
HOUSE BILL 2686

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By Representatives Ortiz-Self, Santos, Dolan, Frame, Bergquist, Doglio, Sells, and Ryu

Read first time 01/12/18. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to high school and beyond plans; amending RCW
2 28A.230.090; and adding a new section to chapter 28A.230 RCW.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.230.090 and 2017 3rd sp.s. c 31 s 4 are each
5 amended to read as follows:

6 (1) The state board of education shall establish high school
7 graduation requirements or equivalencies for students, except as
8 provided in RCW 28A.230.122 and except those equivalencies
9 established by local high schools or school districts under RCW
10 28A.230.097. The purpose of a high school diploma is to declare that
11 a student is ready for success in postsecondary education, gainful
12 employment, and citizenship, and is equipped with the skills to be a
13 lifelong learner.

14 (a) Any course in Washington state history and government used to
15 fulfill high school graduation requirements shall consider including
16 information on the culture, history, and government of the American
17 Indian peoples who were the first inhabitants of the state.

18 (b) The certificate of academic achievement requirements under
19 RCW 28A.655.061 or the certificate of individual achievement
20 requirements under RCW 28A.155.045 are required for graduation from a
21 public high school but are not the only requirements for graduation.

1 (c)(i) Each student must have a high school and beyond plan to
2 guide the student's high school experience and prepare the student
3 for postsecondary education or training and career.

4 (ii) A high school and beyond plan must be initiated for each
5 student during the seventh or eighth grade. In preparation for
6 initiating that plan, each student must first be administered a
7 career interest and skills inventory.

8 (iii) The high school and beyond plan must be updated to reflect
9 high school assessment results in RCW 28A.655.070(3)(b) and to review
10 transcripts, assess progress toward identified goals, and revised as
11 necessary for changing interests, goals, and needs. The plan must
12 identify available interventions and academic support, courses, or
13 both, that are designed for students who have not met the high school
14 graduation standard, to enable them to meet the standard. School
15 districts are encouraged to involve parents and guardians in the
16 process of developing and updating the high school and beyond plan,
17 and the plan must be provided to the students' parents or guardians
18 in their native language.

19 (iv) All high school and beyond plans must, at a minimum, include
20 the following elements:

21 (A) Identification of career goals, aided by a skills and
22 interest assessment;

23 (B) Identification of educational goals;

24 (C) Identification of dual credit programs and the opportunities
25 they create for students, including career and technical education
26 programs, running start programs, and college in the high school
27 programs;

28 (D) Information about the college bound scholarship program
29 established in chapter 28B.118 RCW;

30 (E) A four-year plan for course taking that ((fulfills)):

31 (I) Includes information about options for satisfying state and
32 local graduation requirements;

33 (II) Satisfies state and local graduation requirements; and

34 (III) Aligns with the student's ((career and educational))
35 secondary and postsecondary goals; and

36 ((+D+)) (F) By the end of the twelfth grade, a current resume or
37 activity log that provides a written compilation of the student's
38 education, any work experience, and any community service and how the
39 school district has recognized the community service pursuant to RCW
40 28A.320.193.

1 (d) Any decision on whether a student has met the state board's
2 high school graduation requirements for a high school and beyond plan
3 shall remain at the local level. Effective with the graduating class
4 of 2015, the state board of education may not establish a requirement
5 for students to complete a culminating project for graduation. A
6 district may establish additional, local requirements for a high
7 school and beyond plan to serve the needs and interests of its
8 students and the purposes of this section.

9 (e)(i) The state board of education shall adopt rules to
10 implement the career and college ready graduation requirement
11 proposal adopted under board resolution on November 10, 2010, and
12 revised on January 9, 2014, to take effect beginning with the
13 graduating class of 2019 or as otherwise provided in this subsection
14 (1)(e). The rules must include authorization for a school district to
15 waive up to two credits for individual students based on unusual
16 circumstances and in accordance with written policies that must be
17 adopted by each board of directors of a school district that grants
18 diplomas. The rules must also provide that the content of the third
19 credit of mathematics and the content of the third credit of science
20 may be chosen by the student based on the student's interests and
21 high school and beyond plan with agreement of the student's parent or
22 guardian or agreement of the school counselor or principal.

23 (ii) School districts may apply to the state board of education
24 for a waiver to implement the career and college ready graduation
25 requirement proposal beginning with the graduating class of 2020 or
26 2021 instead of the graduating class of 2019. In the application, a
27 school district must describe why the waiver is being requested, the
28 specific impediments preventing timely implementation, and efforts
29 that will be taken to achieve implementation with the graduating
30 class proposed under the waiver. The state board of education shall
31 grant a waiver under this subsection (1)(e) to an applying school
32 district at the next subsequent meeting of the board after receiving
33 an application.

34 (iii) A school district must update the high school and beyond
35 plans for each student who has not earned a score of level 3 or level
36 4 on the middle school mathematics assessment identified in RCW
37 28A.655.070 by ninth grade, to ensure that the student takes a
38 mathematics course in both ninth and tenth grades. This course may
39 include career and technical education equivalencies in mathematics
40 adopted pursuant to RCW 28A.230.097.

1 (2)(a) In recognition of the statutory authority of the state
2 board of education to establish and enforce minimum high school
3 graduation requirements, the state board shall periodically
4 reevaluate the graduation requirements and shall report such findings
5 to the legislature in a timely manner as determined by the state
6 board.

7 (b) The state board shall reevaluate the graduation requirements
8 for students enrolled in vocationally intensive and rigorous career
9 and technical education programs, particularly those programs that
10 lead to a certificate or credential that is state or nationally
11 recognized. The purpose of the evaluation is to ensure that students
12 enrolled in these programs have sufficient opportunity to earn a
13 certificate of academic achievement, complete the program and earn
14 the program's certificate or credential, and complete other state and
15 local graduation requirements.

16 (c) The state board shall forward any proposed changes to the
17 high school graduation requirements to the education committees of
18 the legislature for review. The legislature shall have the
19 opportunity to act during a regular legislative session before the
20 changes are adopted through administrative rule by the state board.
21 Changes that have a fiscal impact on school districts, as identified
22 by a fiscal analysis prepared by the office of the superintendent of
23 public instruction, shall take effect only if formally authorized and
24 funded by the legislature through the omnibus appropriations act or
25 other enacted legislation.

26 (3) Pursuant to any requirement for instruction in languages
27 other than English established by the state board of education or a
28 local school district, or both, for purposes of high school
29 graduation, students who receive instruction in American sign
30 language or one or more American Indian languages shall be considered
31 to have satisfied the state or local school district graduation
32 requirement for instruction in one or more languages other than
33 English.

34 (4) If requested by the student and his or her family, a student
35 who has completed high school courses before attending high school
36 shall be given high school credit which shall be applied to
37 fulfilling high school graduation requirements if:

38 (a) The course was taken with high school students, if the
39 academic level of the course exceeds the requirements for seventh and
40 eighth grade classes, and the student has successfully passed by

1 completing the same course requirements and examinations as the high
2 school students enrolled in the class; or

3 (b) The academic level of the course exceeds the requirements for
4 seventh and eighth grade classes and the course would qualify for
5 high school credit, because the course is similar or equivalent to a
6 course offered at a high school in the district as determined by the
7 school district board of directors.

8 (5) Students who have taken and successfully completed high
9 school courses under the circumstances in subsection (4) of this
10 section shall not be required to take an additional competency
11 examination or perform any other additional assignment to receive
12 credit.

13 (6) At the college or university level, five quarter or three
14 semester hours equals one high school credit.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.230
16 RCW to read as follows:

17 Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this
18 specific purpose, the office of the superintendent of public
19 instruction shall work with school districts, including teachers,
20 principals, and school counselors, educational service districts, the
21 Washington state school directors' association, students, and parents
22 and guardians to identify best practices for high school and beyond
23 plans that districts and schools may employ when complying with high
24 school and beyond plan requirements adopted in accordance with RCW
25 28A.230.090. The identified best practices, which must consider
26 differences in enrollment and other factors that distinguish
27 districts from one another, must be posted on the web site of the
28 office of the superintendent of public instruction by September 1,
29 2019, and may be revised periodically as necessary.

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