



Why Modernize?

To prepare today's students for tomorrow's challenges, Washington must update its high school graduation requirements. Current requirements are overly complex and fall short of equipping students with essential skills for success in a rapidly evolving workforce and society. FutureReady will empower students with essential knowledge and skills like digital, financial, and cultural competence, while streamlining the framework to promote accessibility and equity.

Highlighted Statistics:

- 32% of 10th and 12th graders say **their schoolwork is not meaningful.** ([2023 Healthy Youth Survey](#))
- **75% of job openings** will require postsecondary credentials, including degrees, apprenticeships, and industry-aligned certificates and licenses. ([WA Roundtable 2024 Skill Up For Our Future Report](#))
- In 2020, only 51% of Washington high school seniors enrolled in postsecondary education within a year of graduating, **falling 12 percentage points below the national average.** ([WA Student Achievement Council 2024 Strategic Action Plan](#))

Fulfilling the Legislature's Established Plan for Graduation Updates

The Legislature has already provided the State Board of Education with authority in state law to set and review graduation requirements (RCW 28A.305.130(4) and RCW 28A.230.090(3)). Now the Board is acting on that mandate, drawing on input from stakeholders across the state to propose a comprehensive and cohesive update to the graduation framework.

A Collaborative and Comprehensive Approach

FutureReady is a thoughtful approach to developing updated graduation requirements, with a proposal anticipated for the 2027 session. The State Board is working closely with a broad task force — including students, educators, community organizations, higher education, employers, and policymakers — to ensure the final proposal reflects diverse perspectives and is grounded in the needs of Washington students. The process prioritizes broad engagement, particularly with historically underserved communities, to ensure our education system promotes equity and excellence.

What We're Asking of the Legislature

Support the Board's Comprehensive Review



Avoid adding new requirements separately from this review process. Instead, support the State Board's comprehensive, strategic approach to updating graduation requirements. This will allow for a balanced and integrated framework that prepares students holistically.

Fund Stakeholder Engagement Efforts



The Board is requesting modest funding to support robust community engagement, ensuring a well-informed, inclusive proposal that reflects voices from across the state, particularly from underserved communities. This will help the Board develop equitable, forward-looking requirements.

FutureReady is Washington's chance to build a thoughtful, adaptable graduation framework that prepares our students for a dynamic future. With your support, we can create a system that works for every student, ensuring they graduate ready for the world beyond high school.