

**CONCISE EXPLANATORY STATEMENT
WAC 180-51-050**

This document has been prepared in compliance with RCW 34.05.325, the concise explanatory statement requirement of the Administrative Procedure Act. Included are: (1) the reasons for adopting the rule, (2) a description of any differences between the proposed rule and the text of the final rule; and (3) a summary of all comments received, and responses to those comments.

1. REASONS FOR ADOPTING THE RULES

WAC 180-51-050 was amended to eliminate the 150 hour seat time requirement as the sole definition of a credit. This will allow a school district, by written policy, to substitute a non time based definition of a credit and clarify that this definition is related to: (a) successful completion of course work; and (b) proficiency/competency based credit for knowledge or skills gained outside of a public school classroom setting. Additionally, the provision providing for high school credit for courses taken in grades seven and eight was removed and a reference to RCW 28A.230.090 was added. The prior language in this rule was in conflict with this statute which proscribes the circumstances under which a district can award credit for courses taken prior to high school. WAC 180-51-050 was also amended to remove the requirement for the State Board of Education notify the State Board of Community and Technical Colleges and the Higher Education Coordinating Board of any school or school district awarding credit for proficiency/competency. At present, this is not a legal requirement set forth in statute and is something that has not been implemented in recent years.

2. DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PROPOSED AND FINAL RULE

There are no differences between the proposed and final rule. The amendments to WAC 180-51-050 were adopted as proposed by the Board.

3. SUMMARY OF ALL COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

The Board received overwhelming support from school districts for changing the definition of a credit to be non-time based. These comments are set forth in Appendix B to the Concise Explanatory Statement prepared for WAC 180-51-067 and incorporated herein by reference. Additionally, the Board received a number of comments from the public which universally supported this change. No comments were received opposing the change in the definition of a credit or the other amendments to WAC 180-51-050.