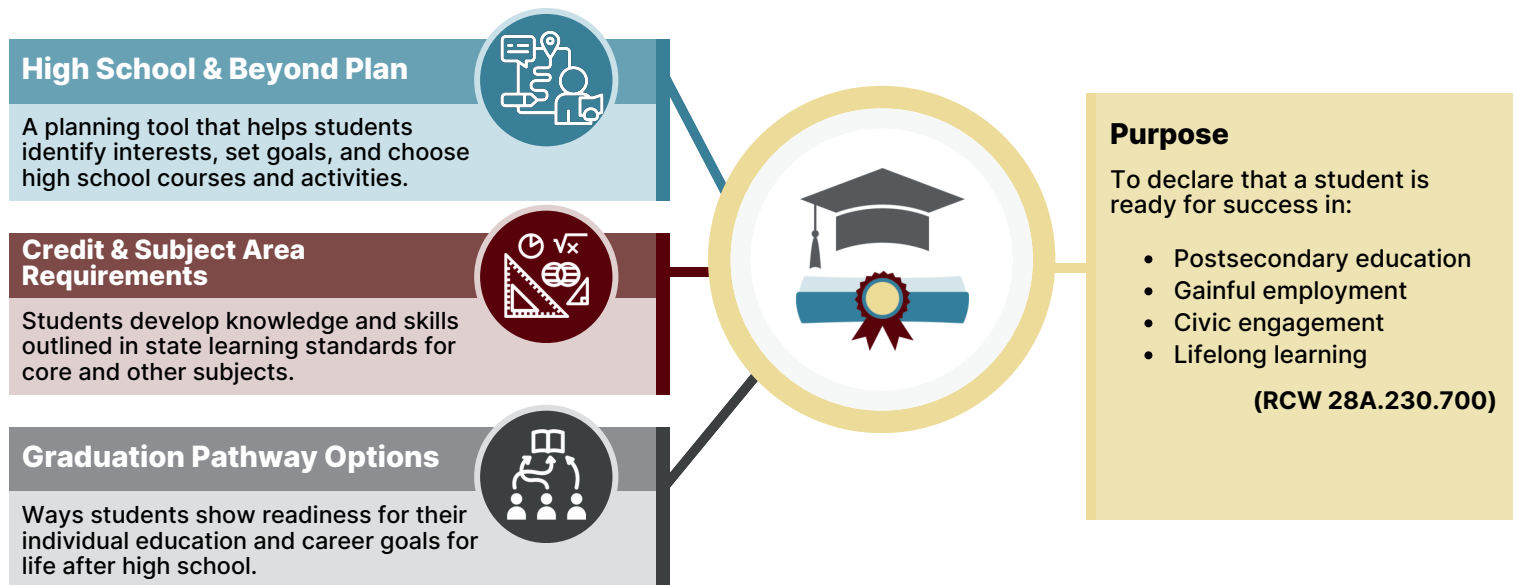


Graduation Requirements in Washington State



The State Board of Education (SBE) sets state graduation requirements. The following diagram shows the three required components for earning a high school diploma and how they work together to fulfill the purpose of the diploma.



School districts may add additional local graduation requirements on top of the state minimum requirements. Districts could add additional credit and subject area requirements (e.g. a financial literacy course) or other requirements like a senior project or community service hours.

Students are assigned an expected graduation year at the time they enter ninth grade. They are held to the graduation requirements of that graduation year regardless of the year they actually complete high school.

High School & Beyond Plan (HSBP)

The High School and Beyond Plan (HSBP) is a personalized planning process that helps students – along with their families and teachers – navigate high school and prepare for their future. Each student starts their HSBP in 7th grade, and it's updated every year to reflect their changing interests, goals, and needs. The HSBP includes a high school course taking plan that aligns with a student's postsecondary plans, any supports the student may need to graduate, an activity log that includes a student's extracurricular experiences, and evidence the student has received financial aid information for postsecondary programs.



Credit and Subject Area Requirements

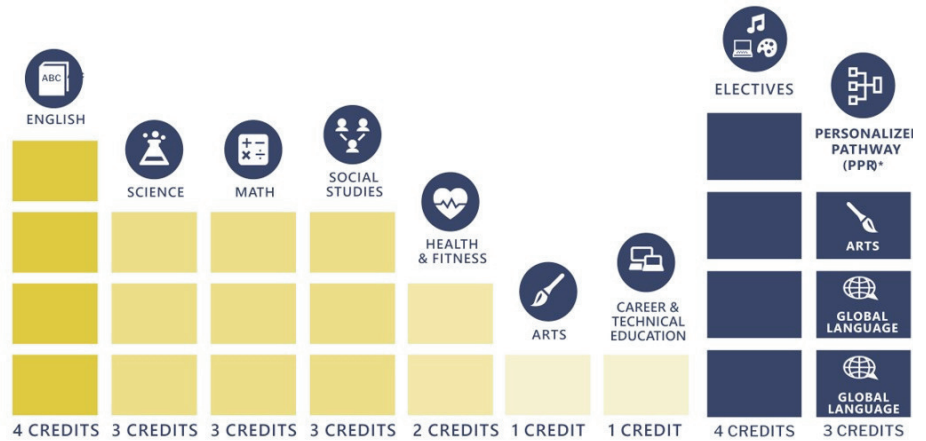
To graduate, students must complete a total of 24 credits — 17 core credits and seven flexible credits. This includes four credits of English and three credits of math, along with other subjects (see diagram).

Learning standards define what students should know and be able to do in each subject area at each grade level. To earn credit, students must successfully complete the course or otherwise show they have met the learning standards.

24 TOTAL CREDITS

17 CORE

7 FLEXIBLE

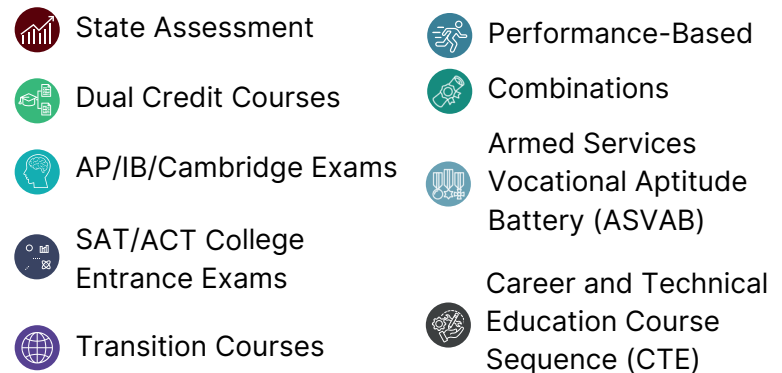


Notes:

1. Personalized pathway requirements (PPR) are electives in any subject that align with the student's HSBP. The arts and world language credits are the default suggestion, but can be replaced with other electives that better support a student's goals.
2. Districts are authorized to waive up to two flexible credits of the 24-credit requirement for individual student circumstances.

Graduation Pathway Options

In 2019, legislation removed the requirement that an individual student pass the state standardized assessments to graduate and replaced it with a set of pathway options. The graduation pathway options provide students multiple ways to show readiness for their individual education and career goals. The pathway a student completes must align with the student's postsecondary goals as described in their High School and Beyond Plan.



Students must meet the pathway requirement in both English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics, however they can do so through different pathway combinations. For example, a student might complete the ELA requirement through a performance-based assessment and the math requirement through a transition course. Students who pursue the ASVAB or CTE pathways do not need to meet English and math requirements separately since English and math are embedded in both of those pathways.

School districts decide which pathways to offer so access varies across and within districts.



About the Board: The Washington State Board of Education shapes policies and advocates for the state's K-12 public education system. Our mission is to create an equitable and inclusive K-12 education system where every student is empowered with the knowledge and skills they need to thrive in a changing world.

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