

Rules Evaluation of 180-Day Waiver Requests Section Summary

WAC 180-18-040

Waivers from minimum one hundred eighty-day school year requirement

Deletes reference in the title to a basic education requirement that has been repealed.

Subsection (1)

- Clarifies that a district applying for a 180-day waiver must still meet the one thousand instructional hours requirement.
- Revises reference to one thousand instructional hours requirement to more closely follow the statutory language.
- In sentence authorizing SBE to grant waiver requests for up to three years, strikes “initial.”

Subsection (2)

Strikes in its entirety, as it addresses WAC 180-18-050, Option 3 pilot process, which is struck in proposed rules.

Subsection (3)

Strikes in its entirety, as it authorizes waivers from a basic education requirement on student-to-teacher ratio that has been repealed.

NEW Subsection (2)

Pursuant to RCW 28A.305.140 (2), the State Board of Education will evaluate the need for an Option One waiver from the minimum 180-day school year requirement based on whether:

- The district will meet the required instructional hours offering;
- The district’s waiver plan is aligned with school and district improvement plans;
- The plan explains measurable goals related to student achievement;
- The plan states specific activities that are likely to lead to attainment of goals;
- The plan states metrics that will be used to show whether goals were attained;
- The plan describes participation by staff, parents and the community in the development of the plan.

NEW Subsection (3)

In addition to the criteria in new subsection (2), requests for waivers that continue an existing waiver will be evaluated on the results of that waiver, any proposed changes to the waiver plan, and support by staff and the community for the continuation of the waiver.

WAC 180-19-050

Procedure to obtain waiver

Subsection 1

- Lists required components of an application for a 180-day waiver.
- Specifies that the school board resolution must include a statement that the district will meet the minimum instructional hours requirement.

Subsection 2

Reduces from fifty days to forty days the date by which waiver applications and supporting materials must be received prior to the SBE meeting at which the request will be considered.

Subsection 3

Strikes in their entirety provisions concerning an Option 3 pilot process.

NEW Subsection 3

Establishes a procedure through which a district may obtain a 180-day waiver of up to five days solely for the purpose of parent-teacher conferences without formal action of SBE. Specifies information and documentation that must be included in district notification to SBE. Provides for notification of the district by SBE of the granting of the waiver.

WAC 180-18-

Waiver from one hundred eighty-day school year requirement for purposes of economy and efficiency

Pursuant to RCW 180.3-5.141(3), establishes criteria for evaluation of requests for Option Two “economy and efficiency” waivers. For a district to be granted a waiver, it must submit an application that includes all the information enumerated in the enabling statute. If more applications from eligible districts are received than SBE may approve under law, priority will be given to plans that best redirect anticipated savings to student learning.