

24 Credit Graduation Requirement Framework



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Graduation requirement guiding principles



- All students should earn certain foundational high school course credits to meet the intent of Basic Education.
- In the 21st century, all students need Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) skills; 3 credits of math and 3 credits of science are foundational courses credits.
- High school electives are important, allowing choice in course-taking, providing the opportunity to explore a range of fields of knowledge, and allowing the opportunity to pursue certain postsecondary pathways.
- Every student should have a High School and Beyond Plan by 9th grade or earlier, upon which all course-taking decisions will be based.
- All students should be preparing for their life after high school; each student's High School and Beyond Plan should identify a postsecondary pathway.



Postsecondary Pathways



- Post-secondary pathways are locally determined, but should include, at least, the opportunity to:
 - ✦ Attend a skills center or pursue a Career and Technical Education program of study
 - ✦ Pursue a certificate or degree in a professional/technical program
 - ✦ Pursue a 4-year degree via a college, university, or college transfer program



Stakeholder Input



Stakeholder Input	Options
24-credit framework crowds out electives.	Show general electives as unchanged.
CTE pathways need to be incorporated.	Create “personalized pathway requirements.” Change “occupational education” credit to “Career and Technical Education.”
Make sure students have enough free electives to pursue courses at a skills center.	4 electives + 3 personalized pathway requirements creates a combined 7 available credits.
Embrace a broader definition of college to include postsecondary education and training.	Use “pathways to postsecondary” as branding term for requirements.
The third credit of science and math make it harder for students to attend skills centers.	Develop state models of math and science course equivalencies. Students should get credit for the math and science they take at skills centers.



Previously Proposed Requirements



Subject	Requirements for the Class of 2016	Career- and College-Ready Graduation Requirements
English	4	4
Math	3	3
Science (without lab)	1	1
Science (with lab)	1	2
Social Studies	3	3
Occupational Education	1	1
Health and Fitness	2	2
Arts	1	2*
World Language	0	2*
Career Concentration	0	2*
Electives	4	2*
Total Credits	20	24 (Up to 2 credits can be waived locally for students who have attempted 24 credits)

* **Flexible requirements**—1 arts credit, world language credit, career concentration credit, and electives may be substituted according to a student's High School and Beyond Plan.



Currently Proposed Requirements



Subject	Requirements for the Class of 2016 & Beyond	Proposed Career- & College-Ready Graduation Requirements
English	4	4
Math	3	3
Science	2 (1 lab)	3 (2 lab)
Social Studies	3	3
Career & Technical Education	1	1
Health and Fitness	2	2
Arts	1	2 (1 can be PPR)
General Electives	4	4
World Language (or) Personalized Pathway Requirement (PPR)		2 (Both can be PPR)
Total Credits	20	24¹

Personalized Pathway Requirement: Credits required to pursue a postsecondary pathway, including completing a CTE program of study, an industry certification, or 2 or 4-year college preparatory coursework. Personalized Pathway Requirements are identified in a student's High School & Beyond Plan, and locally determined.

¹ Up to 2 credits can be waived locally for students who have attempted 24 credits.



Resources



- Website: www.SBE.wa.gov
- Blog: washingtonSBE.wordpress.com
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/washingtonSBE
- Twitter: www.twitter.com/wa_SBE
- Email: sbe@sbe.wa.gov
- Phone: 360-725-6025

