
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2686

State of Washington 65th Legislature 2018 Regular Session

By House Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Ortiz-Self, Santos, Dolan, Frame, Bergquist, Doglio, Sells, and Ryu)

READ FIRST TIME 02/01/18.

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 if that language is one of the two most
19 frequently spoken non-English languages of students in the district.
20 Nothing in this subsection (1)(c)(iii) prevents districts from
21 providing high school and beyond plans to parents and guardians in
22 additional languages that are not required by this subsection.

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

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

27 (B) Identification of educational goals;

28 (C) Identification of dual credit programs and the opportunities
29 they create for students, including but not limited to career and
30 technical education programs, running start programs, and college in
31 the high school programs;

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

34 (E) A four-year plan for course taking that ~~((fulfills))~~;

35 (I) Includes information about options for satisfying state and
36 local graduation requirements;

37 (II) Satisfies state and local graduation requirements ~~((and))~~;

38 (III) Aligns with the student's ~~((career and educational))~~
39 secondary and postsecondary goals;

1 (IV) Identifies dual credit programs and the opportunities they
2 create for students; and

3 (V) Includes information about the college bound scholarship
4 program; and

5 ~~((D))~~ (F) By the end of the twelfth grade, a current resume or
6 activity log that provides a written compilation of the student's
7 education, any work experience, and any community service and how the
8 school district has recognized the community service pursuant to RCW
9 28A.320.193.

10 (d) Any decision on whether a student has met the state board's
11 high school graduation requirements for a high school and beyond plan
12 shall remain at the local level. Effective with the graduating class
13 of 2015, the state board of education may not establish a requirement
14 for students to complete a culminating project for graduation. A
15 district may establish additional, local requirements for a high
16 school and beyond plan to serve the needs and interests of its
17 students and the purposes of this section.

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

32 (ii) School districts may apply to the state board of education
33 for a waiver to implement the career and college ready graduation
34 requirement proposal beginning with the graduating class of 2020 or
35 2021 instead of the graduating class of 2019. In the application, a
36 school district must describe why the waiver is being requested, the
37 specific impediments preventing timely implementation, and efforts
38 that will be taken to achieve implementation with the graduating
39 class proposed under the waiver. The state board of education shall
40 grant a waiver under this subsection (1)(e) to an applying school

1 district at the next subsequent meeting of the board after receiving
2 an application.

3 (iii) A school district must update the high school and beyond
4 plans for each student who has not earned a score of level 3 or level
5 4 on the middle school mathematics assessment identified in RCW
6 28A.655.070 by ninth grade, to ensure that the student takes a
7 mathematics course in both ninth and tenth grades. This course may
8 include career and technical education equivalencies in mathematics
9 adopted pursuant to RCW 28A.230.097.

10 (2)(a) In recognition of the statutory authority of the state
11 board of education to establish and enforce minimum high school
12 graduation requirements, the state board shall periodically
13 reevaluate the graduation requirements and shall report such findings
14 to the legislature in a timely manner as determined by the state
15 board.

16 (b) The state board shall reevaluate the graduation requirements
17 for students enrolled in vocationally intensive and rigorous career
18 and technical education programs, particularly those programs that
19 lead to a certificate or credential that is state or nationally
20 recognized. The purpose of the evaluation is to ensure that students
21 enrolled in these programs have sufficient opportunity to earn a
22 certificate of academic achievement, complete the program and earn
23 the program's certificate or credential, and complete other state and
24 local graduation requirements.

25 (c) The state board shall forward any proposed changes to the
26 high school graduation requirements to the education committees of
27 the legislature for review. The legislature shall have the
28 opportunity to act during a regular legislative session before the
29 changes are adopted through administrative rule by the state board.
30 Changes that have a fiscal impact on school districts, as identified
31 by a fiscal analysis prepared by the office of the superintendent of
32 public instruction, shall take effect only if formally authorized and
33 funded by the legislature through the omnibus appropriations act or
34 other enacted legislation.

35 (3) Pursuant to any requirement for instruction in languages
36 other than English established by the state board of education or a
37 local school district, or both, for purposes of high school
38 graduation, students who receive instruction in American sign
39 language or one or more American Indian languages shall be considered
40 to have satisfied the state or local school district graduation

1 requirement for instruction in one or more languages other than
2 English.

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

7 (a) The course was taken with high school students, if the
8 academic level of the course exceeds the requirements for seventh and
9 eighth grade classes, and the student has successfully passed by
10 completing the same course requirements and examinations as the high
11 school students enrolled in the class; or

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

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

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

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

26 Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this
27 specific purpose, the office of the superintendent of public
28 instruction shall work with school districts, including teachers,
29 principals, and school counselors, educational service districts, the
30 Washington state school directors' association, institutions of
31 higher education as defined in RCW 28B.10.016, students, and parents
32 and guardians to identify best practices for high school and beyond
33 plans that districts and schools may employ when complying with high
34 school and beyond plan requirements adopted in accordance with RCW
35 28A.230.090. The identified best practices, which must consider
36 differences in enrollment and other factors that distinguish
37 districts from one another, must be posted on the web site of the

1 office of the superintendent of public instruction by September 1,
2 2019, and may be revised periodically as necessary.

--- END ---