

# STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

**HEARING TYPE:**              X   INFORMATION/ACTION

**DATE:**                      MAY 10-11, 2007

**SUBJECT:**                    **REVISION OF BASIC EDUCATION ASSISTANCE FORM TO  
INCLUDE HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT ALIGNMENT**

**SERVICE UNIT:**            State Board of Education  
                                      Edie Harding, Executive Director

**PRESENTER:**                Edie Harding, Executive Director  
                                      State Board of Education

## **BACKGROUND:**

At the March 2007 meeting rules were approved clarifying that students beginning with the Class of 2008 must earn high school credits that are aligned with the state's standards. To earn the minimum 19 high school credits required under state law, students must take high school level courses. Students must take classes whose content is aligned with our state's academic content standards defined by the Essential Academic Learning Requirements (EALRs) with Grade Level Expectations (GLEs) for ninth and tenth grade in Mathematics, Reading, Communication, Writing, and Science. Social Studies, the Arts, and Health and Fitness state standards for high school are currently defined as Benchmark 3 (High School) standards. GLEs for those content areas will be available in 2008 and 2009. GLEs provide greater specificity of the EALRs describing what students should know and be able to do at each level.

Previously the Board discussed possible ways to ensure school district compliance. One tool the Board currently has is the Basic Education Assistance Form 1497 that school district superintendents and the school board president must sign each year to ensure the district is in compliance with the total instructional hours offering, classroom teacher ratio, and minimum 180-day school year. State Board of Education staff has prepared an additional item for the Basic Education Assistance Form 1497 including a check off for compliance with the minimum state high school graduation requirements. The form is still only one page long.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the additional lines be added to the Form 1497 asking districts to show that they are in compliance in aligning high school graduation credits to the state's standards.



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**MINIMUM BASIC EDUCATION REQUIREMENT COMPLIANCE**

**2007-08 School Year**

SCHOOL DISTRICT NAME	COUNTY
CONTACT PERSON	TELEPHONE NUMBER (      )

Check One

<input type="checkbox"/> In Compliance	<input type="checkbox"/> Not In Compliance
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**Total Instructional Hour Offering - (RCW 28A.150.220) (WAC 180-16-200)**

Grades 1-12 offer a district-wide annual average of 1,000 instructional hours.

**K-3/4-12 Students to Classroom Teacher Ratio - (RCW 28A.150.250) (WAC 180-16-210)**

The district ratio of FTE classroom students to FTE classroom teachers in Grades K-3 is no greater than the district ratio of FTE classroom students to FTE classroom teachers in Grades 4 and above.

**Minimum 180-Day School Year - (RCW 28A.150.220) (WAC 180-16-215)**

The school year consists of no less than 180 separate school days for students in Grades 1 and above and is accessible to all legally eligible students. If your district has a waiver from the 180-day school year requirement, the district-wide annual average instructional hour offering must still be 1,000 hours.

**180-Day Kindergarten School Year/Total Instructional Hour Offering (RCW 28A.150.220) (WAC 180-16-200) (WAC 180-16-215)**

The kindergarten program consists of no less than 180 half days, or the equivalent, per school year.  
 Less than 180 separate half days are offered in each kindergarten section and no less than 450 total program hours offered. (If this box is checked, attach a copy of the schedule.)

**State High School Graduation Minimum Requirements**

Minimum state credits (19) in all subject areas are aligned with the high school standards at a minimum, to grades 9/10 grade level expectations or state essential academic learning requirements at Benchmark 3 (high school).

**Certification of Compliance**

We hereby certify that the board of directors has been apprised and that the \_\_\_\_\_ School District, meets all the requirements relating to the minimum requirements of state basic education programs and, that all deviations from these rules and regulations of the Washington State Board of Education are recorded.

The withholding of basic education allocation funding from a school district may occur for a noncompliance. (See full text in WAC 180-16-195(3)(d).)

We understand that FORM SPI 1497 will not require back-up documentation to be attached; however, that back-up documentation may need to be provided for auditing purposes.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of School District Superintendent \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Board President or Chair \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date