

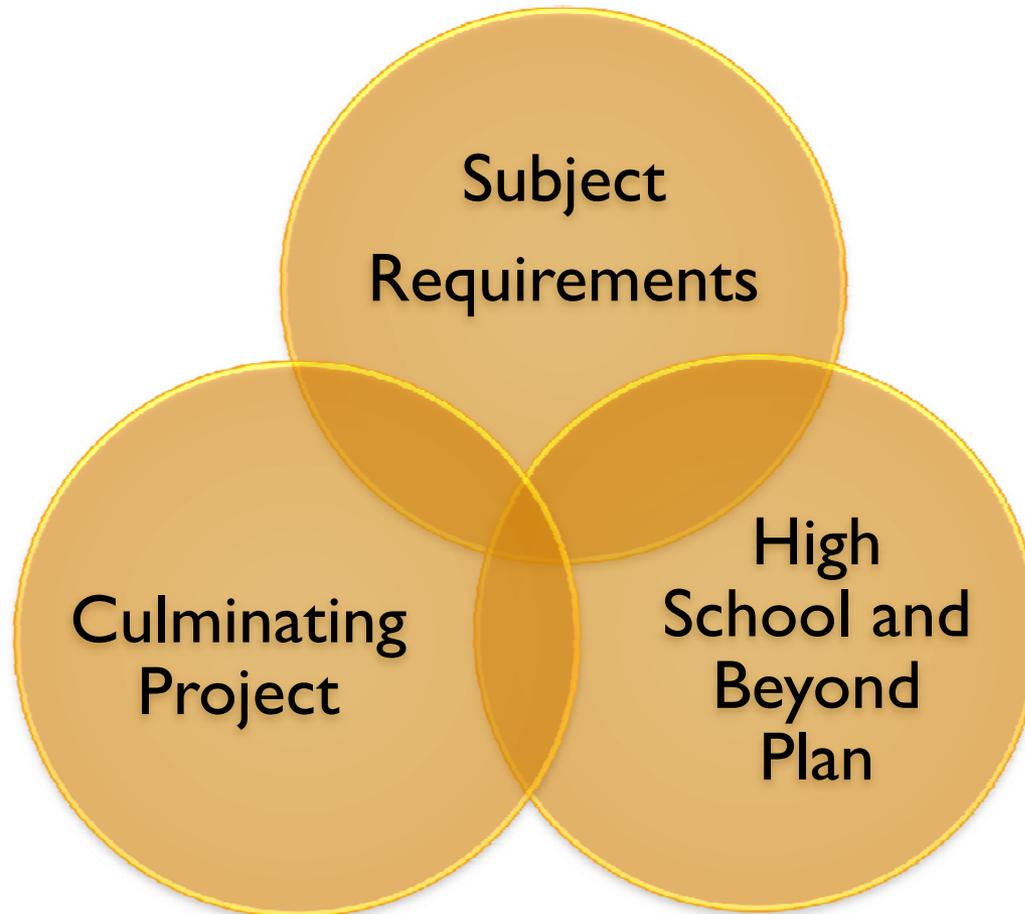


# Back to the Future – Graduation Requirements, Revisited

Kathe Taylor, Ph.D.  
Washington State Board of Education

# 2008 Core 24 Framework

---



# Reframing the Vision for College \ Career Readiness

From:

To:

- minimum graduation requirements → • essential or core graduation requirements
- high school graduation as an ending → • high school graduation as a beginning
- a K-12 system view → • a P-20 system view

# Meaningful High School Diploma

Leaves all options open for our students and provide graduates with the skills and knowledge necessary for postsecondary education, training, and careers.





# CORE 24

What are the 'core' requirements our students need to graduate career/college ready?



# The Pace of Change

- 
- 1985 19 credits, 150 hours per credit Established
- 2000 Culminating Project and High School & Beyond Plan added; clarification of high school-level standards
- 2007 Meaningful High School Diploma Committee Begins Work
- 2008 CP and HSBP become graduation requirements. Board rewrites purpose of a diploma. Board adopts Core 24 framework and adds one math credit.
- 2009 Core 24 ITF begins work
- 2010 Core 24 ITF completes work. Board considers ITF recommendations and stakeholder feedback.
- 2011 *The Board adopts new graduation requirements rules. Legislature appropriates funding necessary for graduation requirements.*
- 2016/2017 *Graduation requirements go into effect for class of 2016 or 2017.*

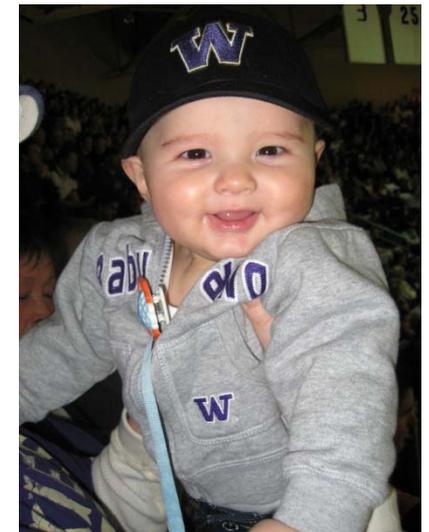
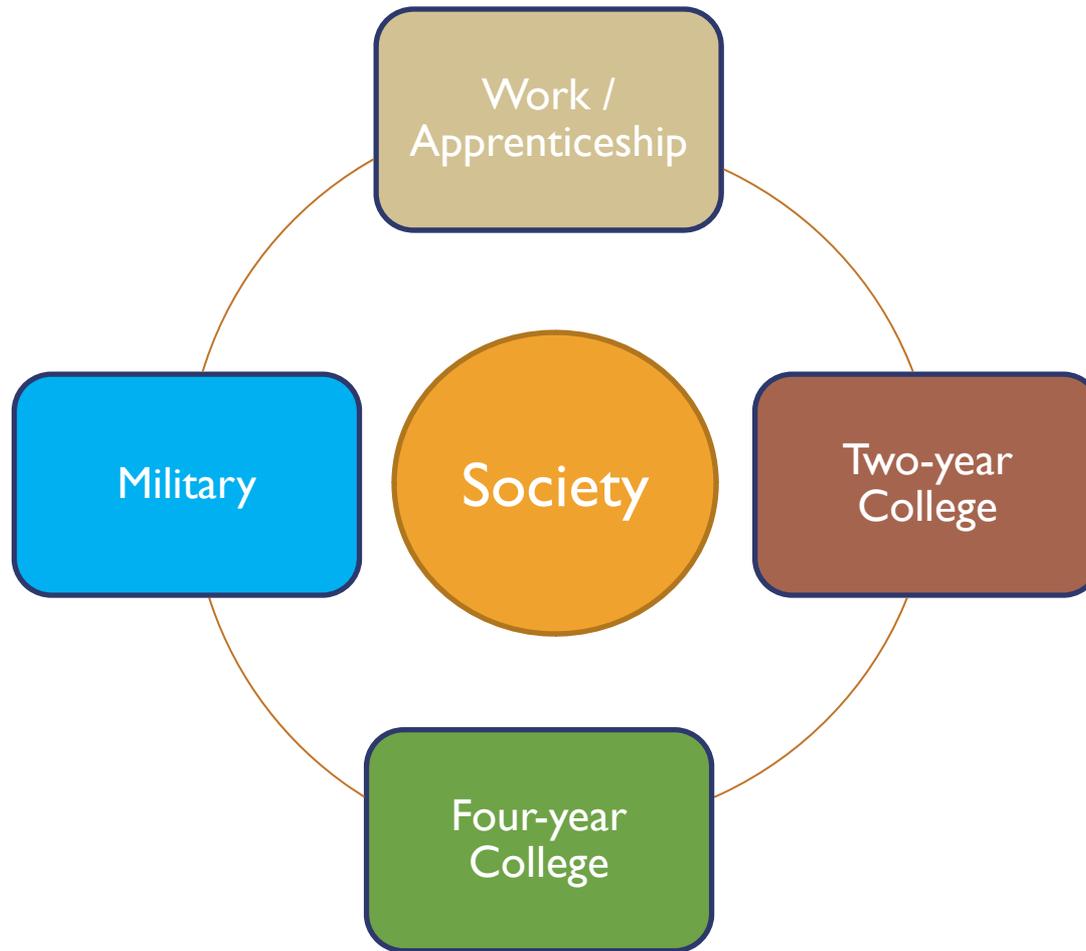
# Who's At Stake



# What's in Store...



# The Places They'll Go





Society

# Knowledgeable and Participating Members of a Democracy

**Engineers Hope to  
Cap Gulf Spill**

**Olympia to buy finished art for  
inside of City Hall, rather than  
commission art**

**Mayor  
Bloomberg  
defends NY  
Trial for  
Times Square  
Bomber**

**NEW LOOK AT OBESITY PREVENTION POLICIES IN SCHOOLS  
REVEALS GREATER NEED TO ADDRESS ADOLESCENTS**

**High School  
Students  
Suspended for  
Wearing US Flag**

**Packing Tetrahedrons,  
and Closing In on a  
Perfect Fit**



# Work / Apprenticeship

## Careers on the Fast Track

Massage Therapist, Chef, Graphic Artist, Electrician,  
Journeyman Welder, Medical and Legal Assistant, Carpenter

# What does it mean to be career ready?

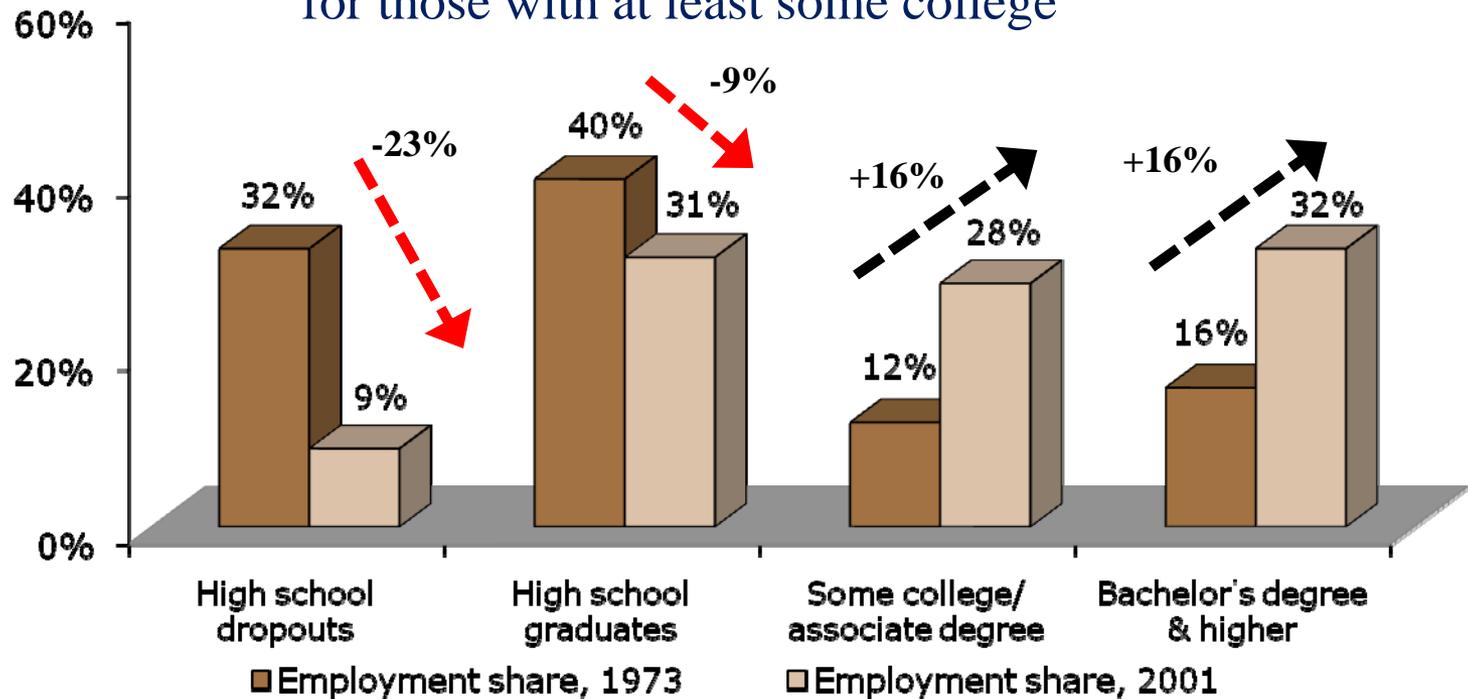
Work /  
Apprenticeship



Source: "What is 'Career Ready'?" Association for Career and Technical Education 2010

# Changing Job Market

Fewer jobs for those with only a high school diploma and more jobs for those with at least some college



Source: Carnevale, Anthony P. and Donna M. Desrochers, *Standards for What? The Economic Roots of K-16 Reform*, Educational Testing Service, 2003.

# Students Benefit from “Some College”

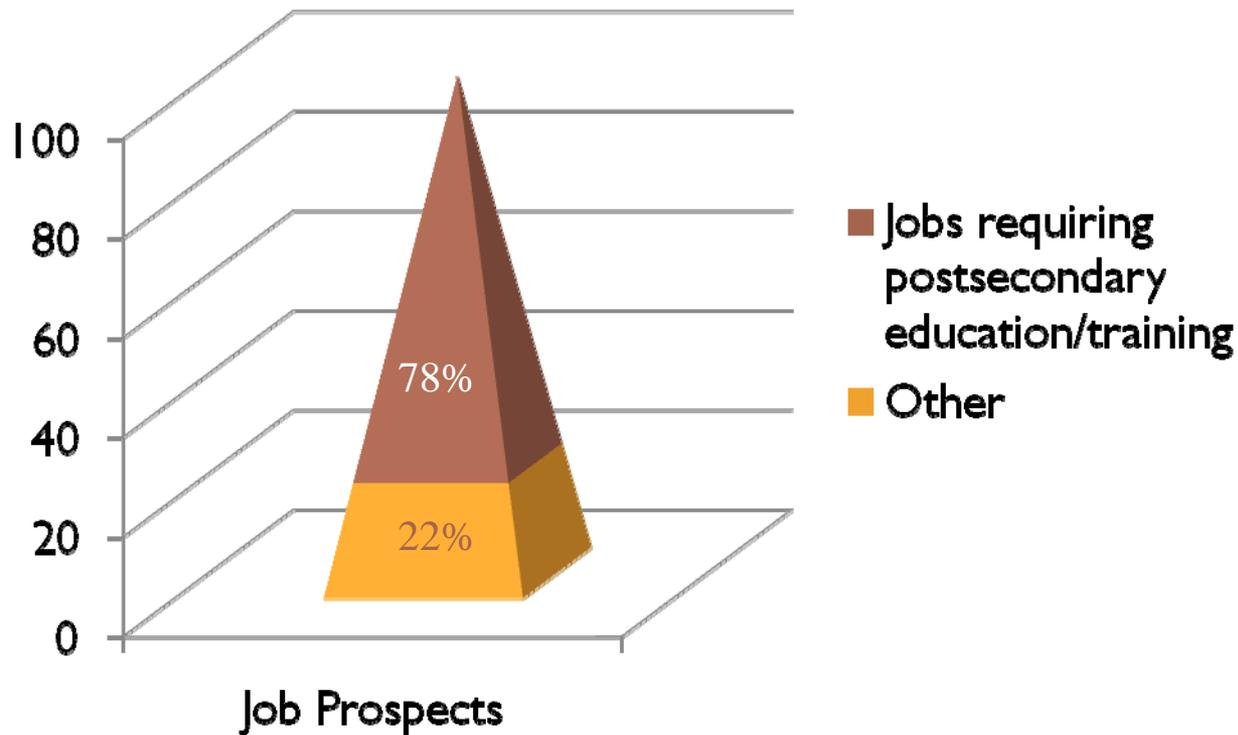
---

- 1 year of college level credits plus a credential is the **tipping point** for students to find career pathways.
- Jobs that need 1 year college credit + an occupational credential (certificate) are among those in greatest demand
- Credentials increase earnings

From The “Tipping Point” Research, a study that tracked 35,000 working age adult students who came to CTC’s with high school education or less, or non-English-speaking. WA State Board for Community and Technical Colleges. April 2005

# Projected Employment Shares by Occupational Skill Level

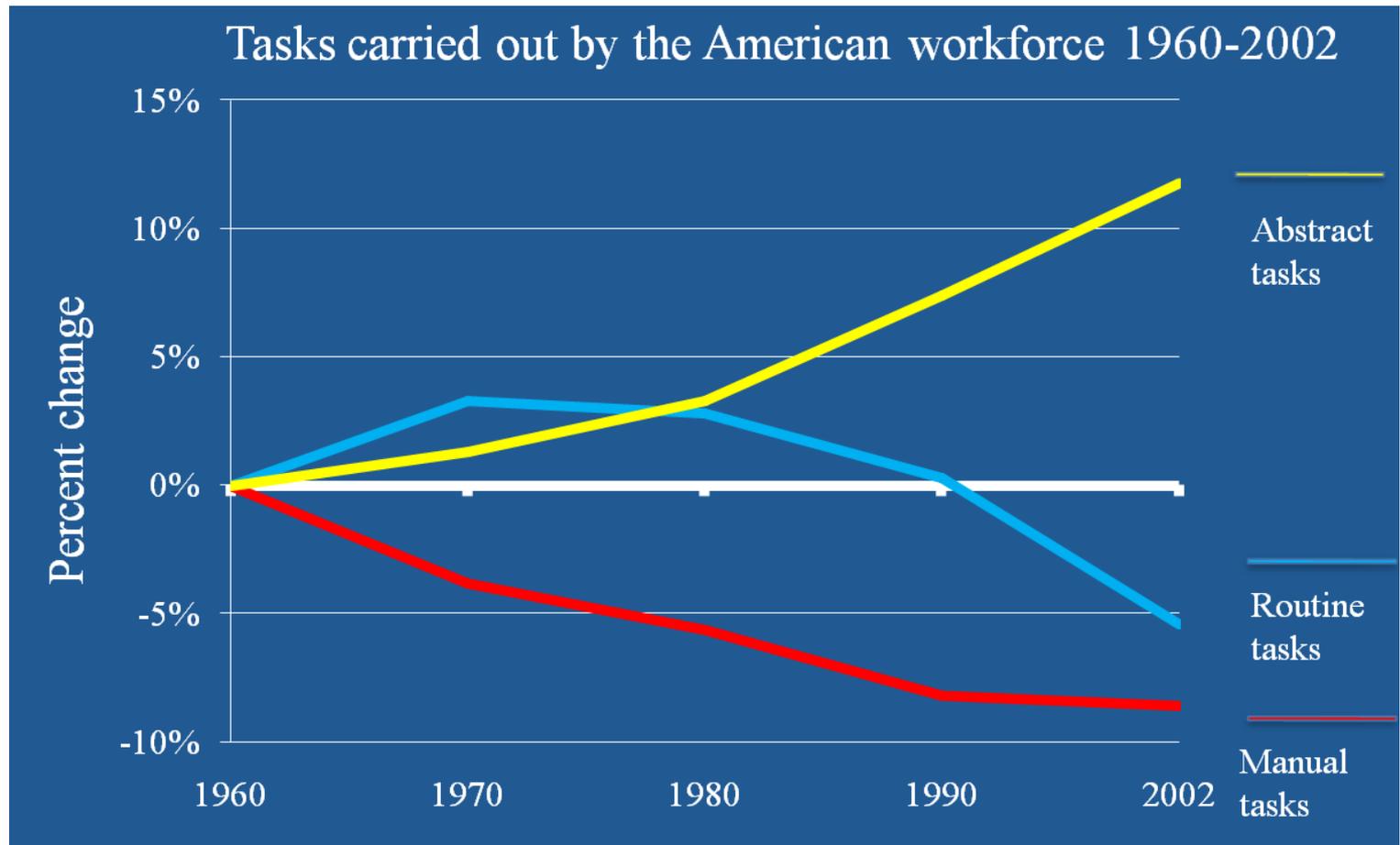
Work /  
Apprenticeship



Source: Holzer, Harry & Robert Lerman (Feb 2009) "The Future of Middle-Skill Jobs." Brookings Institution; "Forgotten Middle-Skill Jobs," [www.skills2compete.org](http://www.skills2compete.org)

# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Jobs Skills

Work /  
Apprenticeship



Source: Autor, Levy, and Murnane 2003

# The Journey of a Journeyman/woman

---

?? What trade requires...

- At minimum a GED, but more likely diploma and good grades. REALLY good. (280 on waiting list—April 2010.) GED applicants are also accepted.
- Algebra, geometry, trigonometry; science
- Good vocabulary and oral communication skills
- Trade-related experience (computer-assisted drafting, welding skills, blueprint reading/drawing)
- Physical fitness

Source: SW Washington Pipe Trades Joint Apprenticeship Trades Committee Local 26

# The Journey of a Journeyman/woman

---

What trade requires...

- An application and an oral interview
- 5 years of schooling (2 night classes per week, 3.5 hours per night)—after working all day
- 10,000 hours of on-the-job training
- A four-hour written exam for licensure

Source: SW Washington Pipe Trades Joint Apprenticeship Trades Committee Local 26

Got a guess?

# Examples of Apprenticeship Requirements

Work /  
Apprenticeship

Career	Apprenticeship (Hours)	Classroom Hours/Yr
Mason	4,500-7000	144
Carpenter	3,000-8,000	144-603
Electrician	4,000-8,000	144+
Ironworker	6,000-8,000	160
Millwright	6,000-10,000	144-160
Plumber	6,000-10,000	216+



Jason Daniels – Ironworker, Spokane

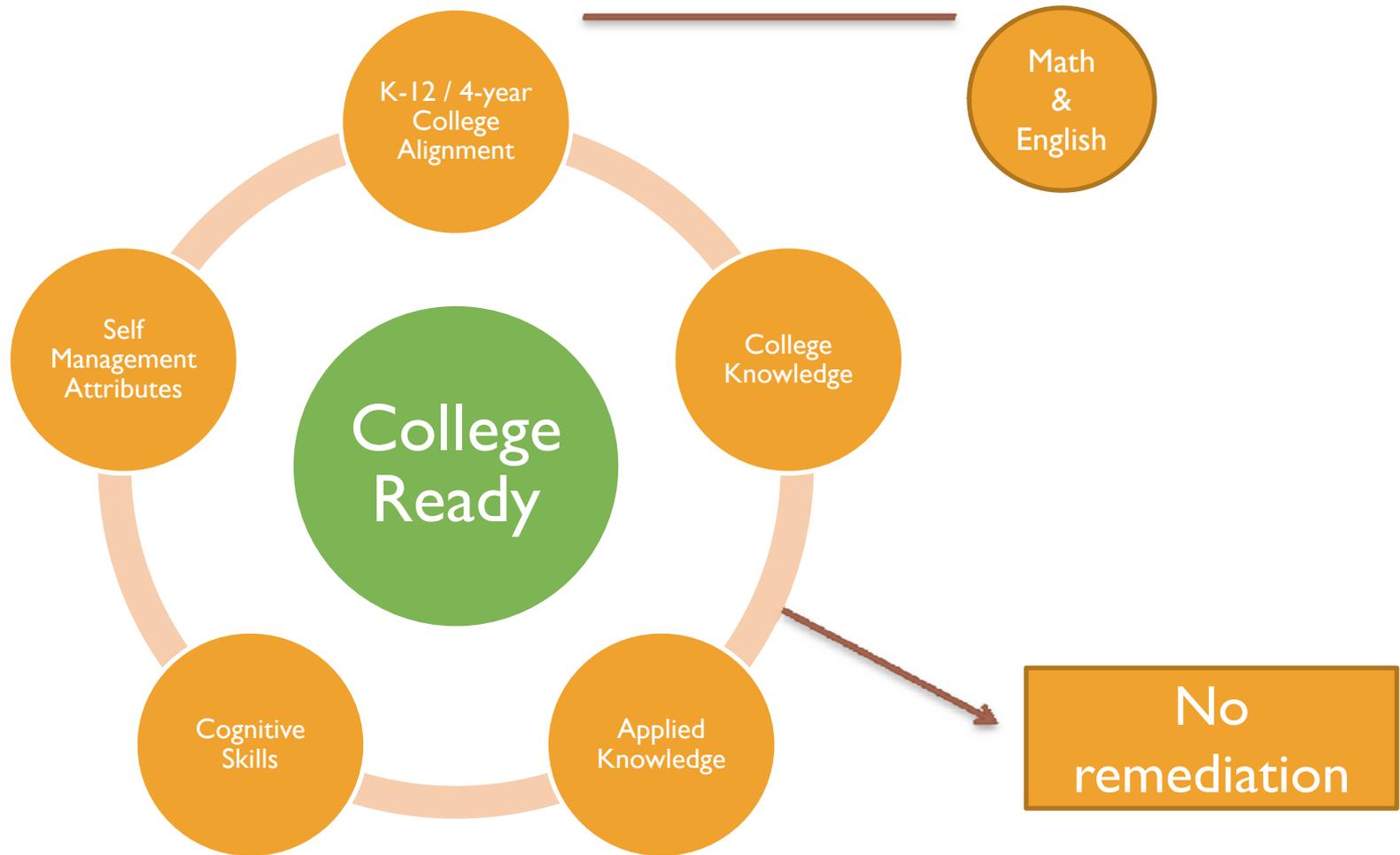
Source: “Building Washington: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow.” The Washington State Building and Construction Trades Council. August, 2006.



Two – year  
College

Four – year  
College

# What does it Mean to be College-Ready?





# Two – year College

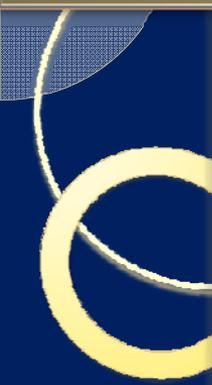
## The Rise of Middle Skill Jobs

Certified Nursing Assistant, Dental Hygienist, Court Reporters and Paralegals, Machinist, Heavy Equipment Technician, Information Technology Technician

# Two-Year College Admission

---

- WA community and technical colleges are open admission
- Students must take a placement test in math, reading, and writing to pursue a certificate or degree
- Students who do not meet standard on the placement test may have to take remedial classes



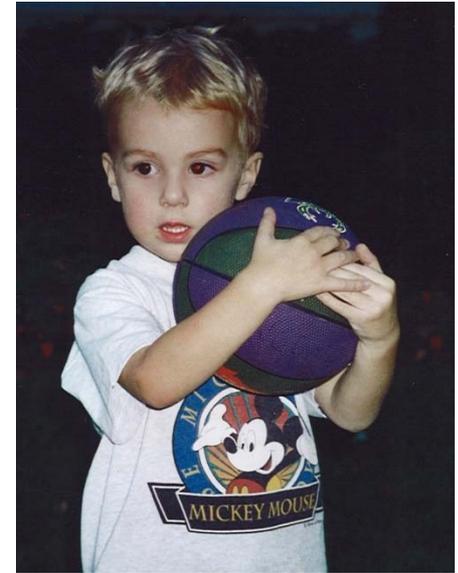
# Four – year College

## Gateway to the Professions

Environmental Lawyer, Aerospace Engineer, Orthodontist,  
Architect, Archeologist, Entrepreneur, Certified Public  
Accountant, Marine Biologist

# WA Four-year Public College Minimum Admission Requirements

- Complete College Academic Distribution Requirements (CADRs)
- Attain a minimum, non-weighted cumulative GPA of 2.0
- Provide scores from the ACT or SAT tests





# Military

## Real World Career Training

Supply and Logistics Manager, Combat Correspondent,  
Public Affairs Officer, Flight Engineer, Pilot, Emergency  
Management Specialist, Marine Engine Mechanic, Food  
Services Manager

# Military Minimum Admission Requirements

---

- Earn a high school diploma
- Pass a physical exam
- Pass the Armed Forces Qualification Test

# Sample Armed Forces Qualification Test Questions

Military

From the assessment:

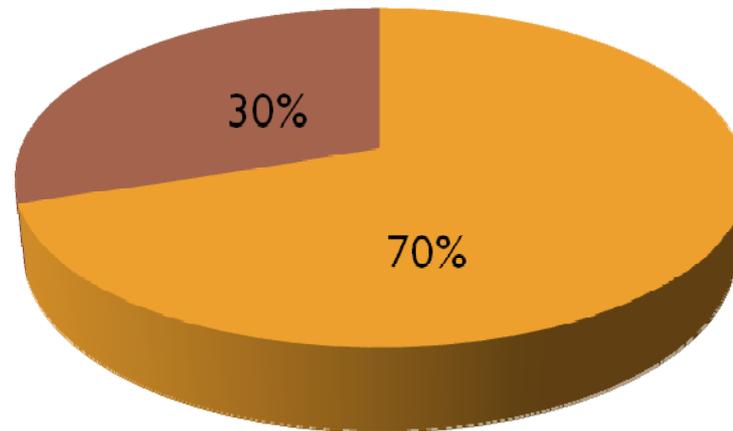
- I.  $389 + 454 =$ 
  - A. 853
  - B. 833
  - C. 843
  - D. 863
2. Our company policy is that every person is accountable for his or her actions
  - a) Responsible
  - b) Awarded
  - c) Thanked
  - d) Complimented

# Are Our Graduates College \ Career Ready?

Military

## Military Preparedness for Graduates Wishing to Join Military

■ Passed the AFQT   ■ Failed the AFQT



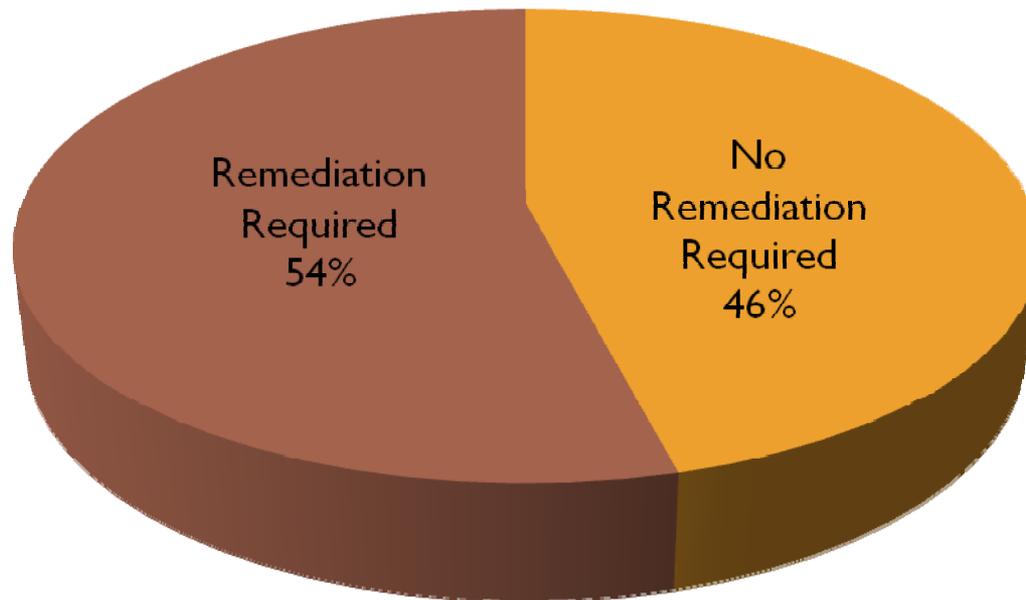
Potential recruits to the armed forces are required to take and pass the Armed Forces Qualification Test (AFQT). This test is designed to assess candidates' math and reading skills.

Source: "Ready, Willing, and Unable to Serve." Mission: Readiness. 2009.

# Are Our Graduates College \ Career Ready?

Two-year  
College

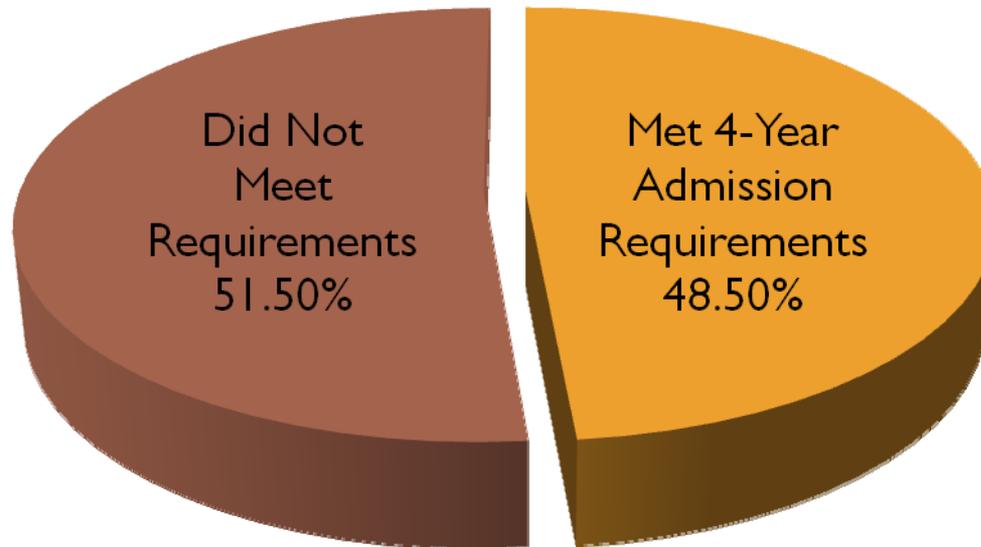
## Remediation



Source: SBCTC – Role of pre-college education for recent high school graduates attending Washington community and technical colleges. December 2009.

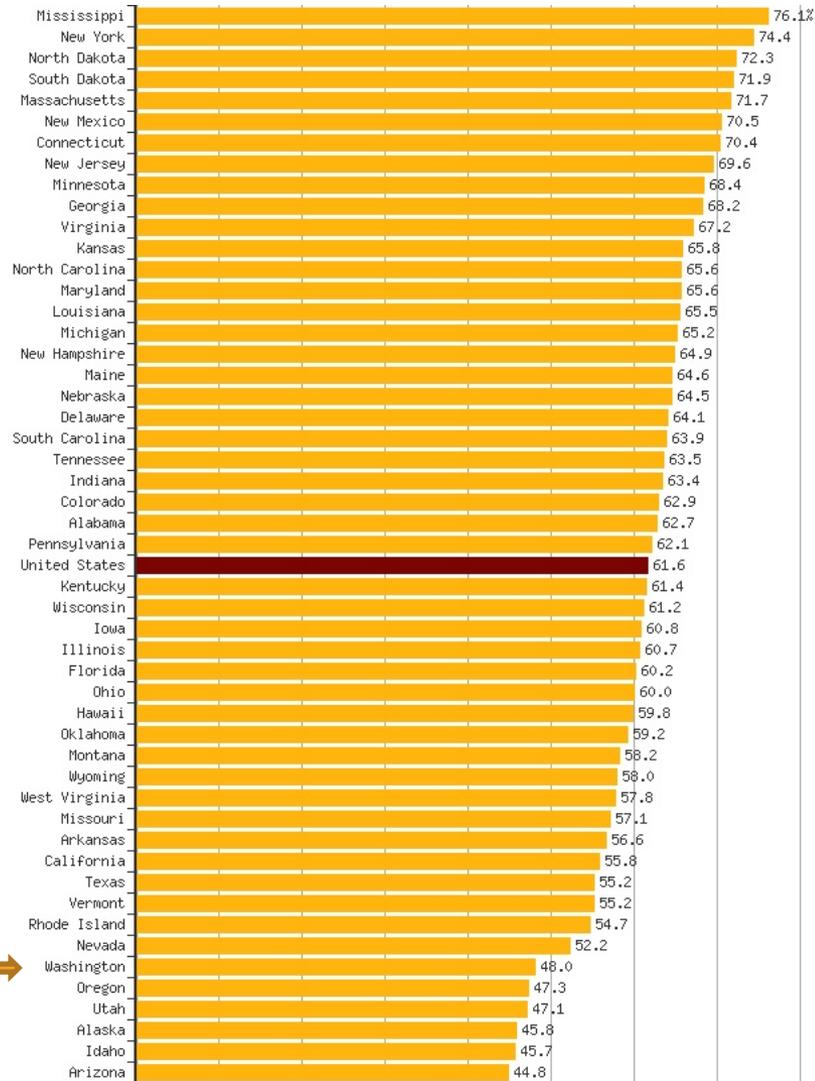
# Are Our Graduates College \ Career Ready?

Four-year  
College



Source: State Board of Education Transcript Study of 14,875 graduates from 2008

46<sup>th</sup> in  
nation



Source: Tom Mortenson, Postsecondary Opportunity

## Chance of college by age nineteen



Source: NCHEMS Information Center for Higher Education Policymaking and Analysis

# How does Washington Measure Up?

---

- 22<sup>nd</sup> in nation in state success indicators leading to education beyond high school, full-time work, and a living wage
- 43<sup>rd</sup> in nation in high school graduation rate
- 42<sup>nd</sup> in nation in college participation rates for students from low-income families

Sources:; Postsecondary Education Opportunity, #206, August 2009; Editorial Projects in Education Research Center Chance-for-Success Index and K-12 Achievement Index, Washington Highlights 2010

## More than 52,000 College Bound Applications

Expected Grad Year	2012	2013	2014	2015
<b>AY 07-08</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>		
Complete	9,100	6,135		* Includes incomplete applications
<b>AY 08-09</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7*</b>	
Complete	7,101	9,808	11,601	
<b>AY 09-10</b>			<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>
Applied			3,283	6,191
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16,201</b>	<b>15,943</b>	<b>14,884</b>	<b>6,191</b>
% of Eligible	58%	56%	50%	20%

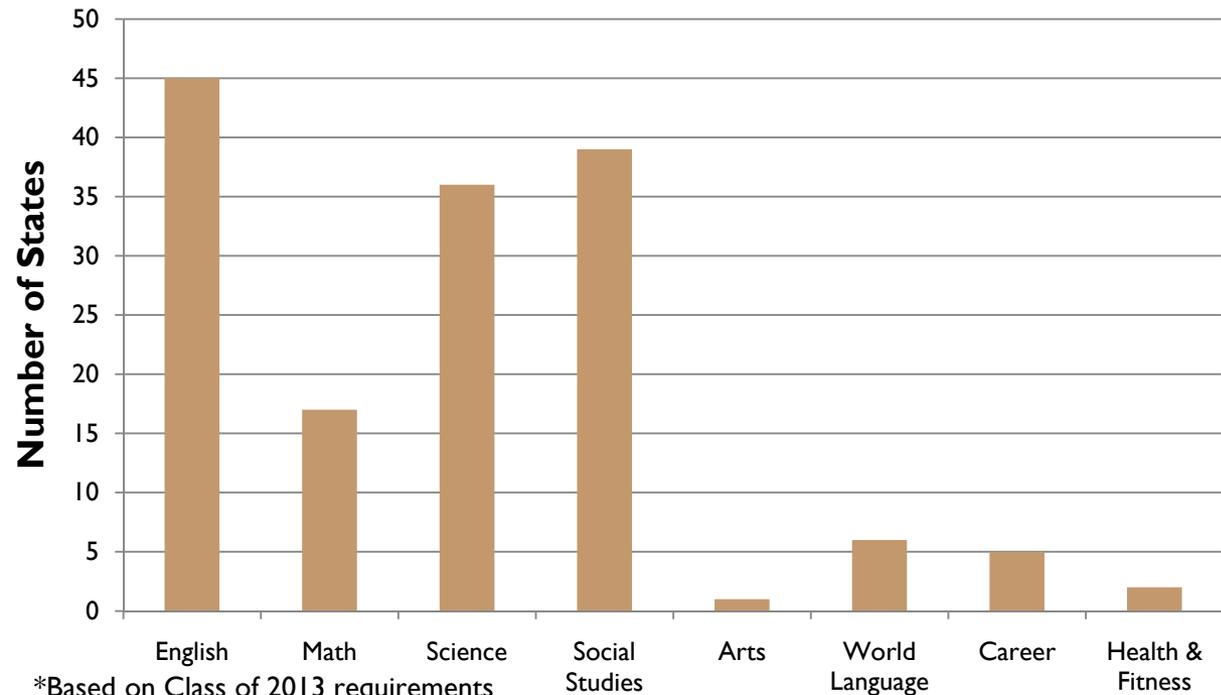
The first cohort of College Bound Scholars was in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade in 2008-09 and are expected to graduate in 2012. The second cohort was in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade in 2008-09. For both cohorts, the application deadline was June 30, 2009.

*Note: 9<sup>th</sup> graders in 2008-09 were granted a one-time extension and future application cycles will only be open to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes.*

Source: Higher Education Coordinating Board, 2010

# Are Our State-mandated Graduation Credit Requirements Sufficient?

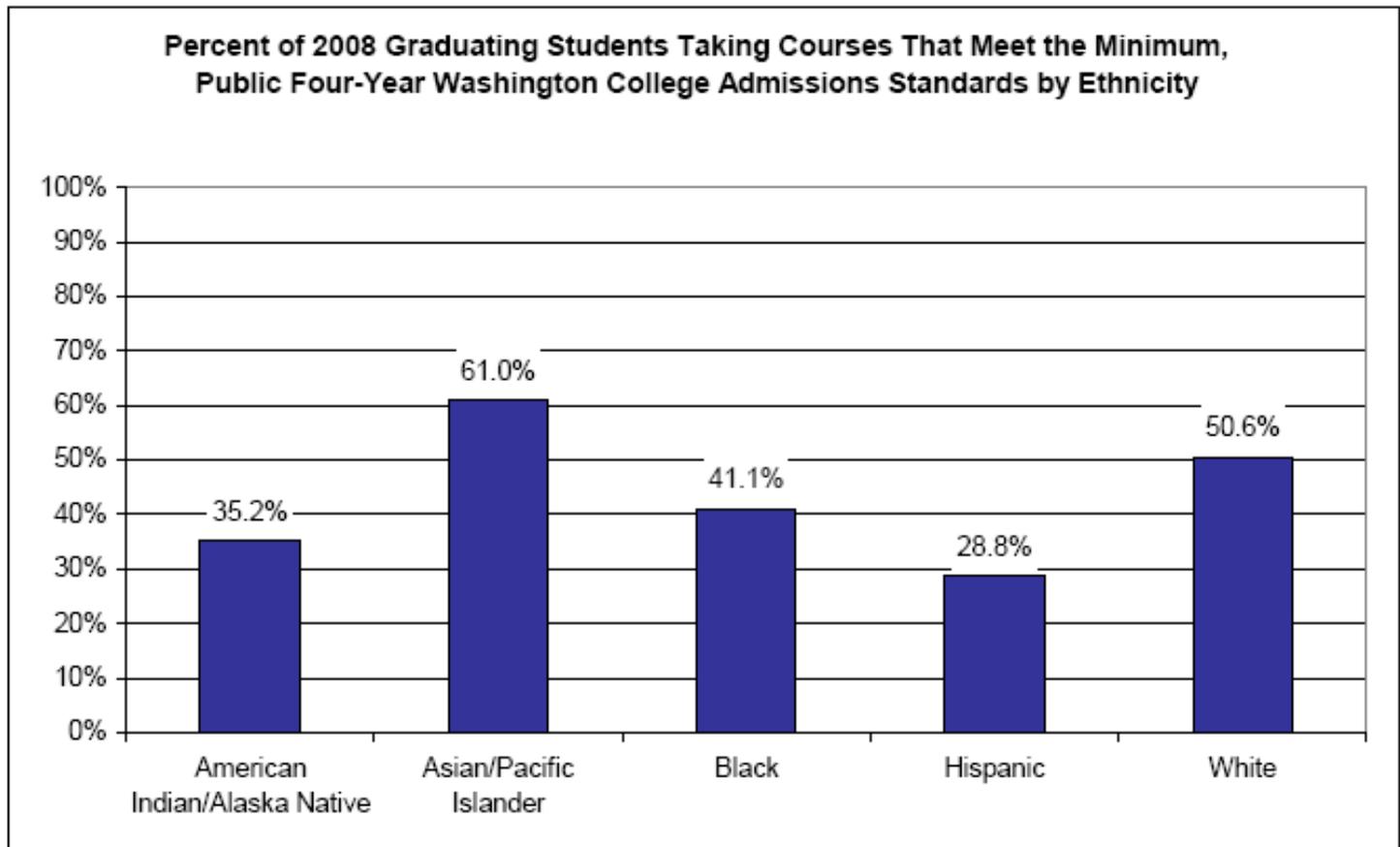
**States That Require More Credits to Graduate than WA\*, by Subject Area**



## Do Our State Graduation Requirements Meet Minimum Washington 4-year Public College Admission Requirements?

Subject	2013 State-mandated minimum credits to graduate from high school	2012 HECEB-mandated minimum four-year public college admission credit requirements
English	3	4
Math	3	3-4 (requires Algebra II)
Science	2 (1 lab)	2-3 (2 labs)
Social Studies	2.5	3
Arts	1	0-1
World Language	0	2
Health & Fitness	2	0
Occupational Ed.	1	0
Electives	5.5	0
Total	20	15-16

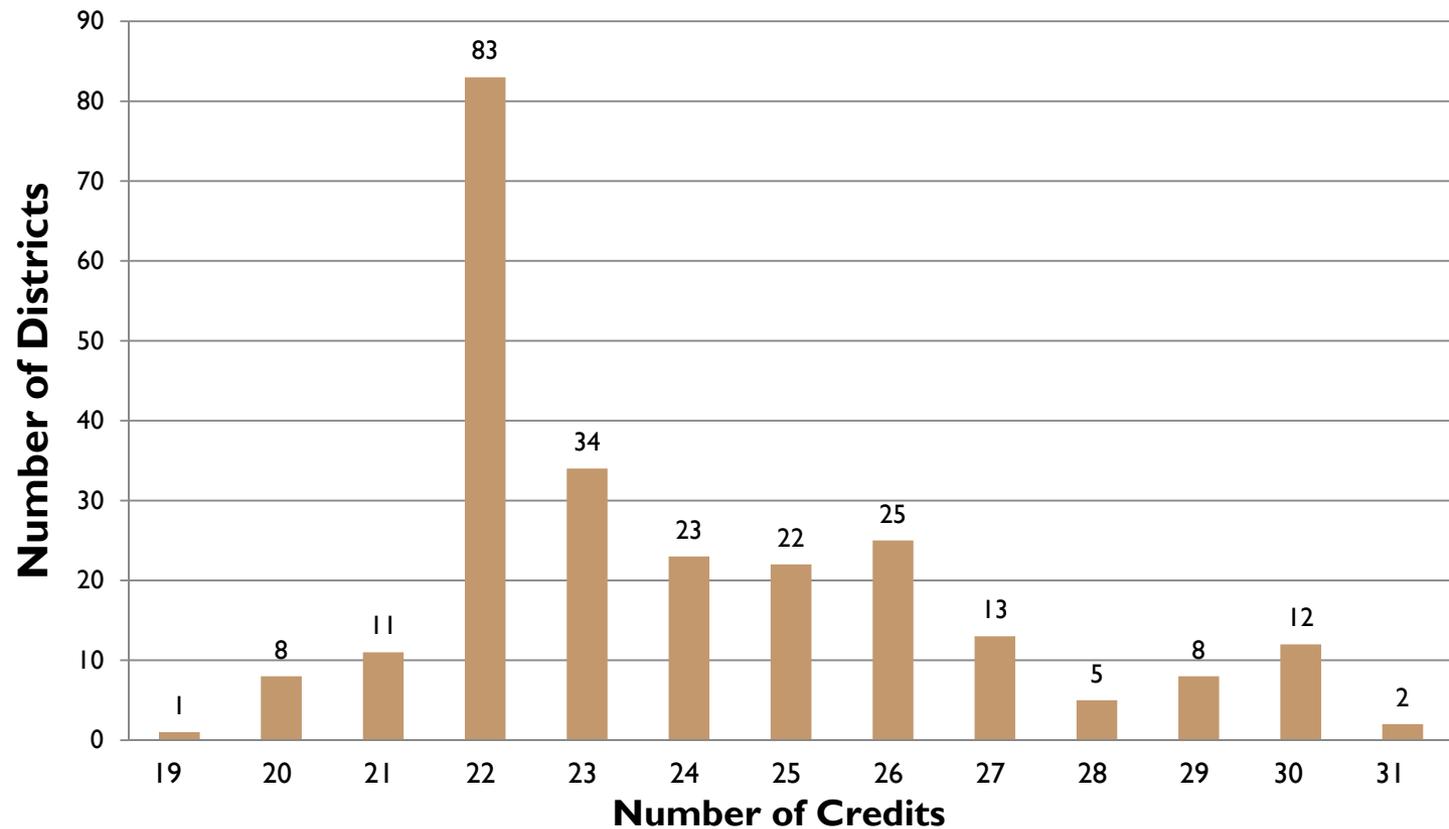
# Are All Students Equally Prepared?



Source: The BERG Group, December 2008. Washington State Board of Education Transcript Study. Based on a random sample of 14,875 2008 Washington public high school graduates

# What are the Current District Credit Requirements?

2009/2010 Washington State District Credit Requirements



# Core 24

---

## Credit Framework

# Core 24

## College and Career Ready

ENGLISH



MATH



SCIENCE  
(2 labs)



SOCIAL STUDIES



ARTS



FITNESS



HEALTH



Students should take math their senior year if following the college and career-ready pathway.

## One Diploma -- Three Choices

Students will enroll automatically in Core 24's college + career ready requirements.

All students will take Core 24's strong foundation of core subjects.

Students will have the flexibility to choose an emphasis based on their High School and Beyond Plan.

Students will also complete a culminating project to earn a diploma.

## College Emphasis

CAREER CONCENTRATION



WORLD LANGUAGE



ELECTIVES



## College and Career Ready



## Career Emphasis



NOTE: The Core 24 Implementation Task Force (ITF) will recommend a definition of career concentration to the Board in the spring of 2010.

The end result. . . Educated Citizens with Living Wage Jobs

# How do Everett's Graduation Requirements Compare?

Subject	Class of 2013 Everett SD	Class of 2013 State	Class of 2012 HECB Requirements	Core 24 Default Requirements
English	3.5	3.0	4	4
Math	3.0	3.0	3-4	3
Science	2.0	(1 lab) 2.0	(2 labs) 2-3	(2 labs) 3
Social Studies	2.5	2.5	3	3
Arts	1.0	1.0	0-1	2
World Lang	0	0	2	2
Health & Fit	2.0	2.0	0	2
OccEd/Career	1.0	1.0	0	3
Electives	(+ .5 senior seminar) 6.5	5.5	0	2
Total	22	20	15-16	24

# Core 24 Stakeholder Concerns

---

1. Insufficient flexibility due to too many state-mandated credits
  - Not enough room for support/credit recovery classes
  - Leaves less opportunity for local control
  - May keep students from skill centers
  - Difficult for small school districts with limited staff
2. Credits should be allocated differently
  - Arts and career concentration
3. Will increase the achievement gap
4. Confusing
5. **FUNDING:** Need resources for staff, facilities, guidance

# Core 24 Implementation Task Force Recommendations (not in rule!!)<sub>(1 of 3)</sub>

---

1. 6-year phase-in, beginning in middle school
2. Two-for-One Policy (earn 1 credit, meet two requirements)
3. Local waiver of up to 2 requirements
4. Redefine “credit” in WAC to eliminate time-based definition
5. Allow students who meet standard on state-approved end-of-course assessments to earn credit for the associated course

# Core 24 ITF Recommendations (2 of 3)

---

6. Define career concentration as 3 credits, including one occupational education, that prepare students for postsecondary education and careers related to the course of study in their high school and beyond plan.
7. Advocate for resources to assist struggling students with credit recovery.
8. Begin High School and Beyond Plan in middle school and focus on exploring students' options and interests.

# Core 24 ITF Recommendations (3 of 3)

---

9. Provide opportunities for students to begin meeting high school graduation requirements in middle school at middle level standards. (Different from earning credit in middle school.)
10. Require all students to enroll in the core 18 credits: English (4), Math (3), Science (3), Social Studies (3), Fitness (1.5), Health (.5), Arts (2), Career Concentration/Occupational Ed (1).

(The Board received the ITF report at its May 13-14, 2010 meeting. The report can be found on the home page of the SBE website: <http://www.wbe.wa.gov>).

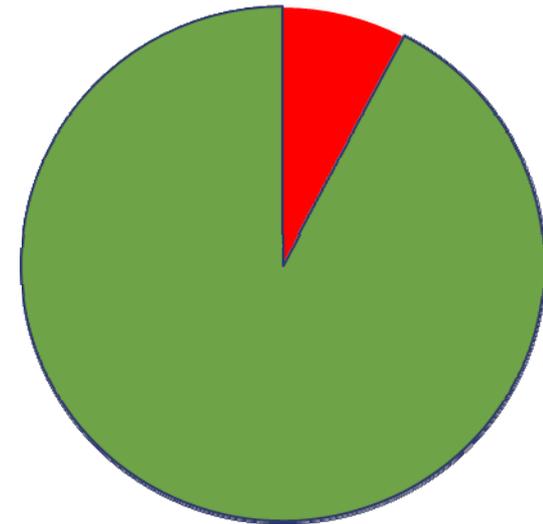
# A Meaningful High School Diploma – One Part of Education Reform

It takes a system to prepare a child:

- Great Teaching & Leadership
- Early Learning Resources
- Data, Assessment, and Evaluation
- Rigorous and Aligned P-13 Standards, Curriculum, & Assessment
- ADEQUATE FUNDING
- Involved Parents
- **A Meaningful High school Diploma**

“instruction that provides students the opportunity to complete 24 credits for high school graduation”

Basic Education Act RCW 28A.150.220



# SBE Next Steps

---

- May, 2010—State Board of Education (SBE) receives and discusses Core 24 Implementation Task Force recommendations and other stakeholder input
- July, 2010—SBE takes action on Core 24 framework
- Late Summer/Fall 2010—Public Outreach on Core 24 framework approved in July
- September, November 2010—Review and approve draft rule
- 2010/11—Work with Quality Education Council (QEC) to include funding in 2011-2013 biennial ESHB 2261 budget package
- *2011 Legislative Session—Discuss proposed changes with legislature; advocate for funding*
- *Summer 2011—Finalize rule (assuming legislative approval of funding)*

# The Push Forward

---



[YouTube](#)

# For further information...

---

This presentation can be found at the SBE website under “Other Materials”:

<http://www.sbe.wa.gov>

Questions?

Contact: Kathe Taylor, Policy Director,  
kathe.taylor@k12.wa.us