

The Washington State Board of Education

Governance | Accountability | Achievement | Oversight | Career & College Readiness

Title:	Opportunities for Collaboration with the Office of the Student Achievement Council	
As Related To:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Goal One: Effective and accountable P-13 governance. <input type="checkbox"/> Goal Two: Comprehensive statewide K-12 accountability. <input type="checkbox"/> Goal Three: Closing achievement gap.	<input type="checkbox"/> Goal Four: Strategic oversight of the K-12 system. <input type="checkbox"/> Goal Five: Career and college readiness for all students. <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Relevant To Board Roles:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy Leadership <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> System Oversight <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocacy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communication <input type="checkbox"/> Convening and Facilitating
Policy Considerations / Key Questions:	How can the State Board of Education (SBE) work with the newly established (July 1, 2012) Washington Student Achievement Council to further work of interest to both boards?	
Possible Board Action:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Review <input type="checkbox"/> Adopt <input type="checkbox"/> Approve <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	
Materials Included in Packet:	<input type="checkbox"/> Memo <input type="checkbox"/> Graphs / Graphics <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Third-Party Materials <input type="checkbox"/> PowerPoint	
Synopsis:	<p>SBE will have the opportunity to discuss emergent work and possible areas for collaboration between SBE and the Council.</p> <p>Mr. Jay Reich from the Student Achievement Council will be using this segment to get feedback from the Board on issues they should focus on in the development of their Strategic Plan.</p> <p>Topics and questions that may frame the discussion include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core to College Initiative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Should the new 11th grade Common Core/Smarter-Balanced Test be used for course placement and admissions decisions in post-secondary institutions in WA State? What benefits would this entail? ○ What attributes would the test need to have to meet the needs of the higher education community? • State Board of Education Achievement Index <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What are the characteristics of a college and career-ready student, and how can we most effectively measure those in an Achievement Index that attempts to quantify the performance of schools in this area? ○ What are the various ways in which a revised Achievement Index could serve the purposes of both the K-12 world and the Higher Education worlds? • Governance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How can the SBE and the SAC work together most effectively towards improved education outcomes for all children? 	

Washington Student Achievement Council

Established as a new cabinet-level state agency on July 1, 2012, the **Washington Student Achievement Council** provides strategic planning, oversight, and advocacy to support increased student success and higher levels of educational attainment in Washington.

[The nine-member Council](#) includes five citizens, a current student, and one representative from each of the state's four major educational sectors. Agency staff support the work of the Council, performing assigned functions and managing the student financial aid programs previously administered by the Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Major Functions

Developing a 10-year roadmap for higher education, including recommendations for initiatives and resources needed to increase educational attainment.

Improving student success by setting minimum college admission standards and identifying ways to help students better transition through all phases of education.

Ensuring the quality of state financial aid programs and services that support educational access and affordability.

Providing college savings opportunities through the Guaranteed Education Tuition (GET) program.

Preparing under-represented middle and high school students for postsecondary education through early outreach and success programs such as College Bound and GEAR UP.

Protecting education consumers by authorizing out-of-state institutions to operate in Washington, and monitoring program quality and finances.

Representing the broad public interest above the interests of the individual institutions of higher education.

New Graduation Requirements Alignment with Minimum College Admission Standards
Credits in bold denote graduation standards that meet minimum college admission standards

Subject	20 Credit Career and College Ready Requirements Class of 2016	24 Credit Career and College Ready Framework (not adopted)	Minimum College/University Admission Standards for Fall 2012
English	4	4	4
Mathematics	3	3	3, including a quantitative course in senior year
Science	2, including 1 lab	3, including 2 labs	2, including 2 labs
Social Studies	3	3	3
Arts	1	2	1
Health and Fitness	2	2	Not specified
Occupational Education	1	1	Not specified
World Language	0	2	2
Career Concentration	0	2	Not specified
Electives	4	2	Not specified
Total	20	24	Not specified



Core to College

What is Core to College?

Core to College is a multi-state grant initiative designed to promote strong collaboration between higher education and the K-12 sectors in the implementation of the Common Core State Standards and aligned assessments. In ten grantee states – Colorado, Florida, Hawaii, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Oregon and Washington – Core to College is helping states drive higher levels of alignment and collaboration to achieve greater college readiness with financial resources, technical assistance and evaluation support.

How will Core to College Make an Impact?

Core to College has a number of intended state-level outcomes. Each grantee state has identified its own specific activities that support the following:

- Establishing a statewide definition of college readiness.
- Creating the conditions that lead to the adoption by post-secondary institutions of the CCSS assessments as a determinant of a student's readiness for credit-bearing course enrollment.
- Promoting greater K-12/post-secondary sector alignment around the CCSS in areas including, but not limited to:
 - Academic courses and sequences
 - Data and accountability
 - Teacher development (including both pre-service and in-service)

What are Core to College States Doing?

Core to College grantees have developed a number of strategies and activities to meet their goals:

Convenings. All ten states are hosting trainings and convenings to foster connections between K-12 educators and leaders and post-secondary faculty and administrators. These are occurring at various levels – state, regional and local.

Dedicated Staff. All grantee states have hired an Alignment Director to add critical cross-sector capacity and drive the collaborative work forward.

Communications. States are developing communications plans to create and disseminate information about the Common Core State Standards and assessments, and how these new tools will improve college readiness and college completion in their state.

Data Activities. The grantee states plan to gather, analyze and distribute information about student transitions and preparedness to ensure that collaboration and initiatives are supported by outcomes data; in some cases, states will be collecting and sharing post-secondary student outcomes with high schools in their state.

Core to College is a sponsored project of Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors with funding from the Lumina Foundation, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Carnegie Corporation of New York. WestEd will conduct an independent evaluation of the project. Education First is the project manager and oversees the Core to College Learning Network. For more information contact Anand Vaishnav at avaishnav@education-first.com.