



THE WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

An education system where students are engaged in personalized education pathways that prepare them for civic engagement, careers, postsecondary education, and lifelong learning

SUMMARY OF CHANGES MADE TO CHAPTER 180-51 WAC IN DRAFT RULES

Prepared for the September 2019 Board meeting

DRAFT rules are to implement:

- [E2SHB 1599](#)
 - Graduation Pathways
 - Automatic awarding of credit for high school level courses taken prior to high school
 - 2-credit waiver for individual students for “unusual” circumstances—removing “unusual”
 - Updates to the High School and Beyond Plan
- [SSH B 1896](#) for Civics Education
- [ESHB 2224](#) and [SHB 2686](#) that included updates to the High School and Beyond Plan
- Updates to align with statute, practice, and to clarify or enhance flexibility

Changes to chapter made in the DRAFT rules:

- Reorganize the chapter
 - Consolidate previous graduation requirements for cohorts of students who are now adults
 - Strike some sections of the chapter that are redundant
 - Add four new sections of the chapter
 - An overview of new graduation requirements beginning for the Class of 2020, and,
 - New sections on credit graduation requirements, the High School and Beyond Plan (HSBP), and graduation pathways; these three new sections coincide with the three broad requirements of the Washington high school diploma.
- Amend language to clarify, removing references to outdated statute or rules, updating language, for example:
 - Replace references to “essential academic learning requirements” with learning standards.
 - Replace “vocational” with “career and technical education”.
 - Replace “fitness” with “physical education” (PE).
- Clarify the relationship between expected graduation year and graduation requirements associated with a ninth-grade cohort. These changes were made to conform with practice.
- Clarify the math credit graduation requirement for students who earned high school credit in math prior to high school, reflecting current practice and current guidance.
 - Prescriptive language about the order that high school mathematics courses should be taken in is removed.
 - Update to align with students automatically earning credit for high school level courses taken before high school.

- Separate health and PE—specifying half a credit of health and one and a half credits of PE; this change was requested by OSPI, and reflects common practice.
- Remove reference to non-CTE courses locally determined to be equivalent to CTE courses—this does not make sense and there should be no such courses.
- Remove references to expired waivers.
- Add the requirement of RCW 28A.320.170 (districts shall incorporate history, culture and government of nearest Indian tribe).
- Increase flexibility in the social studies graduation requirements.
 - Add “or the equivalent” to the mandatory course titles.
 - Change 1 credit for Contemporary World Problems to .5 credits. (Total credits for social studies will remain 3 credits.)
- The ad hoc committee recommends reviewing two sections of the graduation requirements chapter at a later date: WAC 180-51-015 and WAC 180-51-053. These two sections involve high school diploma programs at community and technical colleges. The committee felt that further work needed to be done in collaboration with our partners to make sure changes to these rules best support these programs.

New sections:

- Overview section— Provides an overview of the broad requirements for a high school diploma: 1) credits and subject areas, 2) the high school and beyond plan, and 3) the graduation pathway options.
- Establish a new credit section for the Class of 2021 (WAC 180-51-210) and update WAC 180-51-067 and WAC 180-51-068:
 - Add definitions for core and flexible credits to WAC 180-51-210.
 - Separate core credits and flexible credits in the list of credit and subject area graduation requirements in WAC 180-51-210.
 - Add “or its equivalent” to required social studies course names and changes Contemporary World Problems requirement from one credit to one-half credit.
 - Add Civics as a stand-alone course for the classes of 2024 and beyond.
- The new HSBP section (WAC 180-51-220)
 - Reorganize the requirements of statute for clarity.
- New section on Graduation Pathway Options

Overview of changes to Chapter 180-51 WAC in DRAFT rules by section:

Section	Title	Comments, recommended change
<u>180-51-001</u>	Education reform vision.	Strike. The Board’s strategic plan is a better vehicle for articulating the Board’s vision than rule.
<u>180-51-003</u>	Intent of graduation requirements.	Strike. The Board’s strategic plan is a better vehicle for articulating the Board’s intent than rule.
<u>180-51-005</u>	Authority and purpose.	Technical amendments and updates.
<u>180-51-015</u>	Application of chapter to approved private schools and community colleges.	The committee recommends reviewing at a later date.
<u>180-51-020</u>	Additional local standards.	No change.

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<u>180-51-025</u>	Local school district application of state requirements.	Amend to update terminology. (Change “foreign” language to “world” language.)
<u>180-51-030</u> p. 2	High school credit for courses taken before attending high school.	Completely amended to align with HB 1599—automatic awarding of HS credit for students who complete HS level courses prior to HS.
<u>180-51-035</u>	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.	Technical amendments and amendments to conform to current practice.
<u>180-51-040</u>	Copies of graduation requirements for each year.	No change.
<u>180-51-045</u>	Notice to students, parents, and guardians.	No change.
<u>180-51-050</u>	High school credit—Definition.	Amend to update terminology. (Replace EALRs with “learning standards.”) (Note: this may be a section the Board will consider changing in the future to align with mastery-based work.)
<u>180-51-053</u>	Community college high school diploma programs.	The committee recommends reviewing at a later date.
NEW <u>180-51-056</u> p.12	Previous requirements for high school graduation.	Incorporate WAC 180-51-060 to -066. Applies to classes of 2015 and prior. All references to assessments are removed. This section will have the most relevance to college high school completion programs.
<u>180-51-060</u>	Minimum subject areas for high school graduation—Students entering the ninth grade before July 1, 2004.	Strike—incorporated into WAC 180-51-056. Original WAC applied to classes prior to the class of 2007 and earlier.
<u>180-51-061</u>	Minimum requirements for high school graduation—Students entering the ninth grade as of July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2009.	Strike—incorporated into WAC 180-51-056. Original WAC applied to classes of 2008 to 2013, and added an assessment requirement for graduation.
<u>180-51-066</u>	Minimum requirements for high school graduation—Students entering the ninth grade on or after July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2012.	Strike—incorporated into WAC 180-51-056. Original WAC applied to classes of 2013 to 2015, and added an additional math credit, and increased total credits from 19 to 20.
<u>180-51-067</u> P. 18	State subject and credit requirements for high school graduation—Students entering the ninth grade on or after July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2015.	Amend due to HB 1599. Both WAC 180-51-067 and WAC 180-51-068 must remain active while the waiver to delay implementing the 24-credit requirements is in effect for some

Section	Title	Comments, recommended change
		districts. This WAC applies to classes of 2016 to 2018, and to districts with the waiver to delay the 24-credit requirements.
<u>180-51-068</u> p.30	State subject and credit requirements for high school graduation—Students entering the ninth grade on or after July 1, 2015.	Amend due to HB 1599. Applies to the classes of 2019 and 2020 (for districts without the waiver).
<u>180-51-075</u>	Social studies requirement—Mandatory courses—Equivalencies.	Strike—information is duplicated in the credit graduation requirements sections.
<u>180-51-095</u>	Temporary exemption from course and credit requirements.	Minor technical update.
<u>180-51-107</u>	Alternative high school graduation requirements.	No change.
<u>180-51-115</u> p.45	Procedures for granting high school graduation credits for students with special educational needs.	Amended in consultation with OSPI Special Education Office.
NEW 180-51-201 p. 47	Overview of the requirements for a high school diploma beginning in 2020.	Provides an overview of the broad requirements for a high school diploma: 1) credits and subject areas, 2) the high school and beyond plan, and 3) the graduation pathway options.
NEW 180-51-210 p. 48	State credit and subject area requirements for high school graduation.	Reorganization of the graduation requirements of WAC 180-51-068 for clarity. Definitions provided. Applies to the class of 2021 and beyond. The new requirement of Civics as a stand-alone course is incorporated.
NEW 180-51-220 p. 60	High school and beyond plans.	Reorganization of the statute for clarity. Added some details on financial aid information.
NEW 180-51-230 p. 66	Graduation pathway options.	Rules for the eight graduation pathway options. Applies to the class of 2020 and beyond.