

# Update on Washington State Graduation Requirements

**PRESENTATION TO THE EDUCATIONAL  
OPPORTUNITY GAP OVERSIGHT AND  
ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE, JULY 31, 2012**

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# Framing Today's Presentation

## Why should Washington State set Graduation Requirements?

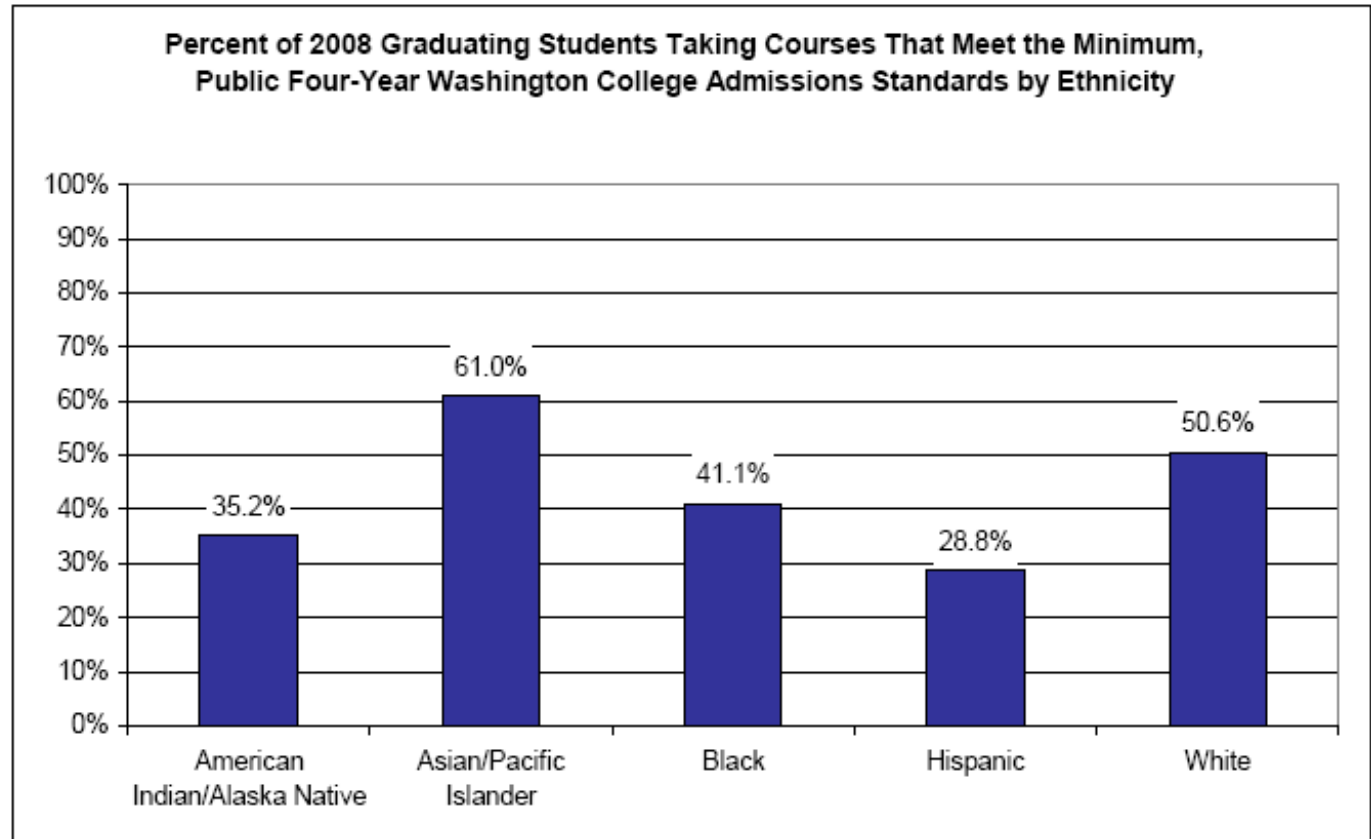
**Equity**

- **For all students**

**Opportunities**

- **In post-secondary careers and college**

# Equity: are all students equally prepared?



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


**Equity: “College and Career Readiness is NOT about all students attending four-year colleges and universities. Increasingly, access to middle class jobs requires at least some postsecondary education and or training.”**

Achieve, 2012, Career and College Readiness and Economic Competitiveness



“ready for success in postsecondary education, gainful employment and citizenship” RCW 28A.230.090(1)

# Opportunities for the 21<sup>st</sup> century



Jobs available to our high school graduates will require more education and training

The recession has accelerated a shift of jobs requiring post-secondary education

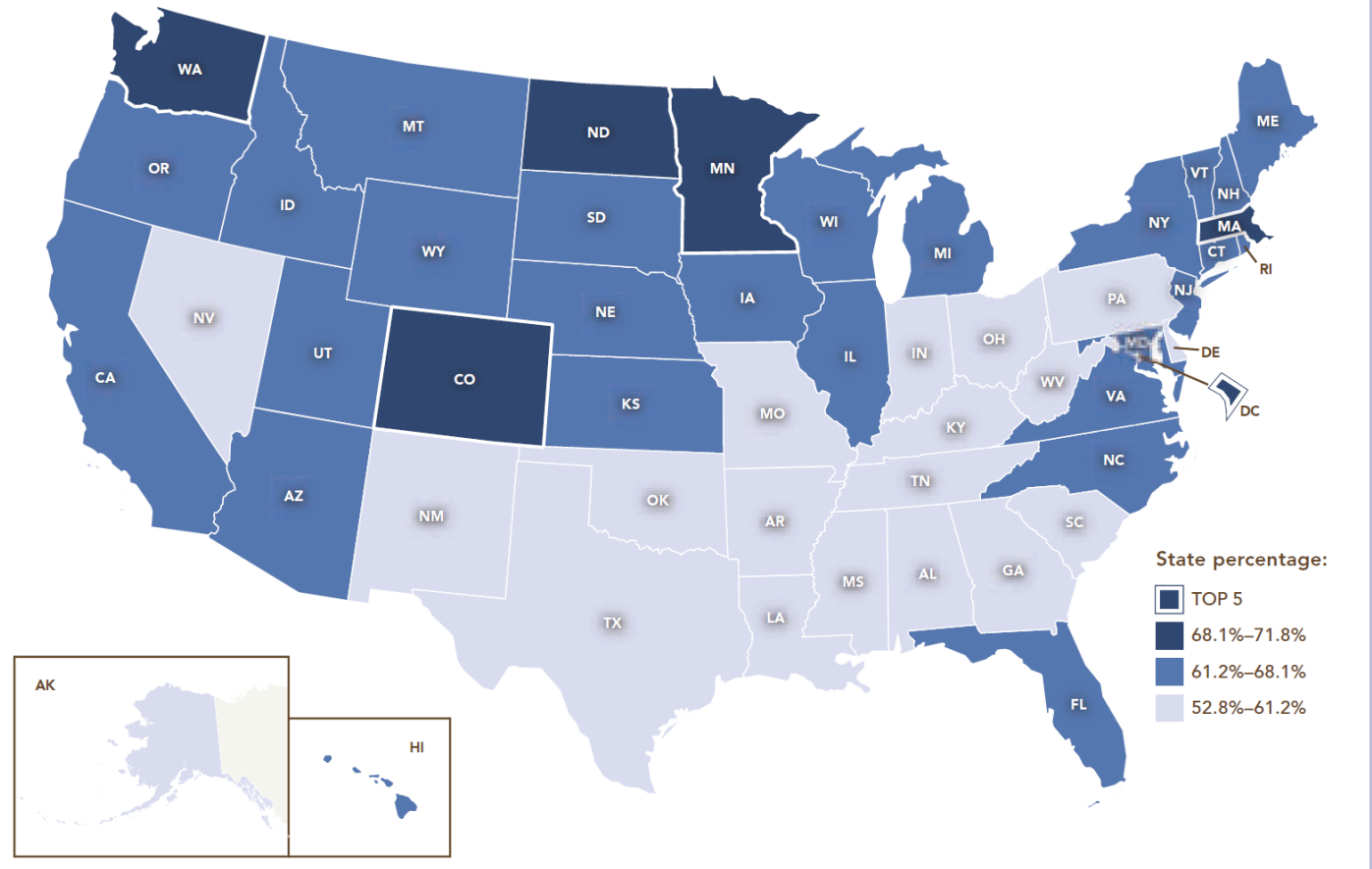
Anthony Carnevale; Smith, N. and Strohl, J. (2010). *Help Wanted: Projections of Jobs and Educational Requirements Through 2018*, George Town University Center on Education and the Workforce

A Skilled and Educated Workforce, 2011 Update, report by the Washington State Higher Education Coordinating Board, the Board of Community and Technical Colleges, and the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board

# Washington State workforce needs

The top states for postsecondary jobs.

Source: Center on Education and the Workforce forecast of educational demand through 2018

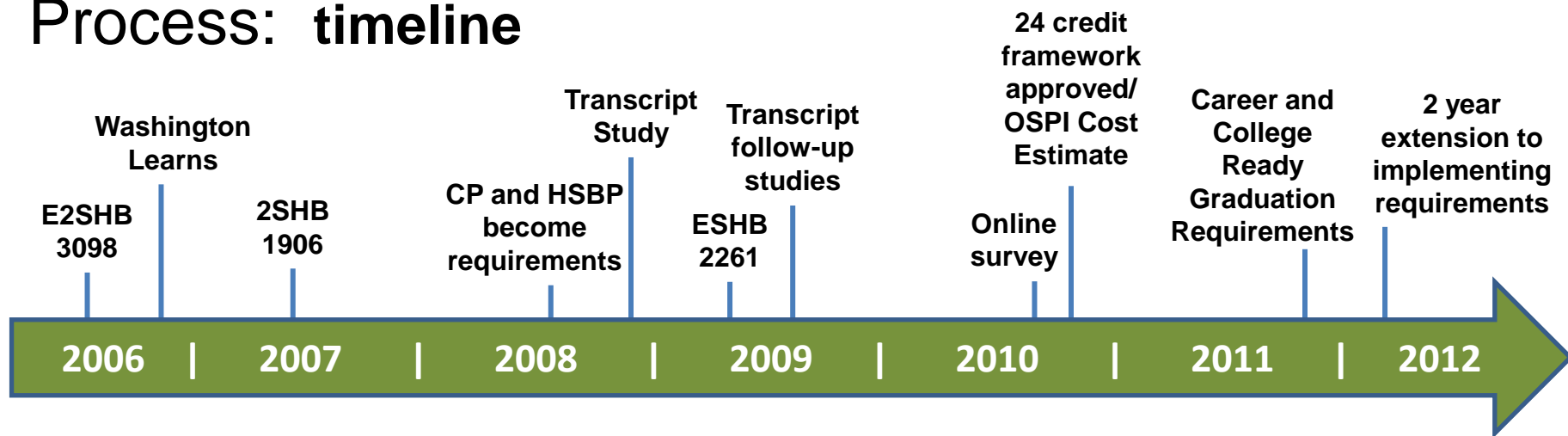




# Authority and Legislative Directives for Graduation Requirements

- The State Board of Education (SBE) is authorized by RCW 28A.230.090 to set credit graduation requirements
- In 2006, E2SHB 3098
  - “purpose and expectations”
- In 2007, 2SHB 1906
  - “3 credits of math and describe the content”
- In 2009, ESHB 2261
  - 24 credit framework for graduation
  - No additional costs to districts without legislative approval and funding

# Process: timeline



**E2SHB 3098**  
directed SBE to revise the definition and expectations of a high school diploma

**Washington Learns**  
comprehensive education study

**2SHB 1906**  
directed SBE to include 3 credits of math, and describe the content

**Culminating Project, High school and Beyond Plan** became requirements

**Transcript Study** of course taking patterns of high school students

**Bill 2261**  
24 credits for graduation, changes that cost districts additional funds require legislative approval

**Studies** on college admission and HS schedules

**Online survey** of over 4,000 respondents provided feedback

**24 credit framework and OSPI cost estimate**  
changes with no fiscal impact determined

**20 credit Career and College Ready Graduation Requirements** approved with flexibility measures

**2 year extension** for districts who requested it





# Career and College Ready Graduation Requirements

Credits in red denote a change from the previous year

Subject	Class of 2013	Class of 2016 <sup>(1)</sup>	24-credit (yet to be adopted)
English	3	<b>4</b>	4
Mathematics	<b>3</b>	3	3
Science	2 (1 lab)	2 (1 lab)	<b>3 (2 labs)</b>
Social Studies	2.5	<b>3</b>	3
Arts	1	1	<b>2</b>
Health and Fitness	2	2	2
Occupational Education	1	1	1
World Language	0	0	<b>2</b>
Career Concentration	0	0	<b>2</b>
Electives	5.5	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>
Total	<b>20</b>	20	<b>24</b> <sup>(2)</sup>

(1) Some districts have 2-year extension for implementing additional credits.

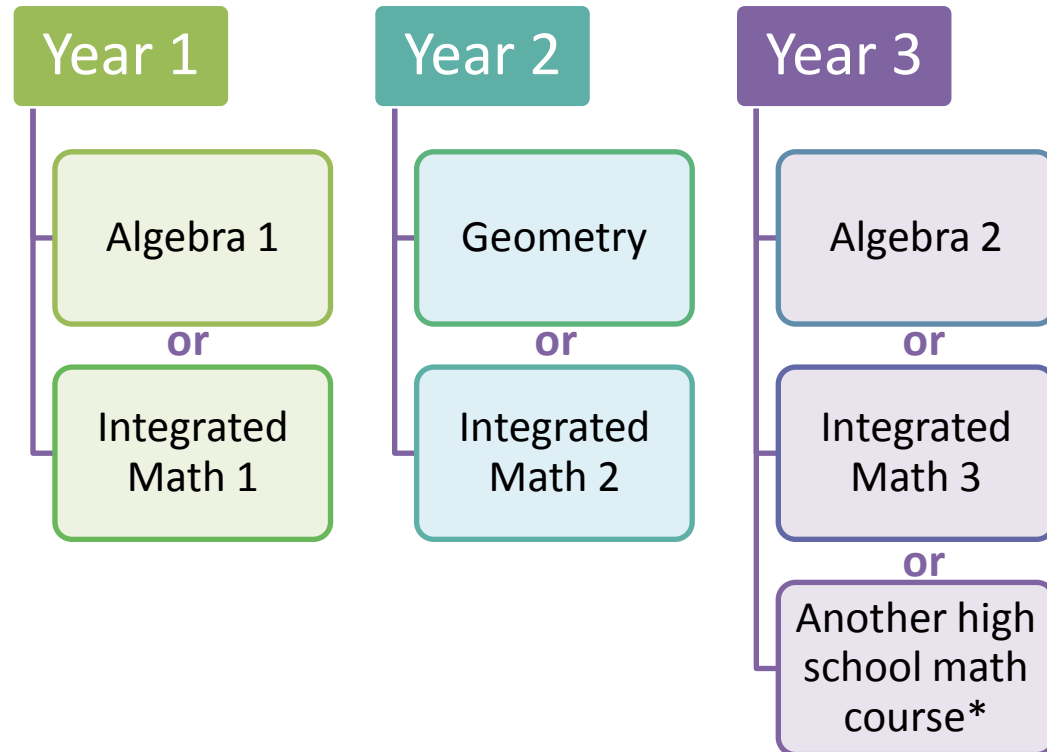
(2) Up to 2 credits may be waived by local administrators for students who have attempted 24 credits.



# A Third Year of Math

At the direction of the legislature, in 2008 SBE adopted 3 credits of mathematics

For the graduating class of 2013 and beyond:



\* Must align with student's career plan in their High School and Beyond Plan; also calls for the student, parent or guardian, and a high school representative to meet and sign a form.



# Built-in Flexibility in the Graduation Requirements

## Algebra 2

- **High School and Beyond Plan**

## Student choice and electives

- 17/7 in the 24-credit framework--**High School and Beyond Plan**
- 2 for 1 CTE
- Civics

## Struggling students

- 2 credits may be waived within the 24-credit framework

## District implementation

- 2 year extension
- 150 hour credit definition removed
- Washington State history



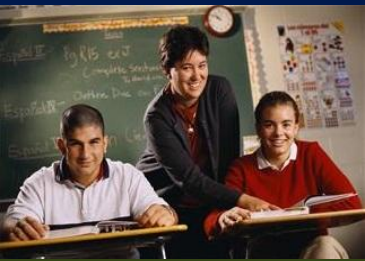
# New for the 2012-2013 school year: positive changes for Washington students

## Seniors

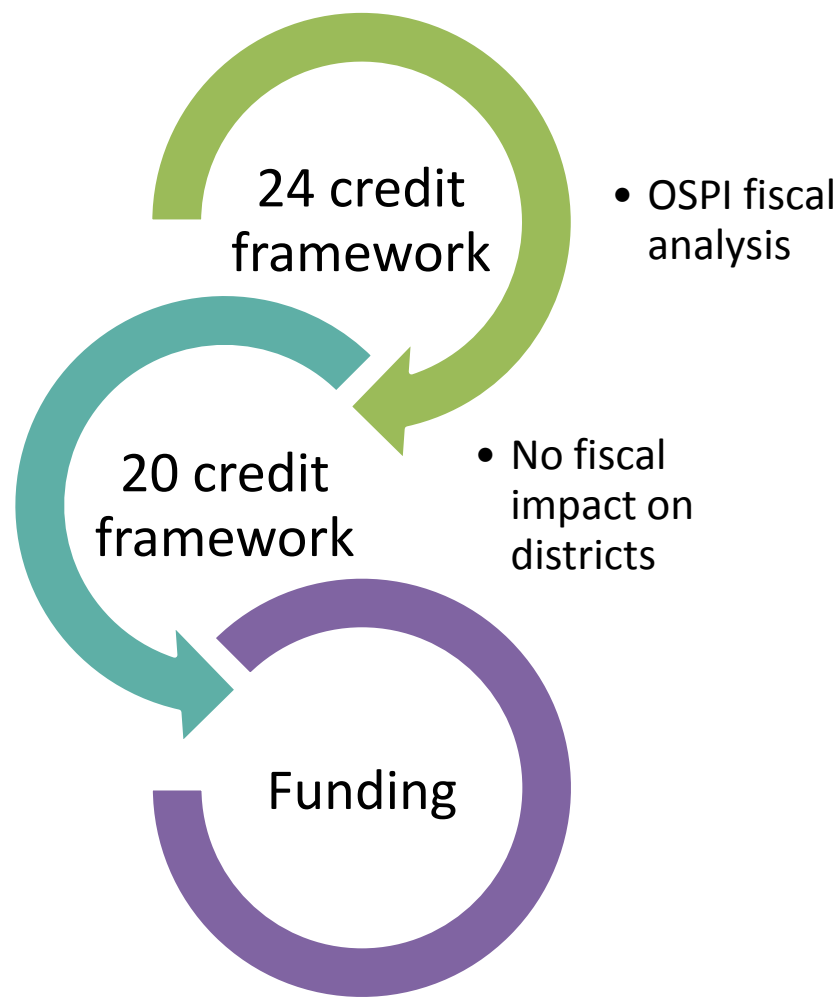
- 3 credits of math as a state graduation requirement

## Freshmen

- 20-credit Career and College Ready Graduation Requirements



# What's next for Graduation Requirements? Legislative directives have been addressed



# Questions?

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