

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SENATE BILL 5088**

Chapter 180, Laws of 2019

66th Legislature  
2019 Regular Session

HIGH SCHOOL COMPUTER SCIENCE COURSES--AVAILABILITY--COMPETENCY  
TESTING

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 28, 2019

Passed by the Senate April 19, 2019  
Yeas 46 Nays 0

KAREN KEISER

**President of the Senate**

Passed by the House April 9, 2019  
Yeas 96 Nays 1

FRANK CHOPP

**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Approved April 29, 2019 2:43 PM

JAY INSLEE

**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Brad Hendrickson, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SENATE BILL 5088** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

BRAD HENDRICKSON

**Secretary**

FILED

April 30, 2019

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SENATE BILL 5088**

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AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2019 Regular Session

**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2019 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Wellman, Palumbo, and Mullet

Prefiled 01/07/19. Read first time 01/14/19. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to the awarding of credits for computer science;  
2 amending RCW 28A.230.100; adding a new section to chapter 28A.230  
3 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes the benefit of  
6 computer science and computational thinking in education, not only  
7 with respect to educational development, but also in cultivating the  
8 skills needed to compete and excel in our state's career landscape.  
9 By providing more opportunities to take courses and earn credit in  
10 computer science, Washington can better prepare students to excel  
11 both in school and after graduation.

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

14 (1) Beginning no later than the 2022-23 school year, each school  
15 district that operates a high school must, at a minimum, provide an  
16 opportunity to access an elective computer science course that is  
17 available to all high school students. School districts are  
18 encouraged to consider community-based or public-private partnerships  
19 in establishing and administering a course, but any course offered in

1 accordance with this section must be aligned to the state learning  
2 standards for computer science or mathematics.

3 (2) In accordance with the requirements of this section,  
4 beginning in the 2019-20 school year, school districts may award  
5 academic credit for computer science to students based on student  
6 completion of a competency examination that is aligned with the state  
7 learning standards for computer science or mathematics and course  
8 equivalency requirements adopted by the office of the superintendent  
9 of public instruction to implement this section. Each school district  
10 board of directors in districts that award credit under this  
11 subsection shall develop a written policy for awarding such credit  
12 that includes:

13 (a) A course equivalency approval procedure;

14 (b) Procedures for awarding competency-based credit for skills  
15 learned partially or wholly outside of a course; and

16 (c) An approval process for computer science courses taken before  
17 attending high school under RCW 28A.230.090 (4) and (5).

18 (3) Prior to the use of any competency examination under this  
19 section that may be used to award academic credit to students, the  
20 office of the superintendent of public instruction must review the  
21 examination to ensure its alignment with:

22 (a) The state learning standards for computer science or  
23 mathematics; and

24 (b) Course equivalency requirements adopted by the office of the  
25 superintendent of public instruction to implement this section.

26 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.230.100 and 2012 c 229 s 504 are each amended to  
27 read as follows:

28 (1) The superintendent of public instruction, in consultation  
29 with the student achievement council, the state board for community  
30 and technical colleges, and the workforce training and education  
31 coordinating board, shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 34.05 RCW,  
32 to implement the course requirements set forth in RCW 28A.230.090.  
33 The rules shall include, as the superintendent deems necessary,  
34 granting equivalencies for and temporary exemptions from the course  
35 requirements in RCW 28A.230.090 and special alterations of the course  
36 requirements in RCW 28A.230.090. In developing such rules the  
37 superintendent shall recognize the relevance of vocational and  
38 applied courses and allow such courses to fulfill in whole or in part  
39 the courses required for graduation in RCW 28A.230.090, as determined

1 by the high school or school district in accordance with RCW  
2 28A.230.097.

3 (2) The rules ((may)) created under subsection (1) of this  
4 section must include provisions for:

5 (a) Competency testing in lieu of such courses required for  
6 graduation in RCW 28A.230.090 ((or));

7 (b) Competency testing in lieu of electives, including computer  
8 science electives created under section 2 of this act, provided  
9 applicable state learning standards and equivalency requirements are  
10 met; and

11 (c) Demonstration of specific skill proficiency or understanding  
12 of concepts through work or experience.

Passed by the Senate April 19, 2019.

Passed by the House April 9, 2019.

Approved by the Governor April 29, 2019.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 30, 2019.

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