration of mastery: Student demonstration of mastery of the state's learning standards is not limited to standardized assessment results. Nothing in this section prohibits LEAs from developing additional methods to allow students to show proficiency and earn mastery-based credit, beyond what is included in this section. Districts who adopt a written policy for awarding mastery-based credit may make the following methods of earning mastery-based credit available to their students:

(a) State assessments in English language arts, math, and science, in accordance with RCW 28A.655.070;

(b) Local assessment options: Districts are encouraged to allow students to choose their assessment method from a variety of district-approved options. Additionally, districts may consider using standards-based grading for any local assessment approach to awarding credit. Local assessment options may include:

(i) Locally created written or oral test;

(ii) Written report by the student;

(iii) Student-designed portfolio of work;

(iv) Student presentation or oral defense of their learning in the course;

(v) Hands-on demonstration of knowledge and skills; or

(vi) A combination of assessment approaches, as defined by the district.

(c) Equivalency course of study: Students may receive credit for learning experiences outside of school that align to state learning standards, in accordance with WAC 392-410-300.

(d) Successful completion of next higher-level course: Districts may award credit for a course when the student successfully completes the next higher-level course in a sequence that includes a natural progression of the state learning standards from the previous course. Districts shall use the state or locally determined learning standards as their guide when making decisions regarding what courses should qualify.

(5) High school and beyond plan (HSBP): In accordance with WAC 180-51-220, a student's high school and beyond plan should reflect subject area requirements intended to be met, or that have been met, through mastery-based credit per WAC 180-51-220.

[Statutory Authority: 2020 c 7 § 10-12 and RCW 28A.195.010, 28A.230.090, 28A.150.220(7). WSR 21-01-077, § 180-51-051, filed 12/10/20, effective 1/10/21.]

WAC 180-51-053 Community college high school diploma programs.

(1)(a) **Minimum requirements for high school diploma.** The minimum requirements and procedures for the issuance of a high school diploma by or through a community or technical college district shall be as prescribed by the state board of education in this section and chapters 180-51 and 180-56 WAC or as set forth in RCW 28B.50.535 (2), (3) or (4).

(b) Any high school graduation diploma issued by or through a community or technical college district shall certify that the diploma is issued in compliance with high school graduation requirements established by the state board of education and procedures established by the superintendent of public instruction or as set forth in RCW 28B.50.535 (2), (3) or (4).

(2) **Provisions governing program for persons eighteen years of age and over.**

(a) The appropriate school district, community college, or technical college education official shall evaluate the previous educational records of the student and may provide evaluative testing to determine the student's educational level. The official shall recommend an appropriate course or courses of study and upon the successful completion of such study the student will be eligible for the high school diploma.

(b) Satisfaction of minimum course requirements may be met by one or more of the following methods with the applicable institution granting credit verifying completion of course requirements.

(i) Actual completion of courses regularly conducted in high school;

(ii) Technical college;

(iii) Community college;

(iv) Approved correspondence or extension courses;

(v) Supervised independent study; or

(vi) Testing in specific subject areas.

(c) The appropriate education official shall exercise reasonable judgment in appraising the educational experience of the student either in or out of a formal school program to determine the degree to which the student has satisfied the minimum credit requirements for completion of the high school program. Consideration may be given to work experience, vocational training, civic responsibilities discharged by the adult and other evidences of educational attainment.

(d) A high school diploma shall be granted to each individual who satisfactorily meets the requirements for high school completion. The diploma shall be issued by the appropriate school district, community college, or technical college: Records of diplomas issued under the provisions of this subsection shall be maintained by the issuing agency.

(3) Provisions governing program for persons under eighteen years of age.

(a) The high school principal shall evaluate the previous educational record of the individual and prior to his or her enrollment in courses and in cooperation with the appropriate education official of a community college or technical college shall approve the program of studies leading to the high school diploma.

(b) The student must be assigned a program supervisor.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.50.535. WSR 18-06-032, § 180-51-053, filed 2/28/18, effective 3/31/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 10-12-082, § 180-51-053, filed 6/1/10, effective 7/2/10. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.230 RCW and RCW 28B.50.915. WSR 04-20-093, § 180-51-053, filed 10/5/04, effective 11/5/04.]

WAC 180-51-056 Previous requirements for high school graduation.

This section describes the statewide minimum credit and subject areas requirements for high school graduation for students who entered the ninth grade or began the equivalent of a four-year high school program prior to July 1, 2012 (the class of 2015 and previous classes). This section applies to students of the applicable graduation cohorts in high school completion programs at community and technical colleges.

(1) The minimum credit and subject area requirements, except as noted in subsections (2) and (3) of this section, are as follows:

(a) Three **English** credits (reading, writing, and communications) that at minimum align with grade level expectations for ninth and tenth grade, plus content that is determined by the district.

(b) Two **science** credits (physical, life, and earth) that at minimum align with grade level expectations for ninth and tenth grade, plus content that is determined by the district. At least one credit in laboratory science is required which shall be defined locally.

(c) Two and one-half **social studies** credits that at minimum align with the state's learning standards in civics, economics, geography, history, and social studies skills at grade ten and/or above plus content that is determined by the district. The social studies requirement shall consist of the following mandatory courses or equivalencies:

(i) One credit shall be required in United States history and government which shall include study of the Constitution of the United States.

(ii) Under the provisions of RCW 28A.230.170 and 28A.230.090, one-half credit shall be required in Washington state history and government which shall include study of the Constitution of the state of Washington and shall include information on the culture, history, and government of the American Indian peoples who were the first inhabitants of the state. If taken in seventh or eighth grade, this course may meet the state history and government graduation requirement. However, the course may only count as a high school credit if the academic level of the course exceeds the requirements for seventh and eighth grade classes or is equivalent to a course offered at a high school in the district as determined by the school district board of directors (RCW 28A.230.090). The study of the United States and Washington state Constitutions shall not be waived but may be fulfilled through an alternative learning experience approved locally under written district policy. Secondary school students who have completed and passed a state history and government course of study in another state, and students who transferred from another state as eleventh or twelfth grade students who have or will have earned two credits in social

studies at graduation, may have the Washington state history and government requirement waived.

(iii) One credit shall be required in contemporary world history, geography, and problems. Courses in economics, sociology, civics, political science, international relations, or related courses with emphasis on current problems may be accepted as equivalencies.

(d) One-half credit of **health**.

(e) One and one-half credits of **physical education**. Students may be excused from the physical education requirement under RCW 28A.230.050. Such excused students shall be required to demonstrate proficiency/competency/mastery in the knowledge portion of the physical education requirement, in accordance with written district policy. Such policies that should be based upon meeting both health and physical education curricula concepts as well as alternative means of engaging in physical activities, as directed in RCW 28A.210.365.

(f) One **arts** credit that at minimum is aligned to learning standards.

(g) One credit in **career and technical education** or occupational education. Courses that meet this requirement include courses that are part of career and technical education programs, as defined in chapter 28A.700 RCW, or occupational education courses as identified by the district. "Occupational education" means credits resulting from a series of learning experiences designed to assist the student to acquire and demonstrate competency/mastery of skills under student learning goal four (RCW 28A.150.210) and are required for success in current and emerging occupations. At a minimum, these competencies shall align with the definition of an exploratory course as contained in the career and technical education program standards of the office of the superintendent of public instruction. Districts are encouraged to offer career and technical education programs, as defined in RCW 28A.700.010.

(i) An exception of the career and technical education requirement may be made for private schools as provided in WAC 180-90-160.

(ii) A student who earns credit through a career and technical education course determined by the district or by the office of the superintendent of public instruction to be equivalent to a noncareer and technical education course per RCW 28A.700.070, will not be required to pass a course in the noncareer and technical education subject to earn a credit in the noncareer and technical education subject. The single career and technical education course equivalency meets two graduation requirements, the career and technical education subject area graduation requirement and the noncareer and technical education subject area graduation requirement. The student therefore has an additional elective credit.

(h) Five and one-half credits of **electives**. Districts may replace these credits with local district requirements through written district policy.

(i) Each student shall have a **high school and beyond plan** for their high school experience, that informs course-taking and that is aligned with the student's postsecondary goals.

(2) For students who entered ninth grade prior to July 1, 2009 (graduating classes preceding the class of 2013), additional graduation requirements are as follows:

(a) The total minimum number of credits required for high school graduation is nineteen.

(b) Two mathematics credits that at minimum align with mathematics grade level expectations for ninth and tenth grade, plus content that is determined by the district.

(3) For students who entered ninth grade as of July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2012 (the class of 2013 through the class of 2015), additional graduation requirements are as follows:

(a) The total minimum number of credits required for high school graduation is twenty.

(b) Three mathematics credits that align with the high school mathematics standards as developed and revised by the office of the superintendent of public instruction and satisfy the requirements set forth below:

(i) Unless otherwise provided for in (b)(ii) of this subsection, the three mathematics credits required under this section must include:

- (A) Algebra 1 or integrated mathematics I;
- (B) Geometry or integrated mathematics II; and
- (C) Algebra 2 or integrated mathematics III.

(ii) A student may elect to pursue a third credit of high school-level mathematics, other than algebra 2 or integrated mathematics III, based on a career-oriented program of study identified in the student's high school and beyond plan that is currently being pursued by the student.

[Statutory Authority: 2020 c 7 § 10-12 and RCW 28A.195.010, 28A.230.090, 28A.150.220(7). WSR 21-01-077, § 180-51-056, filed 12/10/20, effective 1/10/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 20-01-101, § 180-51-056, filed 12/13/19, effective 1/13/20.]

WAC 180-51-067 State subject and credit requirements for high school graduation—Students entering the ninth grade on or after July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2015. The statewide subject areas and credits required for high school graduation, beginning July 1, 2012, for students who enter the ninth grade or begin the equivalent of a four-year high school program, as of July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2015, except as provided in WAC 180-51-068(11), shall total twenty as provided below. The credit and subject area requirements in this section apply to districts with a waiver to delay implementing WAC 180-51-068. For such districts, this section will apply to students who entered ninth grade between July 1, 2012, and June 30, 2016. All credits are to be aligned with the state's learning standards for the subject. The content of any course shall be determined by the local school district.

(1) Four **English** credits.

(2) Three **mathematics** credits that satisfy the requirements set forth below:

(a) Unless otherwise provided for in (d) through (g) of this subsection, the three mathematics credits required under this section must include:

- (i) Algebra 1 or integrated mathematics I;
- (ii) Geometry or integrated mathematics II; and
- (iii) Algebra 2 or integrated mathematics III.

(b) A student may elect to pursue a third credit of high school-level mathematics, other than algebra 2 or integrated mathematics III, if all of the following requirements are met:

(i) The student's elective choice is based on a career-oriented program of study identified in the student's high school and beyond plan that is currently being pursued by the student;

(ii) The student's parent(s)/guardian(s) (or designee for the student if a parent or guardian is unavailable) agree that the third credit of mathematics elected is a more appropriate course selection than algebra 2 or integrated mathematics III because it will better serve the student's education and career goals;

(iii) A meeting is held with the student, the parent(s)/guardian(s) (or designee for the student if a parent or guardian is unavailable), and a high school representative for the purpose of discussing the student's high school and beyond plan and advising the student of the requirements for credit bearing two- and four-year college level mathematics courses; and

(iv) The school has the parent(s)/guardian(s) (or designee for the student if a parent or guardian is unavailable) sign a form acknowledging that the meeting with a high school representative has occurred, the information as required was discussed, and the parent(s)/guardian(s) (or designee for the student if a parent or guardian is unavailable) agree that the third credit of mathematics elected is a more appropriate course selection given the student's education and career goals.

(c) Equivalent career and technical education mathematics courses meeting the requirements set forth in RCW 28A.230.097 can be taken for credit instead of any of the mathematics courses set forth in (a) of this subsection if the career and technical education mathematics courses are recorded on the student's transcript using the equivalent academic high school department designation and course title.

(d) A student who prior to ninth grade successfully completes one or more high school level math courses with a passing grade that is automatically transcribed on the student's high school transcript in accordance with RCW 28A.230.090 and WAC 180-51-030, or a student who demonstrates mastery in high school math subjects and has received credit for them, may use these credits to meet their math graduation requirements. Upon completion of algebra 1 or integrated math I, geometry or integrated math II, and a third credit of high school level math that aligns with the student's high school and beyond plan, the student should be encouraged to consider additional math courses, which align with the student's education and career goals in their high school and beyond plan.

(e) A student who prior to ninth grade successfully completes one or more high school level math courses with a passing grade and opts to receive no high school credit for such course(s) in accordance with RCW 28A.230.090 and WAC 180-51-030, or a student who demonstrated mastery in these subjects but did not receive high school credits, may either:

(i) Repeat the course(s) for credit in high school; or

(ii) Earn three credits of high school mathematics in different math subjects than those completed before high school. The student must take algebra 1 or integrated mathematics I and geometry or integrated math II in high school if the student did not complete these courses at a high school level prior to high school, but the student does not need to repeat courses if the student already took the courses at a high school level.

(3) Two **science** credits, at least one of the two credits must be in laboratory science.

(4) Three **social studies** credits (two credits prescribed courses, plus one credit social studies elective) and a noncredit requirement. The social studies requirement shall consist of the following mandatory courses or equivalencies:

(a) One credit shall be required in United States history.

(b) Successful completion of Washington state history and government shall be required, subject to the provisions of RCW 28A.230.170, 28A.230.090, 28A.320.170 and WAC 392-410-120, and shall include information on the cultures, histories, and governments of the American Indian peoples who are the first inhabitants of the state. Successful completion of Washington state history must be noted on each student's transcript. The Washington state history and government requirement may be waived by the principal for individual students who:

(i) Have successfully completed a state history and government course of study in another state; or

(ii) Are in eleventh or twelfth grade and who have not completed a course of study in Washington's history and state government because of previous residence outside the state or because emergency school closure, or other circumstance due to an emergency, prevented the student from having the opportunity to fulfill this requirement.

(c) One-half credit shall be required in contemporary world history, geography, and problems. Courses in economics, sociology, civics, political science, international relations, or related courses with emphasis on contemporary world problems may be accepted as equivalencies.

(d) One-half credit shall be required in civics and include at a minimum the content listed in RCW 28A.230.093.

(5) One-half credits of **health**.

(6) One and one-half credits of physical education. Students may be excused from the physical education requirement under RCW 28A.230.050. Such excused students shall be required to demonstrate mastery of the knowledge portion of the physical education requirement, in accordance with written district policy. Such policies should be based upon addressing health and physical education learning standards as well as alternative means of engaging in physical activities, as directed in RCW 28A.210.365.

(7) One **arts** credit. The essential content in this subject area may be satisfied in the visual or performing arts.

(8) One credit in **career and technical education** or **occupational education**.

(a) "Occupational education" means credits resulting from a series of learning experiences designed to assist the student to acquire and demonstrate mastery of skills under student learning goal four and which skills are required for success in current and emerging occupations. At a minimum, these competencies shall align with the definition of an exploratory course as contained in the career and technical education program standards of the office of the superintendent of public instruction.

(b) Students who earn a graduation requirement credit through a career and technical education course determined by the district or by the office of the superintendent of public instruction to be equivalent to a noncareer and technical education course will not be required to earn a second credit in the noncareer and technical education course subject. The student earns one credit while meeting two graduation requirements, a career and technical education requirement and the noncareer and technical education subject requirement. The to-

tal number of credits required for graduation remains unchanged, and the student will need to earn an additional elective credit.

(9) Four credits of **electives**.

(10) Each student shall have a **high school and beyond plan** for their high school experience, as described in WAC 180-51-220.

(11) Students who complete and pass all required International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme courses are considered to have satisfied state subject and credit requirements for graduation from a public high school, subject to the provisions of RCW 28A.230.090, 28A.230.170, and chapter 28A.230 RCW.

(12) A student with an individualized education program (IEP) must be provided the opportunity to meet graduation requirements that align with the student's high school and beyond plan pursuant to WAC 180-51-115.

[Statutory Authority: 2020 c 7 § 10-12 and RCW 28A.195.010, 28A.230.090, 28A.150.220(7). WSR 21-01-077, § 180-51-067, filed 12/10/20, effective 1/10/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 20-01-101, § 180-51-067, filed 12/13/19, effective 1/13/20. Statutory Authority: 2014 c 217 and RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 14-19-032, § 180-51-067, filed 9/8/14, effective 10/9/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090, 28A.230.093, 28A.230.050, 28A.230.170, 28A.230.060, and 28A.305.215(8). WSR 12-03-073, § 180-51-067, filed 1/13/12, effective 2/13/12.]

WAC 180-51-068 State subject and credit requirements for high school graduation—Students entering the ninth grade on or after July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2017. The statewide subject areas and credits required for high school graduation, beginning July 1, 2015, for students who enter the ninth grade or begin the equivalent of a four-year high school program (the class of 2019), shall total twenty-four as required in this section, except as otherwise provided in subsections (12) and (13) of this section. All credits are to be aligned with the state's learning standards developed under RCW 28A.655.070 for the subject. The content of any course shall be determined by the local school district.

(1) Four **English** credits.

(2) Three **mathematics** credits that satisfy the requirements set forth in (a) through (c) of this subsection:

(a) Unless otherwise provided for in (b) of this subsection, the three mathematics credits required under this section must include:

(i) Algebra 1 or integrated mathematics I;

(ii) Geometry or integrated mathematics II; and

(iii) A third credit of high school mathematics, aligning with the student's interests and high school and beyond plan, with agreement of the student's parent or guardian. The high school and beyond plan must be provided to the student's parents or guardians in their native language if that language is one of the two most frequently spoken non-English languages of students in the district (RCW 28A.230.090). Districts are encouraged to provide plans to parents and guardians in additional languages as needed, to the extent feasible. If the parent or guardian is unavailable or does not indicate a preference for a specific course, the school counselor or principal may provide agreement with the plan.

(b) A student who prior to ninth grade successfully completes one or more high school level math courses with a passing grade that is automatically transcribed on the student's high school transcript in accordance with RCW 28A.230.090 and WAC 180-51-030, or a student who demonstrates mastery in high school math subjects and has received credit for them, may use these credits to meet their math graduation requirements. Refer to WAC 180-51-030 for information about opting out of credits and numerical grades. Upon completion of algebra 1 or integrated math I, geometry or integrated math II, and a third credit of high school level math that aligns with the student's high school and beyond plan, the student should be encouraged to consider additional math courses, which align with the student's education and career goals in their high school and beyond plan.

(c) A student who prior to ninth grade successfully completes one or more high school level math courses with a passing grade and opts to receive no high school credit for such course(s) in accordance with RCW 28A.230.090 and WAC 180-51-030, or a student who demonstrated mastery in these subjects but did not receive high school credits, may either:

(i) Repeat the course(s) for credit in high school; or

(ii) Earn three credits of high school mathematics in different math subjects than those completed before high school. The student must take algebra 1 or integrated mathematics I and geometry or integrated math II in high school if the student did not complete these courses at a high school level prior to high school, but the student does not need to repeat courses if the student already took the courses at a high school level.

(3) Three **science** credits, at least two of which must be in laboratory science as provided in subsection (17)(a) of this section. A student may choose the content of the third credit of science, based on the student's interests and high school and beyond plan, with agreement of the student's parent or guardian. The high school and beyond plan must be provided to the student's parents or guardians in their native language if that language is one of the two most frequently spoken non-English languages of students in the district (RCW 28A.230.090). Districts are encouraged to provide plans to parents and guardians in additional languages as needed, to the extent feasible. If the parent or guardian is unavailable or does not indicate a preference for a specific course, agreement may be provided by the school counselor or principal.

(4) Three **social studies** credits (two credits prescribed courses, plus a one credit social studies elective) and a noncredit requirement. The social studies requirement shall consist of the following mandatory courses or equivalencies:

(a) One credit shall be required in United States history.

(b) Successful completion of Washington state history and government shall be required, subject to the provisions of RCW 28A.230.170, 28A.230.090, 28A.320.170 and WAC 392-410-120, and shall include information on the cultures, histories, and governments of the American Indian peoples who are the first inhabitants of the state. Successful completion of Washington state history must be noted on each student's transcript. The Washington state history and government requirement may be waived by the principal for individual students who:

(i) Have successfully completed a state history and government course of study in another state; or

(ii) Are in eleventh or twelfth grade and who have not completed a course of study in Washington's history and state government because

of previous residence outside the state or because emergency school closure, or other circumstance due to an emergency, prevented the student from having the opportunity to fulfill this requirement.

(c) One-half credit shall be required in contemporary world history, geography, and problems. Courses in economics, sociology, civics, political science, international relations, or related courses with emphasis on contemporary world problems may be accepted as equivalencies.

(d) One-half credit shall be required in civics and include at a minimum the content listed in RCW 28A.230.093.

(5) One-half credit in **health**.

(6) One and one-half in **physical education**. Students may be excused from the physical education requirement under RCW 28A.230.050. Such excused students shall be required to demonstrate mastery of the knowledge portion of the fitness requirement, in accordance with written district policy. Such policies should be based upon addressing health and physical education learning standards as well as alternative means of engaging in physical activities, as directed in RCW 28A.210.365.

(7) Two **arts** credits. The essential content in this subject area may be satisfied in the visual or performing arts. One of the two arts credits may be replaced with a personalized pathway requirement as provided in subsection (17)(c) of this section.

(8) One credit in **career and technical education**.

(a) A career and technical education credit means a credit resulting from a course in a career and technical education program or occupational education credit as contained in the career and technical education program standards of the office of the superintendent of public instruction. "Occupational education" means credits resulting from a series of learning experiences designed to assist the student to acquire and demonstrate mastery of skills under student learning goal four and which skills are required for success in current and emerging occupations. At a minimum, these competencies shall align with the definition of an exploratory course as contained in the career and technical education program standards of the office of the superintendent of public instruction. Districts are encouraged to offer career and technical education programs, as defined in RCW 28A.700.010.

(b) An exception may be made for private schools as provided in WAC 180-90-160.

(c) A student who earns credit through a career and technical education course determined by the district or by the office of the superintendent of public instruction to be equivalent to a noncareer and technical education core course (RCW 28A.700.070 and subsection (14) of this section), will not be required to pass a course in the noncareer and technical education subject to earn a credit in that subject. The student earns one credit while meeting two graduation requirements, a career and technical education requirement and the noncareer and technical education subject requirement. The total number of credits required for graduation remain unchanged, and the student will need to earn an additional elective credit.

(9) Two credits in **world languages or personalized pathway requirements**. If the student has chosen a four-year degree pathway under subsection (11) of this section, the student shall be advised to earn two credits in world languages.

(10) Four credits of **electives**.

(11) Each student shall have a **high school and beyond plan** to guide his or her high school experience, as described in WAC 180-51-220.

(12) A school district wishing to implement the requirements for high school graduation for students who enter the ninth grade or begin the equivalent of a four-year high school program on July 1, 2016, or July 1, 2017, rather than July 1, 2015, may apply to the state board of education for a temporary waiver of the requirements of this section. The state board of education shall post an application form on its website for use by districts seeking this waiver.

(a) An application for a waiver must:

(i) Meet the requirements of chapter 217, Laws of 2014 (E2SSB 6552), which include describing why the waiver is being requested, the specific impediments preventing timely implementation of the high school graduation requirements established in subsections (1) through (10) of this section, and the efforts that will be taken to achieve implementation with the graduating class proposed under the waiver.

(ii) Be accompanied by a resolution adopted by the district board of directors requesting the waiver. The resolution must state the entering freshman class or classes for whom the waiver is requested, and be signed by the board chair or president and the district superintendent.

(b) A district implementing a waiver shall continue to be subject to the requirements of WAC 180-51-067 during the school year or years for which the waiver has been granted.

(c) Nothing shall prevent a district granted a waiver from electing to implement subsections (1) through (11) of this section during the term for which the waiver is granted. A district granted a waiver that elects to implement subsections (1) through (11) of this section shall provide notification of such decision to the state board of education.

(d) The state board of education shall post the application for each waiver on its public website.

(13) A school district that grants high school diplomas may waive up to two of the credits required for graduation under this section for individual students for reason of a student's circumstances, as defined by the district. Unless otherwise provided in law, students granted a waiver under this subsection must earn the seventeen required subject credits in subsections (1) through (7) of this section, which may be by satisfactory demonstration of competence under WAC 180-51-050. The waiving of credits for individual students for reason of a student's circumstances must be in accordance with written policies adopted by resolution of each board of directors of a district that grants diplomas.

(14) Career and technical education courses determined by the district or by the office of the superintendent of public instruction to be equivalent to a noncareer and technical education course in accordance with RCW 28A.700.070 can be taken for credit in place of that course. Equivalencies may be determined for any of the core credit graduation requirements of subsections (1) through (7) of this section.

(15) Students who complete and pass all required International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme courses are considered to have satisfied state subject and credit requirements for graduation from a public high school, subject to the provisions of RCW 28A.230.090, 28A.230.170, and chapter 28A.230 RCW.

(16) A student with an individualized education program must be provided the opportunity to meet graduation requirements that align with the student's high school and beyond plan pursuant to WAC 180-51-115.

(17) Definitions:

(a) "Laboratory science" means any instruction that provides opportunities for students to interact directly with the material world, or with data drawn from the material world, using the tools, data collection techniques, models and theories of science. A laboratory science course meeting the requirement of subsection (3) of this section may include courses conducted in classroom facilities specially designed for laboratory science, or coursework in traditional classrooms, outdoor spaces, or other settings which accommodate elements of laboratory science as identified in this subsection;

(b) "Personalized pathway" means a locally determined body of coursework identified in a student's high school and beyond plan that is deemed necessary to attain the post-secondary career or educational goals chosen by the student;

(c) "Personalized pathway requirements" means up to three course credits chosen by a student under subsections (7) and (9) of this section that are included in a student's personalized pathway and prepare the student to meet specific post-secondary career or educational goals.

[Statutory Authority: 2020 c 7 § 10-12 and RCW 28A.195.010, 28A.230.090, 28A.150.220(7). WSR 21-01-077, § 180-51-068, filed 12/10/20, effective 1/10/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 20-01-101, § 180-51-068, filed 12/13/19, effective 1/13/20. Statutory Authority: 2014 c 217 and RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 14-19-032, § 180-51-068, filed 9/8/14, effective 10/9/14.]

WAC 180-51-095 Temporary exemption from course and credit requirements. Annual exemptions to the definition of an annualized high school credit may be granted upon the request of an approved private school which offers evidence that delineates content, time, or mastery assessments which are substantially equivalent to the definition stated in WAC 180-51-050. The waiver process shall be administered by the state board of education.

[Statutory Authority: 2020 c 7 § 10-12 and RCW 28A.195.010, 28A.230.090, 28A.150.220(7). WSR 21-01-077, § 180-51-095, filed 12/10/20, effective 1/10/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 20-01-101, § 180-51-095, filed 12/13/19, effective 1/13/20; WSR 07-07-064, § 180-51-095, filed 3/14/07, effective 4/14/07.]

WAC 180-51-107 Alternative high school graduation requirements. Alternative high school graduation requirements may be established under WAC 180-18-055.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090, 28A.305.140 and 28A.600.010. WSR 99-10-094, § 180-51-107, filed 5/4/99, effective 6/4/99.]

WAC 180-51-115 Procedures for granting high school graduation credits for students with special educational needs. A student with

an individualized education program must be provided needed accommodations to progress in the general curriculum toward meeting state and local graduation requirements. In limited circumstances, when determined necessary by the individualized education program team due to the unique needs resulting from the student's disability, a graduation credit and subject area requirement may be substituted with comparable content course work, as identified in the individualized education program team course of study and aligned to the student's high school and beyond plan.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 20-01-101, § 180-51-115, filed 12/13/19, effective 1/13/20; WSR 07-07-051, § 180-51-115, filed 3/14/07, effective 4/14/07; WSR 00-19-108, § 180-51-115, filed 9/20/00, effective 10/21/00. Statutory Authority: 1990 c 33. WSR 90-17-009, § 180-51-115, filed 8/6/90, effective 9/6/90. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.05 RCW. WSR 84-11-049 (Order 7-84), § 180-51-115, filed 5/17/84.]

WAC 180-51-201 Overview of the requirements for a high school diploma beginning in 2020. For students who enter the ninth grade or begin the equivalent of a four-year high school program as of July 1, 2016, (the class of 2020) or later, the graduation requirements shall consist of:

(1) State credit and subject area requirements as established in WAC 180-51-067, 180-51-068, or 180-51-210 in this chapter, depending on the credit graduation requirements aligned with the year the student entered ninth grade; and, credit and subject area requirements established by local school boards. Students in the class of 2019 and the class of 2020 in districts with a waiver to delay implementation of WAC 180-51-068 shall graduate with the credit and subject area requirements of WAC 180-51-067 until the expiration of the waiver.

(2) A high school and beyond plan that must include the minimum requirements established in RCW 28A.230.090 and WAC 180-51-220 in this chapter. Local school boards may establish additional requirements for a high school and beyond plan to serve the needs and interests of its students. Any decision on whether a student has met the requirement of a high school and beyond plan shall be made by the district.

(3) A graduation pathway option. Students must meet the requirements of at least one of nine graduation pathway options in chapter 28A.655 RCW and WAC 180-51-230.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.305.130. WSR 24-02-066, § 180-51-201, filed 12/29/23, effective 1/29/24. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 20-01-101, § 180-51-201, filed 12/13/19, effective 1/13/20.]

WAC 180-51-210 State subject and credit requirements for high school graduation. (1) Definitions. The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(a) "Laboratory science" means any instruction that provides opportunities for students to interact directly with the material world, or with data drawn from the material world, using the tools, data collection techniques, models and theories of science. A laboratory science course meeting the requirement of subsection (4) of this section may include courses conducted in classroom facilities specially de-

signed for laboratory science, or course work in traditional classrooms, outdoor spaces, or other settings which accommodate elements of laboratory science as identified in this subsection;

(b) "Personalized pathway" means a locally determined body of course work identified in a student's high school and beyond plan that is deemed necessary to attain the postsecondary career or educational goals chosen by the student;

(c) "Personalized pathway requirements" means up to three course credits chosen by a student that are included in a student's personalized pathway, that prepare the student to meet specific postsecondary career or educational goals, and that align with the student's high school and beyond plan. A student's personalized pathway requirements are included in the student's flexible credits, as defined in this subsection.

(d) "Core credit" is a credit earned through course work or through mastery-based credit in the subject areas listed in subsection (4) of this section. Students subject to the graduation requirements in this section must earn 17 core credits in high school. Core credits do not include electives or personalized pathway requirements and may not be waived under RCW 28A.230.090 (1)(e) or subsection (2) of this section.

(e) "Flexible credit" is a credit that is either an elective credit or a personalized pathway requirement. Flexible credits may be waived under RCW 28A.230.090 and subsection (2) of this section, and are listed in subsection (5) of this section.

(2) A school district that grants high school diplomas may waive up to two of the flexible credits required for graduation under subsection (5) of this section for an individual student, based on the student's circumstances. Districts will grant any such waiver in accordance with written district policy. A student granted a waiver under this subsection must earn the core credits in subsection (4) of this section, but may graduate with as few as 22 credits, rather than 24 credits.

(3) The statewide subject areas and credits required for high school graduation, for students who enter the ninth grade or begin the equivalent of a four-year high school program on or after July 1, 2017, (the class of 2021 and beyond) shall total 24, except as otherwise provided in this section. The 24 subject area credits for graduation include core credits and flexible credits listed in subsections (4) and (5) of this section. All credits are to be aligned with the state's learning standards developed under RCW 28A.655.070 for the subject and may be earned through mastery-based credit. The contents of any course shall be determined by the local school district. Districts are encouraged to adopt culturally responsive curricula that is relevant to the district's students, including the incorporation of curricula about the history, culture, and government of the nearest federally recognized Indian tribe or tribes as required by RCW 28A.320.170.

(4) Core credits are credits and subject areas that may not be waived under RCW 28A.230.090 (1)(e) and subsection (2) of this section. The core credits include:

(a) Four **English** credits.

(b) Three **mathematics** credits.

(i) Unless otherwise provided for in (b)(ii), (iii), or (iv) of this subsection, the three mathematics credits required under this section must include:

(A) Algebra 1 or integrated mathematics I;

(B) Geometry or integrated mathematics II; and

(C) A third credit of high school mathematics, aligning with the student's interests and high school and beyond plan, with agreement of the student's parent or guardian. The high school and beyond plan must be provided to the student's parents or guardians in their native language if that language is one of the two most frequently spoken non-English languages of students in the district (RCW 28A.230.090). Districts are encouraged to provide plans to parents and guardians in additional languages as needed, to the extent feasible. If the parent or guardian is unavailable or does not indicate a preference for a specific course, agreement may be provided by the school counselor or principal.

(ii) A student who prior to ninth grade successfully completes one or more high school level math courses with a passing grade that is automatically transcribed on the student's high school transcript in accordance with RCW 28A.230.090 and WAC 180-51-030, or a student who demonstrates mastery in high school math subjects and has received credit for them, may use these credits to meet their math graduation requirements. Refer to WAC 180-51-030 for information about opting out of credits and numerical grades. Upon completion of algebra 1 or integrated math I, geometry or integrated math II, and a third credit of high school level math that aligns with the student's high school and beyond plan, schools are urged to encourage the student to consider additional math courses, which align with the student's education and career goals in their high school and beyond plan.

(iii) A student who prior to ninth grade successfully completes one or more high school level math courses with a passing grade and opts to receive no high school credit for such course(s) in accordance with RCW 28A.230.090 and WAC 180-51-030, or a student who demonstrated mastery in these subjects but did not receive high school credits, may either:

(A) Repeat the course(s) for credit in high school; or

(B) Earn three credits of high school mathematics in different math subjects than those completed before high school. The student must take algebra 1 or integrated mathematics I and geometry or integrated math II in high school if the student did not complete these courses at a high school level prior to high school, but the student does not need to repeat courses if the student already passed the courses at a high school level.

(iv) A student may substitute a computer science course aligned to state computer science learning standards as an alternative to a third credit of math if the requirements of subsection (10) of this section are met.

(c) **Three science credits.**

(i) Unless otherwise provided for in (c)(ii) of this subsection, at least two of the science credits must be in laboratory science. A student may choose the content of the third credit of science based on the student's interests and high school and beyond plan, with agreement of the student's parent or guardian. The high school and beyond plan must be provided to the student's parents or guardians in their native language if that language is one of the two most frequently spoken non-English languages of students in the district (RCW 28A.230.090). Districts are encouraged to provide plans to parents and guardians in additional languages as needed, to the extent feasible. If the parent or guardian is unavailable or does not indicate a preference for a specific course, the school counselor or principal may provide agreement with the plan.

(ii) A student may substitute a computer science course aligned to state computer science learning standards as an alternative to a third science credit, which may be a laboratory science course, if the requirements of subsection (10) of this section are met.

(d) Three **social studies** credits (two credits prescribed courses, plus one credit social studies elective) and Washington state history and government, a noncredit requirement typically met in middle school. In accordance with RCW 28A.320.170, when a school district board of directors reviews or adopts its social studies curriculum, it shall incorporate curricula about the history, culture, and government of the nearest federally recognized Indian tribe or tribes, so that students learn about the unique heritage and experience of those tribe or tribes. The social studies requirement shall consist of the following mandatory courses:

(i) One credit shall be required in United States history or its equivalent.

(ii) One-half credit shall be required in contemporary world history, geography, and problems, or its equivalent. Courses in economics, sociology, civics (through the class of 2023), political science, international relations, or related courses with emphasis on contemporary world problems may be accepted as equivalencies.

(iii) One-half credit shall be required in civics, including at a minimum the content listed in RCW 28A.230.094. Starting with the class of 2024, districts must offer this graduation requirement as a stand-alone course, subject to the provisions of RCW 28A.230.094.

(iv) Successful completion of Washington state history and government shall be required, subject to the provisions of RCW 28A.230.170, 28A.230.090, 28A.320.170 and WAC 392-410-120, and shall include information on the cultures, histories, and governments of the American Indian peoples who are the first inhabitants of the state. Successful completion of Washington state history must be noted on each student's transcript. The Washington state history requirement may be waived by the principal for individual students who:

(A) Have successfully completed a state history course of study in another state; or

(B) Are in 11th or 12th grade and who have not completed a course of study in Washington's history because of previous residence outside the state or because emergency school closure, or other circumstance due to an emergency, prevented the student from having the opportunity to fulfill this requirement.

(e) One-half credit of **health**.

(f) One and one-half credit of **physical education**. Students may be excused from the physical education requirement under RCW 28A.230.050. Such excused students shall be required to demonstrate mastery in the knowledge portion of the physical education requirement, in accordance with written district policy. Such policies should be based upon addressing health and physical education learning standards as well as alternative means of engaging in physical activities, as directed in RCW 28A.210.365.

(g) One credit in **career and technical education**.

(i) Courses that meet this requirement include courses that are part of career and technical education programs, as defined in chapter 28A.700 RCW, or occupational education courses as identified by the district. "Occupational education" means credits resulting from a series of learning experiences designed to assist the student to acquire and demonstrate mastery of skills under student learning goal four and are required for success in current and emerging occupations. At a

minimum, these competencies shall align with the definition of an exploratory course as contained in the career and technical program standards of the office of the superintendent of public instruction. Districts are encouraged to offer career and technical education programs, as defined in RCW 28A.700.010.

(ii) An exception of the career and technical education requirement may be made for private schools as provided in WAC 180-90-160.

(iii) A student who earns credit through a career and technical education course determined by the district or by the office of the superintendent of public instruction to be equivalent to a noncareer and technical education core course (RCW 28A.700.070 and subsection (7) of this section), will not be required to pass a course in the noncareer and technical education subject to earn a credit in that subject. The student earns one credit while meeting two graduation requirements, a career and technical education requirement and the non-career and technical education subject requirement. The total number of credits required for graduation remain unchanged, and the student will need to earn an additional elective credit.

(h) One **arts** credit. The essential content in this subject area may be satisfied in dance, media arts, music, theater, and visual arts.

(5) Flexible credits are credits that may be waived under RCW 28A.230.090 and subsection (2) of this section. Districts may replace these credits with local district requirements through written district policy. Flexible credits include:

(a) One **arts** credit. The essential content in this subject area may be satisfied in dance, media arts, music, theater and visual arts. This credit may be replaced with a personalized pathway requirement as provided in subsection (1)(c) of this section.

(b) Two credits in **world languages**. These credits may be replaced with personalized pathway requirements as provided in subsection (1)(c) of this section. If the student has an educational goal of attaining a baccalaureate degree, the student shall be advised to earn at least two credits in the same world language. Students who earn a Seal of Biliteracy (RCW 28A.300.575) are considered to have met this requirement.

(c) Four credits of **electives**.

(6) Each student shall have a **high school and beyond plan** to guide his or her high school experience and prepare the student for postsecondary education, training, and career, as described in WAC 180-51-220.

(7) Career and technical education courses determined by the district or by the office of the superintendent of public instruction to be equivalent to a noncareer and technical education course in accordance with RCW 28A.700.070 can be taken for credit in place of that course. Equivalencies may be determined for any of the core credit graduation requirements of subsection (4) of this section.

(8) Students who complete and pass all required International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme courses are considered to have satisfied state subject and credit requirements for graduation from a public high school, subject to the provisions of RCW 28A.230.090, 28A.230.170, and chapter 28A.230 RCW.

(9) A student with an individualized education program (IEP) must be provided the opportunity to meet graduation requirements that align with the student's high school and beyond plan, pursuant to WAC 180-51-115.

(10) A student may substitute a computer science course aligned to state computer science learning standards as an alternative to a third science credit, which may be laboratory science, or to a third math credit. This substitution of computer science for a third credit of math or a third credit of science may only be used once per student, and the following requirements must be met:

(a) Prior to the substitution, the school counselor provides the student and the student's parent or guardian with written notification of the consequences of the substitution on postsecondary opportunities;

(b) The student, the student's parent or guardian, and the student's school counselor or principal agree to the substitution; and

(c) The substitution is aligned with the student's high school and beyond plan.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090 and 28A.150.220(7). WSR 23-06-078, § 180-51-210, filed 3/1/23, effective 4/1/23. Statutory Authority: 2020 c 7 § 10-12 and RCW 28A.195.010, 28A.230.090, 28A.150.220(7). WSR 21-01-077, § 180-51-210, filed 12/10/20, effective 1/10/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 20-01-101, § 180-51-210, filed 12/13/19, effective 1/13/20.]

WAC 180-51-220 High school and beyond plan. (1) Each student must have a high school and beyond plan informed by a career interest and skills inventory administered by seventh grade to inform eighth grade course-taking. By the end of the eighth grade, each student will have begun a high school and beyond plan that includes a plan for course-taking in the first year of high school that aligns with graduation requirements and the student's high school and posthigh school goals.

(2) Beginning in the 2020-21 school year, each school district must have an electronic high school and beyond plan platform available to all students who are required to have a high school and beyond plan. Within two years of completion of a universal online high school and beyond plan platform in alignment with the requirements in RCW 28A.230.215, school districts must provide students with access to the adopted universal platform.

(3) Required elements of all high school and beyond plans must at minimum include:

(a) Identification of career goals and interests aided by a skills and interest assessment.

(b) Identification of secondary and postsecondary education and training goals.

(c) A four-year plan for courses taken in high school that satisfies state and local graduation requirements and aligns with students' secondary and postsecondary goals that may include education, training, and career preparation.

(d) Identification of options for satisfying state and local graduation requirements, including:

(i) Available advanced course sequences per the school district's academic acceleration policy, as described in RCW 28A.320.195.

(ii) Dual credit courses.

(iii) Career and technical education courses and programs, including career and technical education equivalency courses that can satisfy core subject area graduation requirements under RCW 28A.230.097.

(iv) Work-based learning opportunities that can lead to technical college certifications and apprenticeships.

(v) Mastery-based credit opportunities, including options for earning the Seal of Biliteracy.

(vi) If applicable, opportunities for credit recovery and acceleration, including partial and mastery-based credit accrual to eliminate barriers for on-time grade level progression and graduation per RCW 28A.320.192.

(e) A current resume or activity log that provides a written compilation of the student's education, any work experience, and any community service, and how the district recognizes community service pursuant to RCW 28A.320.193.

(f) Evidence that the student has received information on federal and state financial aid programs that help pay for the costs of post-secondary programs, including evidence that the student has received information about the following:

(i) The college bound scholarship program established in chapter 28B.118 RCW, the Washington college grant created in RCW 28B.92.200, and other scholarship opportunities.

(ii) Documentation necessary for completing financial aid applications, including at a minimum the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or the Washington application for state financial aid (WASFA).

(iii) Application and submission deadlines.

(iv) The importance of submitting applications early.

(v) Information specific to students who are or have been the subject of a dependency proceeding pursuant to chapter 13.34 RCW.

(vi) Information specific to students who are, or are at risk of, experiencing homelessness.

(vii) Information specific to students whose family member or guardians will be required to provide financial and tax information necessary to complete the application.

(viii) Opportunities to participate in sessions that assist students and, when necessary, their family members or guardians, in filling out financial aid applications.

(ix) A sample financial aid letter and a link to the financial aid calculator created in RCW 28B.77.280.

(x) Information provided on the Washington student achievement council website concerning each of the state and federal financial aid applications in this subsection, in accordance with RCW 28A.300.815.

(g) As established by RCW 28A.230.097, if a student completes a career and technical education equivalency course that is transcribed as a core subject area course to meet graduation requirements, then a record showing that the career and technical education course was used to meet a core course must be retained in the student's high school and beyond plan. This record may be useful if the student pursues education, training, or a career in the same or related field as the career and technical education course.

(4) High school and beyond plan process and development.

(a) By seventh grade, each student must be administered a career interest and skills inventory that will help inform the student's eighth grade course taking and initial identification of their education and career goals.

(b) By eighth grade, each student must have begun development of a high school and beyond plan that includes a proposed plan for first-year high school courses aligned with graduation requirements and secondary and postsecondary goals.

(c) Seventh and eighth grade students must be informed of the college bound scholarship program established in chapter 28B.118 RCW. Students who are or have been the subject of a dependency proceeding pursuant to chapter 13.34 RCW, students who are or who are at risk of experiencing homelessness, and ninth grade students who may be eligible must also be provided with information on the program. Students in the college bound scholarship program should be reminded about program requirements to remain eligible and provided with information about filling out a financial aid application in their senior year.

(d) With staff support, students must update their high school and beyond plan annually, at a minimum, to review academic progress and inform future course-taking, including the potential impact of course selections on postsecondary opportunities. The review may include in-school or out-of-school opportunities that would help prepare students for their career or educational goals, such as summer learning opportunities, internships, student leadership organizations and clubs, and community service.

(e) The high school and beyond plan must be updated in the tenth grade to reflect high school assessment results in RCW 28A.655.061, ensure student access to advanced course options per the district's academic acceleration policy in RCW 28A.320.195, assess progress toward identified goals, and revised as necessary for changing interests, goals, and needs.

(f) School districts shall involve parents and legal guardians to the greatest extent feasible in the process of developing and updating the high school and beyond plan. The plan must be provided to the student and the student's parents or legal guardians in a language the student and parents or legal guardians understand and in accordance with the school district's language access policy and procedures as required under chapter 28A.183 RCW, which may require language assistance for students and parents or legal guardians with limited-English proficiency.

(g) School districts must annually provide students in grades eight through 12 and their parents or legal guardians with comprehensive information about the graduation pathway options offered by the district and are strongly encouraged to begin providing this information in sixth grade. School districts must provide this information in a manner that conforms with the school district's language access policy and procedures as required under chapter 28A.183 RCW.

(h) School districts are strongly encouraged to partner with student-serving, community-based organizations that support career and college exploration and preparation for postsecondary and career pathways. Partnerships may include high school and beyond plan coordination and planning, data sharing agreements, and safe and secure access to individual students' high school and beyond plans.

(i) Students who have not earned a score of level 3 or level 4 on the middle school math state assessment must include in their plan taking a math course in each of ninth and tenth grade. The math courses may include career and technical education equivalencies in math, established in RCW 28A.230.097.

(j) For students who have not earned a level 3 or level 4 on their middle school English language arts exam or their middle school science exam, districts are encouraged to inform students of supports and courses that will address students' learning needs and be considered in students' course-taking plans.

(k) The high school and beyond plan must be updated annually at a minimum to address:

(i) High school assessment results and junior year course-taking.

(ii) A student's changing interests, goals, and needs, including identification of the graduation pathway option(s) the student intends to complete to meet their educational and career goals.

(iii) Available interventions, academic supports, and courses that will enable students to meet high school graduation credit requirements and graduation pathway requirements.

(1) For students meeting graduation requirements in WAC 180-51-068 and 180-51-210, the students' high school and beyond plans should be used to guide the choices of the third credit of high school math and the third credit of high school science. These credits may be earned through career and technical education courses determined to be equivalent to math and science courses as established in RCW 28A.230.097.

(m) A student's high school and beyond plan must inform the student's choice of their graduation pathway option or options in accordance with WAC 180-51-230.

(5) For a student with an individualized education program (IEP), the student's IEP and high school and beyond plan must align. Students with an IEP transition plan, which begins during the school year in which they turn 16, may use their transition plan in support of, but not as a replacement for, their high school and beyond plan. The process for developing and updating the student's high school and beyond plans must be similar to and conducted with similar school personnel as for all other students. The student's high school and beyond plans must be updated in alignment with the student's school to postschool transition plan.

(6) Any decision on whether a student has met the state board of education's high school graduation requirements for a high school and beyond plan shall remain at the local level. A district may establish additional, local requirements for a high school and beyond plan to serve the needs and interests of its students and the purposes of RCW 28A.230.090.

(7) Districts may offer core and elective courses that embed required elements and processes of high school and beyond planning and are encouraged to provide annual credit-bearing options for the delivery and completion of high school and beyond plan elements. Conversely, a high school and beyond planning course or courses may be counted as core or elective credit, as defined in WAC 180-51-210, if the learning standards of the content area are addressed.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.305.130. WSR 24-02-066, § 180-51-220, filed 12/29/23, effective 1/29/24. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 20-01-101, § 180-51-220, filed 12/13/19, effective 1/13/20.]

WAC 180-51-230 Graduation pathway options. (1) Beginning with the graduating class of 2020, each student must meet the requirements of at least one of the nine graduation pathway options in this section. Each of the graduation pathway options are equally valid for earning a Washington state high school diploma.

(2) School districts are encouraged to make the nine graduation pathways specified below available to their students and to expand their pathway options until this goal is met yet have discretion in determining which graduation pathway options they will offer.

(a) Student access to all pathways offered by a district must not be restricted based on a student's disability. Students receiving special education services must be provided with the services and accommodations outlined in the student's individualized education program to support them in meeting the pathway requirement.

(b) Starting in the sixth grade, school districts are strongly encouraged to annually provide students and their parents or guardians with comprehensive information about graduation pathway options offered by the school district.

(c) Beginning in the eighth grade, school districts must annually provide information about graduation pathway options to students and their parents or guardians as part of the students' high school and beyond plan. The information must be provided in a manner that conforms with the school district's language access policy and procedures as required under RCW 28A.183.040.

(3) The state board of education shall review and monitor the implementation of the graduation pathway options to ensure school district compliance with requirements established under RCW 28A.655.250 and subsection (4) of this section. The reviews and monitoring required by this subsection may be conducted concurrently with other oversight and monitoring conducted by the state board of education. The information shall be collected annually and reported to the education committees of the legislature by January 10, 2025, and biennially thereafter.

(4) At least annually, school districts shall examine data on student groups participating in and completing each graduation pathway option offered by the school district.

(a) At minimum, the data on graduation pathway participation and completion must be disaggregated by the student groups described in RCW 28A.300.042 (1) and (3), and by:

(i) Gender;

(ii) Students who are the subject of a dependency proceeding pursuant to chapter 13.34 RCW;

(iii) Students who are experiencing homelessness as defined in RCW 28A.300.542(4);

(iv) Multilingual/English language learners.

(b) If the results of the analysis required under (a) of this subsection show disproportionate participation and completion rates by student groups, then the school district shall identify reasons for the observed disproportionality and implement strategies as appropriate to ensure the graduation pathway options are equitably available to all students in the school district.

(5) The graduation pathway option(s) used by a student must be in alignment with the student's high school and beyond plan.

(6) All assessment scores used for graduation pathways in subsection (7)(a) through (g) of this section will be posted on the state board of education website. Assessment scores that the state board of education is responsible for setting, will only be changed through a public process culminating in official board action in a public board meeting.

(7) **The following are the nine graduation pathway options:**

(a) **Statewide high school assessments.** Meet or exceed the graduation standard established by the state board of education under RCW 28A.305.130 on the statewide high school assessments in English language arts and mathematics as provided for under RCW 28A.655.070.

(b) **Dual credit courses.** Earn at least one high school credit in English language arts and at least one high school credit in mathemat-

ics in dual credit courses. For the purposes of this subsection, "dual credit course" means a course in which a student is eligible for both high school credit and college credit at the level of 100 or higher, upon successfully completing the course, by meeting the dual credit course or program criteria established by the local district and the applicable higher education entity. Dual credit courses include running start, college in the high school courses, and career and technical education dual credit courses. Nothing in this subsection requires a student to pay fees or claim college credit to meet this pathway.

(c) **Transition courses.** Earn high school credit in a high school transition course in English language arts and mathematics, an example of which includes a bridge to college course. For the purposes of this subsection, "high school transition course" means an English language arts or mathematics course offered in high school that, based on the final grade, allows the student to place directly into a credit-bearing college level course at participating institutions of higher education in RCW 28B.10.016, in accordance with established policy and criteria of the local school district and the applicable higher education entity. This definition includes transition courses identified through local agreements between colleges and school districts. English language arts and math high school transition courses must satisfy a student's core or elective credit graduation requirements established by the state board of education in WAC 180-51-210.

(d) **Advanced placement, international baccalaureate, or Cambridge international.** Meet either (d) (i) or (ii) of this subsection:

(i) Earn high school credit, with a grade of C+ or higher in each term, in the following advanced placement, international baccalaureate, or Cambridge international courses in English language arts and mathematics.

(A) For English language arts, successfully complete one high school credit in any of the following courses with a grade of C+ or higher in each term: Advanced placement courses in English language and composition, English literature and composition, macroeconomics, microeconomics, psychology, United States history, world history, United States government and politics, comparative government and politics, European history, human geography, African American studies, seminar, or research; any of the international baccalaureate individuals and societies courses or English language and literature courses; or earn an E in any of the following Cambridge advanced or Cambridge advanced subsidiary courses: English language, literature and English, English general paper, psychology, history, sociology, global perspectives and research, law, classical studies, drama, economics, thinking skills, or geography.

(B) For mathematics, successfully complete one high school credit in any of the following courses with a grade of C+ or higher: Advanced placement courses in statistics, computer science A, computer science principles, precalculus or calculus; any of the international baccalaureate mathematics or computer science courses; or a Cambridge advanced or advanced subsidiary mathematics, further mathematics, or computer science course.

(ii) Score a three or higher on advanced placement exams in one of the English language arts and one of the mathematics courses identified above; score a four or higher on international baccalaureate exams in one of the English language arts and one of the mathematics courses identified above; or score an E or higher on Cambridge international exams in one of the English language arts and one of the mathematics courses identified above.

(e) **SAT** or **ACT**. Meet or exceed the scores established by the state board of education for the mathematics portion and the reading, English, and writing portion of the SAT or ACT.

(f) **Performance-based learning experience**. Complete a performance-based learning experience that results in a product created by the student that provides evidence of meeting or exceeding state learning standards in English language arts and mathematics. The learning experience may take a variety of forms such as a project, practicum, work-related experience, community service, or cultural activity and should permit the student to demonstrate knowledge and skills in a real-world context. "Real-world context" means learning experiences that provide students the opportunity to carry out activities and solve problems in a way that reflects the complex nature of such tasks in the world outside of the classroom. The product may take a variety of forms such as a performance, presentation, portfolio, report, film, or exhibit that allows the student to demonstrate meeting or exceeding English language arts and/or math learning standards.

(i) Prior to offering a performance-based pathway option, the school district board of directors shall adopt a written policy. The policy must address:

(A) Approval of student proposals.

(B) Approval of school or district-developed performance-based pathway options, if the district chooses to provide such options. For a student to use a school or district-developed performance-based pathway option, the student will sign a learning contract with the school or district.

(C) Evaluation of student products. The evaluation of each student's product must be conducted by a certificated teacher with an endorsement in the relevant subject area, or with other applicable qualifications as permitted by the professional educator standards board, or by an evaluation panel that must include at least one teacher with an endorsement in the relevant subject area, or with other applicable qualifications as permitted by the professional educator standards board. The evaluation panel may include external parties such as community leaders or professionals. Districts are encouraged to use a panel of evaluators.

(D) Measures to ensure the safety of the student learning experience, including if appropriate, work-based learning rules, industry safety standards, youth employment regulations, and local risk management practices.

(ii) To complete a performance-based graduation pathway option, a student shall:

(A) Submit a proposal or sign a learning contract. The proposal or learning contract must describe the student learning experience, the product based on the student learning experience that will allow the student to demonstrate meeting or exceeding English language arts and/or math standards. The proposal or learning contract must identify the learning standards in English language arts and/or math that will be addressed, in accordance with performance-based pathway graduation proficiency targets posted on the state board of education web page and may include additional learning standards appropriate for the individual student's performance-based pathway.

(B) Engage in a student learning experience that takes place no earlier than the student's ninth grade year. The student learning experience may take place outside of the school day and outside of the school facility, or it may be incorporated into a school day and into

a high school course or courses provided the learning experience reflects a real-world context.

(C) Submit a product created by the student based on the student learning experience that permits the student to demonstrate meeting or exceeding the English language arts and/or math learning standards identified in the student's proposal or learning contract. The product must include a student reflection that minimally identifies the connection between the student's learning and the student's preparation for their posthigh school goals and includes a student self-evaluation of the skills and learning gained.

(iii) The decision as to whether a student meets the graduation pathway requirement through a performance-based pathway option will be locally determined based on an evaluation of the student's product as a demonstration of meeting English language arts and/or math standards identified in the proposal/learning contract. Districts may collaborate on the evaluation process.

(A) Evaluation of the student's project must be conducted by a certificated teacher endorsed in the relevant subject area, or with other applicable qualifications permitted by the professional educators standards board, or an evaluation panel that must involve at least one certificated teacher endorsed in the relevant subject area, or with other applicable qualifications permitted by the professional educators standards board. The evaluation panel may include external parties such as community leaders or professionals. Districts are encouraged to use a panel of evaluators.

(B) The evaluation to determine whether the student has met the identified state learning standards must be based on rubrics and proficiency targets developed by the state board of education in collaboration with the office of the superintendent of public instruction. The rubrics and proficiency targets will be posted on the state board of education website. As state learning standards are updated under RCW 28A.655.070, the rubrics and proficiency targets will be updated, if needed, within one year.

(g) **Combination.** Meet any combination of at least one English language arts option and at least one mathematics option established in pathway options (a) through (f) of this subsection.

(h) **Armed services vocational aptitude battery.**

(i) Meet standard on the armed forces qualification test portion of the armed services vocational aptitude battery by scoring at least the minimum established by the military for eligibility to serve in a branch of the armed services at the time that the student takes the assessment. The state board of education will post eligibility scores at least annually by September 1st. Each student may choose to meet either the posted minimum score the year a student takes the armed services vocational aptitude battery or the score posted by the state board of education on a later date prior to the student turning 21 years of age.

(ii) The school must inform the students taking the armed services vocational aptitude battery about the minimum eligibility score required by each branch of the military as well as information about eligibility requirements for specific military occupations. Schools are encouraged to schedule an armed services vocational aptitude battery career exploration program interpretation seminar after the test so students can participate in high school and beyond planning and learn about available military and nonmilitary occupations for which they have an aptitude. The state board of education will maintain a

web page with information about military occupation requirements and minimum eligibility scores required by each branch of the military.

(iii) Schools that offer the armed services vocational aptitude battery must inform students regarding the ways in which their scores and personal information might be shared, per the agreement between the school and the United States Department of Defense which administers the armed services vocational aptitude battery. Each student must be given prior written notice of the option to decide whether the school can release the student's armed services vocational aptitude battery scores to military recruiters for contact purposes. A school administrator, teacher, or counselor must also explain and offer this option to the students on the day of the test.

(iv) This pathway does not require students to meet the physical or other requirements for military enlistment, require enlistment, or require students to release their scores to the military for purposes of recruitment.

(v) Satisfying this pathway does not require students to meet the separate English and mathematics graduation pathway requirements of pathway options (a) through (g) of this subsection.

(i) **Career and technical education course sequence.** Complete the curriculum requirements of a core plus program relevant to the student's postsecondary goals outlined in the student's high school and beyond plan as defined in WAC 180-51-220 in aerospace, maritime, health care, information technology, or construction and manufacturing; or complete a sequence of at least two high school credits in career and technical education courses that meet the following criteria:

(i) The sequence is comprised of courses that are technically intensive and rigorous in a progression relevant to the student's postsecondary goals outlined in the student's high school and beyond plan as defined in WAC 180-51-220. Courses to satisfy this pathway must be comprised of either:

(A) Courses within the same career and technical program area; or

(B) A local sequence of courses within more than one career and technical program area if approved by a district's local school board, local board's designee, or the district's local vocational (career and technical education) advisory committee established under RCW 28A.150.500 and submitted to the office of the superintendent of public instruction for an expedited approval. A sequence submitted to the office of superintendent of public instruction for expedited approval will be deemed approved if a decision is not provided to the district within 45 calendar days of submittal. If a sequence is denied approval, the office of superintendent of public instruction must provide the district with a written notification including the reason for denial. Once a local sequence has been approved by the office of superintendent of public instruction, it may be implemented in other districts with notification of implementation to the office of superintendent of public instruction.

(ii) Each sequence of career and technical education courses must be comprised of courses that meet the minimum criteria identified in RCW 28A.700.030. Specifically, the courses must:

(A) Satisfy either of the following conditions:

(I) Lead to a certificate or credential that is state or nationally recognized by trades, industries, or other professional associations as necessary for employment or advancement in that field; or

(II) Allow students to earn dual credit for high school and college through tech prep (career technical education dual credit), advanced placement, or other agreements or programs.

(B) Be comprised of a sequenced progression of multiple courses that are technically intensive and rigorous; and

(C) Lead to workforce entry, state or nationally approved apprenticeships, or postsecondary education in a related field.

(iii) Satisfying the career technical education pathway does not require a student to take a course that is part of a career and technical education preparatory program that is approved under RCW 28A.700.030 nor does satisfying this pathway require students to meet the separate English and mathematics graduation pathway requirements of pathway options (a) through (g) of this subsection.

(iv) A course that is used to meet graduation pathway requirements may also be used to meet credit subject area requirements, including career and technical education course equivalencies per RCW 28A.700.070.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.305.130. WSR 24-02-066, § 180-51-230, filed 12/29/23, effective 1/29/24. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 20-01-101, § 180-51-230, filed 12/13/19, effective 1/13/20.]