

Graduation Requirements

[Effective for entering grade nine (9) students, on or after July 1, 2016, who graduate in June 2020 when in a four (4) year program]

High school graduation should result from an accumulation of credits earned progressively in a four-year program from Grades 9 to 12. Additionally, a graduate must demonstrate career and college readiness through completion of the high school and beyond plan (HSBP) and meet the requirements of at least one of eight graduation pathway options. Class requirements are sequential; for example, grade 9 requirements complete before progressing to grade 10. Waivers, when permissible by law and school district operational procedure, are decided by the high school principal.

Graduation Pathway Requirements¹

Students will need to meet one of the following graduation pathways that is aligned to their High School and Beyond Plan:

1. Meet or exceed the graduation scores in the Smarter Balanced Assessments (SBA) in English Language Arts and math
2. Dual credit courses (for example, Running Start or College in the High School) in English Language Arts and math
3. Earn a 3 or higher on certain Advanced Placement exams or a 4 or higher on certain International Baccalaureate exams, or pass the course with a C+
4. Meet or exceed the graduation scores in the math and English portions of the SAT or ACT
5. Bridge to College courses (senior courses for students who earned a Level 2 on the SBA)
6. Meet any combination of at least one English and one math option of those options listed in #1-5
7. Meet standards on the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery)
8. Complete a sequence of Career and Technical Education courses

Credit Requirements

COURSE	CREDIT	NOTATION	
English	4	Grade 9	1 credit (full-year course)
		Grade 10	1 credit (full-year course)
		Grade 11	1 credit (full-year course)
		Grade 12	1 credit (full-year course)
Math	3		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unless otherwise provided for, three (3) mathematics credits required under this section must include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1 Algebra 1 or integrated mathematics I; 1.2 Geometry or integrated mathematics II; and 1.3 A third credit of high school mathematics, aligning with the student’s interests and High School and Beyond Plan and approved by the parent or guardian. If the parent or guardian is unavailable or does not indicate a preference, the school counselor or principal will approve the course: 2. Courses in (a) and (b) of this subsection may be taken currently in the following conditions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1 Algebra 1 or integrated mathematics I may be taken concurrently with geometry or integrated mathematics II. 2.2 Geometry or integrated mathematics II may be taken concurrently with algebra 2 or integrated mathematics III or a third credit of mathematics to the extent authorized in (b) of this subsection. 3. Equivalent career and technical education (CTE) mathematics courses meeting the requirements set forth in RCW 28A.230.097 can be taken for credit instead of any of the mathematics courses set forth in (a) of this subsection if the CTE mathematics courses are recorded on the student’s transcript using the equivalent academic high school department designation and course title. 4. A student who prior to ninth grade successfully completed algebra 1 or integrated mathematics I; and/or geometry or integrated mathematics II, but does not request high school credit for such course(s) as provided in RCW 28A.230.090, may either: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4.1 Repeat the course(s) for credit in high school; or 4.2 Complete three (3) credits of mathematics as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4.2.1 A student who has successfully completed algebra 1 or integrated mathematics I shall: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4.2.1.1 Earn the first high school credit in geometry or integrated mathematics II; 4.2.1.2 Earn the second high school credit in algebra 2 or integrated mathematics III; and 4.2.1.3 Earn the third high school credit in a math course that is consistent with the student’s interests and High School and Beyond Plan. 4.2.2 A student who has successfully completed algebra 1 or integrated mathematics I, and geometry or integrated mathematics II, shall: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4.2.2.1 Earn the first high school credit in algebra 2 or integrated mathematics III; and 4.2.2.2 Earn the second and third credits in mathematics courses that are consistent with the student’s interests and High School and Beyond Plan.

		<p>5. A student who has successfully completed algebra 1 or integrated mathematics I pursuant to a written district procedure, but does not receive credit under the provisions of WAC 180-51-050, shall complete three (3) credits of high school mathematics in the following sequence:</p> <p>5.1 Earn the first high school credit in geometry or integrated mathematics II;</p> <p>5.2 Earn the second high school credit in algebra 2 or integrated mathematics III; and</p> <p>5.3 Earn the third credit in a mathematics course consistent with the student's interests and High School and Beyond Plan.</p> <p>6. A student satisfactorily demonstrating competency in algebra 1 or integrated mathematics I and geometry or integrated mathematics II, but does not receive credit for the courses under the provisions of WAC 180-51-050, shall complete three (3) credits of high school mathematics in the following sequence:</p> <p>6.1 Earn the first high school credit in algebra 2 or integrated mathematics III;</p> <p>6.2 Earn second and third high school credits in courses consistent with student's interests and High School and Beyond Plan.</p> <p>7. Mathematics classes that are math 107 and below will not fulfill the mathematics requirement.</p>								
Science	3	Three (3) credits of science are required grades 9-12; by state regulation, at least two (2) credits must be lab science. Students shall be enrolled in science during their freshman and sophomore years unless this requirement has been fulfilled. A third credit of Science chosen by the student based on the student's interest and High School and Beyond Plan and approved by the parent or guardian. If the parent or guardian is unavailable or does not indicate a preference, the school counselor or principal will approve the course.*								
Social Studies	3	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Grade 9</td> <td>0.5 credit (world geography)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grade 10</td> <td>0.5 credit (world history)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grade 11</td> <td>1 credit (U.S. history and government)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grade 12</td> <td>1 credit (0.5 credit contemporary world problems with an economics focus; 0.5 credit civics)</td> </tr> </table> <p>Note: Washington State History is a non-credit graduation requirement designed to be met in grade 7 or 8. If not passed in middle school, it becomes an additional graduation requirement grades 9-12.</p>	Grade 9	0.5 credit (world geography)	Grade 10	0.5 credit (world history)	Grade 11	1 credit (U.S. history and government)	Grade 12	1 credit (0.5 credit contemporary world problems with an economics focus; 0.5 credit civics)
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Health and Fitness	2	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Grades 9-12</td> <td>0.5 health credit; 1.5 fitness credits</td> </tr> </table> <p>One health class must include training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and use of automatic external defibrillators (AED).</p> <p>Students may be excused from the fitness requirement under RCW 28A.230.050 on account of physical disability, employment, religious belief, because of participation in directed athletics or military science and tactics, or for other good cause. Such excused students shall be required to demonstrate proficiency/competency in the knowledge portion of the fitness requirement in accordance with written district policy.</p>	Grades 9-12	0.5 health credit; 1.5 fitness credits						
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World Language	2	Both credits may be a Personalized Pathway Requirement. If the student has chosen a four-year degree pathway in their High School and Beyond Plan, the student will be advised to earn 2 credits in world language**								
Career & Technical Education (CTE)	1	<p>Occupational education means credits resulting from a series of learning experiences designed to assist the student to acquire and demonstrate competency of skills under student learning goal four (4), which are required for success in current and emerging occupations. Occupational education credit includes, but is not limited to, family and consumer science, technology (industrial arts), business education, distributive education, agricultural education, and trade and industry education.</p> <p>(a) Students who earn a graduation requirement credit through a CTE course determined by the YSD to be equivalent to a non-CTE course will not be required to earn a second credit in the non-CTE course subject; the single CTE course meets two (2) graduation requirements.</p> <p>(b) Students who earn a graduation requirement credit in a non-CTE course determined by the YSD to be equivalent to a CTE course will not be required to earn a second credit in the CTE course subject; the single non-CTE course meets two (2) graduation requirements.</p> <p>(c) Students satisfying requirements in (a) or (b) still must earn a total of twenty-four (24) credits to graduate.</p>								
Arts	2	Requirement must be selected from visual or performing arts. 1 credit may be a Personalized Pathway Requirements **								
Electives	4	To achieve variety and balance in program planning, limitations are placed on numbers of courses a student may take and apply toward graduation in areas such as work study and service. Work study credits are limited to 0.5 per semester, totaling no more than three (3.0) credits. Service credits (office assistant, teacher assistant, library service, audio visual, cafeteria service) are limited to no more than two (2.0) service credits.								
Total	24	Twenty-four (24) credits are the minimum required for high school graduation.								

Non-Credit Requirements

High School and Beyond Plan (HSBP)

To graduate from high school, all students must develop a High School and Beyond Plan that illustrates how they will meet high school graduation requirements and what they will be do following high school. The plan should start by 8th grade and continue through high school. If a plan was not created prior to high school, it will be developed upon entering high school.. The plan will be developed in collaboration with the student, parent(s)/guardian(s) and -school staff and include, at a minimum:

1. Identification of career goals, aided by a skills and interest assessment;
2. Identification of educational goals;
3. A course taking plan that
 - fulfills state and local graduation requirements, and
 - aligns with the student's career and educational goals;
4. A résumé or activity log;
5. Evidence that the student has received information on state and federal financial aid programs that help pay for college.

Each student's plan will be reviewed annually to assess student progress, to adjust the plan if necessary and to advise the student. All students will update their HSBP at the end of 10th grade to:

- Reflect academic progress toward graduation (via a transcript review),
- Incorporate the results of the statewide assessments in ELA and Math, and
- Inform 11th grade course taking, per RCW 28A.230.090.

Washington State History

Washington State History is a non-credit graduation requirement designed to be met in grade 7 or 8. If not passed in middle school, it becomes an additional graduation requirement grades 9-12.

International Baccalaureate Diploma

A student who completes and passes all required International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme courses is considered to have met state high school graduation credit requirements as long as a student:

- Earns the appropriate number of credits by subject as required by the district;
- Completes a High School and Beyond Plan;
- Successfully completes a graduation pathway; and
- Fulfills requirements of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme.

Note: Four-year college and university entrance requirements are greater than minimum high school graduation requirements listed. If you have questions, please contact your school counselor.

*The 3rd credit of science and the 3rd credit of math are chosen by the student based on the student's interest and High School and Beyond Plan, and approved by the parent or guardian, or if the parent or guardian is unavailable or does not indicate a preference, the school counselor or principal (WAC 180-51-068).

**Personalized Pathway Requirements allow for up to three (3) course credits chosen by a student under Arts (1 credit) and World Languages (2 credits) that are included in a student's personalized pathway and prepare the student to meet specific post-secondary career or educational goals as outlined in the student's High School and Beyond Plan. These may include Career and Technical Education and are intended to provide a focus for the student's learning.

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