



RULE-MAKING ORDER

R-103 (June 2004)
(Implements RCW 34.05.360)

Agency: **Academic Achievement and Accountability Commission**

Permanent Rule
 Emergency Rule

Effective date of rule: **June 13, 2005**

Permanent Rules

31 days after filing.
 Other (specify) _____ (If less than 31 days after filing, a specific finding under RCW 34.05.380(3) is required and should be stated below)

Effective date of rule:

Emergency Rules

Immediately upon filing.
 Later (specify) _____

Any other findings required by other provisions of law as precondition to adoption or effectiveness of rule?

Yes No If Yes, explain:

Purpose: To make graduation rate goals more rigorous as a strategy for encouraging school districts to improve graduation rates and to address the gap in graduation rates among students of different ethnic backgrounds and special program status.

Citation of existing rules affected by this order:

Repealed: WAC 3-20-300
Amended:
Suspended:

Statutory authority for adoption: **RCW 28A.655.030(1)(a)**

Other authority :

PERMANENT RULE ONLY (Including Expedited Rule Making)

Adopted under notice filed as WSR 05-07-127 on March 22, 2005 (date).
Describe any changes other than editing from proposed to adopted version: Proposed New Section 3-20-410 was not adopted.

If a preliminary cost-benefit analysis was prepared under RCW 34.05.328, a final cost-benefit analysis is available by contacting: not required

Name: _____ phone () _____
Address: _____ fax () _____
e-mail _____

EMERGENCY RULE ONLY

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds:

- That immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.
- That state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this finding:

Date adopted: **May 9, 2005**

NAME (TYPE OR PRINT)
Christopher M Thompson

SIGNATURE

TITLE
Executive Director

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE
STATE OF WASHINGTON
10/12/05
3:56
05-11-046

**Note: If any category is left blank, it will be calculated as zero.
No descriptive text.**

**Count by whole WAC sections only, from the WAC number through the history note.
A section may be counted in more than one category.**

The number of sections adopted in order to comply with:

Federal statute:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
Federal rules or standards:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
Recently enacted state statutes:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____

The number of sections adopted at the request of a nongovernmental entity:

New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
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The number of sections adopted in the agency's own initiative:

New	<u>2</u>	Amended	_____	Repealed	<u>1</u>
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The number of sections adopted in order to clarify, streamline, or reform agency procedures:

New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
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The number of sections adopted using:

Negotiated rule making:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
Pilot rule making:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
Other alternative rule making:	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____

NEW SECTION

WAC 3-20-390 Definitions. As used in Title 3 WAC:

(1) "High school" means a public school in the state enrolling students in any of grades nine through twelve.

(2) "Graduation rate" means the percentage of students who receive a regular high school diploma within four academic years of having enrolled for the first time as ninth grade students. Students who transfer to another school less than four academic years after initial enrollment in the ninth grade shall not be included in the calculation of the graduation rate for the school from which the student transfers. Students who become deceased shall not be included in the calculation of the graduation rate for the school last attended. Students who earn a regular high school diploma after their four academic years will be included in additional calculations and reports for the year a regular high school diploma is completed.

(3) "Graduation rate goal" means the expected minimum graduation rate reported in a particular year for the prior year's graduating class. For example, the graduation rate goal for 2006 relates to students in the class of 2005.

(4) "Graduating class" or "class of" or "cohort" of any particular year means the group of students who are scheduled to graduate in that particular year after having completed grades nine through twelve in four or fewer academic years.

NEW SECTION

WAC 3-20-400 High school graduation. (1) Each school district board of directors shall by December 15, 2005, revise district-wide graduation rate goals for 2006 and each year thereafter and shall direct each high school in the district to revise graduation rate goals for 2006 and each year thereafter, subject to approval by the board.

(2) The minimum graduation rate goals through 2013 shall be as follows for each of the nine groups of students listed in WAC 3-20-200(2):

(a) Sixty-six percent in 2005, one percentage point above the previous year's goal from 2006 through 2009, and three percentage points above the previous year's goal in 2010 through 2013; or

(b) For any student group whose graduation rate falls below sixty-six percent in 2005, the minimum goal for 2005 is two percentage points above that group's graduation rate in 2004, an

additional two percentage points per year above the previous year's goal in 2006 through 2009, and an additional four percentage points per year above the previous year's goal in 2010 through 2013, until the rate for that group meets or exceeds the goal described in (a) of this subsection.

(3) Graduation rate goals in 2014 and each year thereafter for each group of students listed in WAC 3-20-200(2) shall be not less than eighty-five percent.

(4) School district boards of directors are authorized to adopt district-wide graduation rate goals and to approve high school graduation rate goals that exceed the minimum level required under this section. However, district-wide and high school graduation rate goals that exceed the minimum level required under this section shall not be used for federal or state accountability purposes.

REPEALER

The following section of the Washington Administrative Code is repealed:

WAC 3-20-300

High school graduation.