

SB 6023 - DIGEST

(SUBSTITUTED FOR - SEE 1ST SUB)

Provides that a student who has taken the Washington assessment of student learning once but has not successfully met the state standards on one or more content areas required for the certificate of academic achievement may earn a certificate of academic achievement by completing at least two semesters of additional coursework. In determining what coursework and the amount of coursework that shall count towards attaining the certificate of academic achievement, the student and his or her parents or guardians shall meet with one of the student's classroom instructors for the content area in which the student failed to successfully meet standard and the student's guidance counselor, advisor, or mentor to develop the student learning plan as established in this act and to develop the student's high school and beyond plan as established by state board of education rules. The following criteria shall be met in order for the coursework to count towards attaining the certificate of academic achievement: (1) The coursework taken shall contribute to the student achieving the competencies necessary to pursue the goals established in the student's high school and beyond plan;

(2) A student must obtain at least the equivalent of a C+ grade in each of the courses taken;

(3) The totality of the coursework must include instruction in each of the competencies in which the student failed to meet standard; and

(4) The student must maintain at least a seventy-five percent attendance rate in each of the courses. The instructor for the course may waive the attendance requirement for illness.

Directs the state board of education to develop an accountability plan for use by schools and school districts in meeting the requirements of RCW 28A.655.100 (3) and (4) and to develop and implement accountability measures for school districts and schools that do not meet the yearly progress benchmarks and the three-year increase goals.

Requires the Washington state institute for public policy to review the alternative assessment created in RCW 28A.655.061(10)(c) for effectiveness in helping students who choose this alternative to increase achievement on the Washington assessment of student learning, graduate on time from high school, and, to the extent information is available, pursue a college or career pathway of their choice. The institute for public policy shall issue an initial report to the education committees of the legislature in December 2010, and a second report in December 2012.