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Washington Office of Superintendent of  
**PUBLIC INSTRUCTION**  
Chris Reykdal, Superintendent

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## BULLETIN NO. 001-23 SECONDARY EDUCATION AND PATHWAY PREPARATION

TO: Educational Service District Superintendents  
School District Superintendents  
School District Business Managers  
High School Building Principals  
High School Registrars

FROM: Chris Reykdal, Superintendent of Public Instruction

RE: Bridge to College Math and English Courses – Invitation to Register for 2023–24  
School Year

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## PURPOSE/BACKGROUND

This bulletin updates expectations for districts currently offering Bridge to College courses and provides information for districts considering Bridge to College. These transition courses in mathematics and English are designed to provide high school seniors not yet ready for college-level work a targeted opportunity to prepare for success in those courses.

### Registration Process

Registration will open in early February on the [OSPI Bridge to College web page](#). To ensure adequate professional learning support for Bridge to College teachers, districts are strongly encouraged to **complete the registration process by June 1** (even if districts are unsure about specific teacher assignments). After the new school year is fully underway, districts will be sent an invoice for the professional development fee (see below) for each teacher who is registered to teach the Bridge to College course in 2023–24.

## Professional Development

Teachers new to Bridge to College are required to attend the initial three-day Summer Institute, which will take place on August 8–10, 2023. While in-person attendance is strongly recommended, a virtual format of the training is available for those who cannot attend in person. In addition, throughout the year new teachers are required to attend in-person communities of practice that provide ongoing professional development to deepen their understanding of the curriculum and assessments. This ongoing learning offers a comprehensive, sustained, job-embedded, and collaborative approach to improve student performance and college readiness. ([RCW 28A.415.430](#)) Teachers report that this professional learning is key for course implementation and impacts their practice holistically.

We offer a variety of options to ensure returning teachers maintain their Bridge to College eligibility. These choices, including the in-person Summer Institute to be held August 9–10, 2023, are shared with teachers annually and posted to the [Bridge to College web page](#).

## Annual Per Teacher Registration Fees

The Bridge to College courses (math and ELA) are fully self-supporting. The fees collected support the professional development infrastructure that is essential to the success of the Bridge to College courses and the continuous updates and improvement to the course instructional and assessment materials provided to the teachers.

The annual cost is \$1,750 for teachers who are new to Bridge to College and \$750 for returning teachers. Additionally, districts are responsible for providing substitute coverage (if necessary) to allow teachers to complete their professional learning during the school year.

### **\$1,750 NEW** Bridge to College teacher fee covers:

- Registration and accommodations (two nights) for the required Summer Institute on August 8–10, 2023.
- Up to 20 hours of required professional learning meetings and/or curriculum workshops with teachers' assigned Community of Practice during the school year facilitated by Bridge to College Course Leadership, as a combination of in-person or virtual formats (sub costs for individual teachers not included).
- Online access to all curriculum materials (updated annually), ongoing support, and technical assistance from Bridge to College teacher leaders.

### **\$750 RETURNING** Bridge to College teacher fee covers:

- Registration and accommodations (one night) for the in-person Summer Institute on August 9–10, 2023, designed for experienced Bridge to College teachers and fulfilling the requirement for continuing professional learning to maintain eligibility to teach the course.

- Online access to all curriculum and assessment materials (updated annually), as well as ongoing support, and technical assistance from Bridge to College teacher leaders.
- Access to a variety of other in-person and online professional learning opportunities required for teachers to retain their eligibility to teach Bridge to College.

## Who can/should enroll in Bridge to College Courses?

Please see the [OSPI Bridge to College web page](#).

### Benefits of Offering the Courses

**English:** Students who earn a B in one semester of the course qualify for placement into English 101 at any community college in Washington and at Eastern Washington University. All public baccalaureate institutions recognize BTCE as a senior English credit. Additionally, earning 1.0 credit in Bridge to College English (BTCE) fulfills the [Transition Course Graduation Pathway](#) for English.

**Math:** Students who earn a B in the course qualify for placement into Math in Society (MATH 107) or Statistics (MATH 146) at any community college in Washington and at Eastern Washington University. All public baccalaureate institutions recognize Bridge to College Math (BTCM) as a senior-year quantitative course that satisfies one of the College Academic Distribution Requirements (CADRs). Additionally, earning 1.0 credit in BTCM fulfills the [Transition Course Graduation Pathway](#) for mathematics.

For both courses, the use of the state course code is necessary to qualify as a graduation pathway or to be used for college placement. To be eligible to use the code, the teacher of the course must meet the professional learning expectations for Bridge to College (see Professional Development requirements above) and must follow statewide Bridge to College guidance regarding offering the course as described in the instructional materials.

[The BERC Group evaluations](#) of Bridge to College provide evidence that these courses are an effective way to increase the number of students who are prepared for college when they leave high school.

## INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

For questions regarding this bulletin, please contact Arlene Crum for Bridge to College Math, at 360-789-7143 or email [arlene.crum@k12.wa.us](mailto:arlene.crum@k12.wa.us), or Heidi Aijala for Bridge to College English, at 360-972-4044 or email [heidi.aijala@k12.wa.us](mailto:heidi.aijala@k12.wa.us). The OSPI TTY number is 360-664-3631.

This bulletin is also available on the [Bulletins](#) page of the OSPI website.

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Deputy Superintendent

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