



## Earning a Diploma: State Graduation Requirements

Our state graduation requirements are designed to ensure students have a solid foundation of reading, writing, math and science skills, no matter the path they choose after high school. We encourage families and students to meet regularly with their school counselors to ensure they are on track for graduation.

To be eligible to graduate in Washington, high school students must: pass specific state exams, earn all required state and local credits, and successfully complete a high school and beyond plan and a culminating project. The assessment requirements are as follows:

- **Through the class of 2012:** Students must pass a state exam in **reading** and **writing**, a state-approved alternative or an assessment for students in special education. Students can meet the state's **math** requirement by passing a high school math exam **OR** by earning two math credits after 10<sup>th</sup> grade.
- **Classes of 2013 and 2014:** Students must pass a state exam in **reading** and **writing** and one end-of-course exam in **math**, state-approved alternatives or assessments for students in special education.
- **Class of 2015 and beyond:** Students must pass a state exam in **reading** and **writing**, and end-of-course exams in **algebra 1**, **geometry** and **biology**, state-approved alternatives or assessments for students in special education.

For more information, see the chart below, speak to your counselor or visit: [www.k12.wa.us/GraduationRequirements](http://www.k12.wa.us/GraduationRequirements).

**NOTE:** Graduating class is determined when a student first enters ninth grade

Through Class of 2012	Classes of 2013 and 2014	Class of 2015 and Beyond
<p><b>READING AND WRITING</b>  <b>Pass</b> reading and writing HS WASL/HSPE or assessment for students in special education.                      —OR—  <b>Pass</b> state-approved alternatives.*</p>	<p><b>READING AND WRITING</b>  <b>Pass</b> reading and writing HSPE or assessment for students in special education.                      —OR—  <b>Pass</b> state-approved alternatives.*</p>	<p><b>READING AND WRITING</b>  <b>Pass</b> reading and writing HSPE or assessment for students in special education.                      —OR—  <b>Pass</b> state-approved alternatives.*</p>
<p><b>MATH</b>  <b>Pass</b> math high school WASL/HSPE, one end-of-course exam or assessment for students in special education.                      —OR—  <b>Pass</b> state-approved alternative.*                      —OR—  <b>Earn</b> two math credits (or career and technical course equivalent) after 10<sup>th</sup> grade.*</p>	<p><b>MATH</b>  <b>Pass</b> one math end-of-course exam (algebra 1 or geometry) or assessment for students in special education.                      —OR—  <b>Pass</b> state-approved alternative.*</p>	<p><b>MATH</b>  <b>Pass</b> two math end-of-course exams or assessment for students in special education.                      —OR—  <b>Pass</b> state-approved alternative.*</p>
	<p><b>SCIENCE</b>                      No longer required for students in these two graduating classes (as signed into law June 7, 2011)</p>	<p><b>SCIENCE</b>  <b>Pass</b> biology end-of-course exam or assessment for students in special education.                      —OR—  <b>Pass</b> state-approved alternative.*</p>
<p><b>OTHER REQUIREMENTS</b>  <b>Meet</b> all other state and school district graduation requirements: Culminating Project, High School and Beyond Plan and local credit requirements.</p>	<p><b>OTHER REQUIREMENTS</b>  <b>Meet</b> all other state and school district graduation requirements: Culminating Project, High School and Beyond Plan and local credit requirements.</p>	<p><b>OTHER REQUIREMENTS</b>  <b>Meet</b> all other state and school district graduation requirements: Culminating Project, High School and Beyond Plan and local credit requirements.</p>

\* Students must take each high school state exam at least once before using a state-approved alternative. Different rules apply for the Collection of Evidence.

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