



# THE WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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*A high-quality education system that prepares all students for college, career, and life.*

## REVIEW OF PROPOSED RULES TO UPDATE THE HIGH SCHOOL AND BEYOND PLAN AND THE CIVICS GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

Prepared for the August 2018 special Board meeting

### Policy Considerations

The Board will consider approval of proposed rules to update existing rules to implement legislation concerning the High School and Beyond Plan and civics as a social studies graduation requirement. Following Board approval of the proposed rules staff will file with the code revisers office, open the public comment period, and schedule a hearing for the rules.

### Background

The State Board of Education (SBE) and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) have been working collaboratively for at least the past five years to identify [high quality elements](#) of the High School and Beyond Plan. The High School and Beyond Plan became a graduation requirement for the Class of 2008 and following classes, but the content and delivery of the plan was locally controlled and had varied throughout the state. Legislation in 2017 ([ESHB 2224](#), Chapter 31, laws of 2017) enacted required elements of the High School and Beyond Plan (HSBP). Legislation in 2018 ([SHB 2686](#), Chapter 229, laws of 2018) further defined the content of the HSBP.

Also in 2018, legislation ([SSHB 1896](#), Chapter 127, laws of 2018) was enacted that directed that civics be a stand-alone course. A half credit of civics has been a graduation requirement since the Class of 2016 and following classes, but it was permitted for the civics content to be embedded in other courses such as in a United State History course. During the 2018 session, it was discussed whether a student should be required to pass the stand-alone civics course to be able to graduate, but the bill that passed was not explicit on this issue. The draft rules included in this packet present civics as a mandatory course similar to U.S. History and Contemporary World History, Geography and Problems.

Draft rules to implement the legislation of 2017 and 2018 that included changes to the HSBP and civics are included in this Board packet. The rules amended are WAC 180-51-067, WAC 180-51-068, WAC 180-51-075 (which is repealed), and a new rule, WAC-51-069, is proposed to implement civics as a graduation requirement. Since SSHB 1896 directs that districts must teach civics through a stand-alone course by the 2020-2021 academic year, the new rule would implement civics as a stand-alone course as a graduation requirement for the graduating Class of 2024 and subsequent classes.

Table 1 summarizes the updates to both the HSBP and the civics requirements that are in the draft rules included in this special board meeting packet.

**Table 1:** Summary of updates made in the draft rules

<b>Page Numbers</b>	<b>Comment</b>
1-28	The same changes updating the HSBP are made to both WAC 180-51-067 and WAC 180-51-068—this draft includes both rules with identical changes.
28-42	A new rule is added, WAC 180-51-069. This rule is for the graduating class of 2024 and beyond, which will have a stand-alone civics course as a graduation requirement. The rule includes both updated language for the HSBP and language to implement civics as a stand-alone course.
9-12, 21-25, 38-41	In WAC 180-51-067, WAC 180-51-068, and the new proposed WAC 180-51-069. The new components of the HSBP are listed: initiation in the 7th or 8th Grade, Identification of career goals, aided by a skills and career interest inventory assessment, identification of educational goals, a four-year plan for course-taking plan, etc.
12, 25, 41	New language is added to clarify that individual education programs for students receiving special education services should support the HSBP, while providing that all federal, state, and local requirements are met.
42-45	WAC 180-51-075 is repealed. The rule is redundant, as information on social studies graduation requirements are included in the previous rules.
34-35	The social studies graduation requirements are described, with civic as a stand-alone course. The required content of civics is listed: government organization, Washington and U.S. Constitution, current issues, etc.
43	A definition of “stand-alone course” is added.

### Action

The Board will consider approving proposed rules to implement updates to the HSBP and civics as a social studies graduation requirement.

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