

FAQ for High School and Beyond Plan

1. What is the High School and Beyond Plan?

The High School and Beyond Plan is a state graduation requirement. Each student must have a High School and Beyond Plan (HSBP) to guide the student's high school experience and prepare the student for postsecondary education or training and career (ESHB 2224, Chapter 31, Laws of 2017). Students start their plan in seventh or eighth grade and then continue to revise them throughout high school to accommodate changing interests or educational and career goals.

2. What is the purpose of the High School and Beyond Plan?

The High School and Beyond Plan may provide students with the opportunity to explore their own skills and interests and discover potential career and educational options. This personalized plan helps to connect career interests with courses and courses with career pathways or college majors. The plan helps students identify the steps needed to reach postsecondary goals. Students should be encouraged to take ownership over their high school experience and choose coursework and activities that are relevant to their goals. The High School and Beyond Plan also provides a means of tracking requirements for graduation from high school and entry into postsecondary programs and careers.

3. What are the elements of a High School and Beyond Plan?

A law passed in 2017 ([ESHB 2224, Chapter 31, Laws of 2017](#)) that specifies elements that all High School and Beyond Plans must contain. The required elements include the following:

- an identification of career goals, aided by a skills and interest assessment;
- an identification of educational goals;
- a four-year plan for course-taking that fulfills state and local graduation requirements and aligns with the student's career and educational goals;
- and by the end of twelfth grade, a current resume or activity log that provides a written compilation of the student's education, any work experience, and any community service and how the school district recognized the community service.

In addition the High School and Beyond Plan must also:

- be revised as necessary for changing interests, goals, and needs of the student.
- include a personalized pathway course plan that aligns with graduation requirements and post-high school plans.
- identify available interventions and academic support, courses, or both, that enable students who have not met the high school graduation assessment standards to do so.
- be advised for an 8th grade student who has not learned a Level 3 on middle school state assessment in math, the student must take a math course in both 9th and 10th grades.
- for a student who takes a career and technical education (CTE) course that has been determined to be equivalent to an academic core course (a CTE course equivalency), include a record of a certificate of CTE course completion. The academic course is recorded on the students transcript and the record that the student completed a CTE course is part of the High School and Beyond Plan.
- for students subject to the 24-Credit Graduation Requirements (the Class of 2019 and beyond, or, for districts that have a waiver to delay implementation, the Class of 2020 or 2021 and beyond), guide a student's Personalized Pathway Requirement. A Personalized Pathway is a

locally determined body of coursework that is deemed necessary to attain the post-secondary career or educational goals chosen by the student. Within the 24-credit graduation requirement framework, the Personalized Pathway Requirements are three flexible credits that a chosen by student that help prepare the student for specific education or career goals.

4. When does the High School and Beyond Plan begin?

A High School and Beyond Plan must be initiated for each student during the seventh or eighth grade, and updated each year until the student graduates. In preparation for that initiation, each student must first be administered a career interest and skills inventory in 7th or 8th grade.

5. What state resources are available to assist with development of the High School & Beyond Plan?

- a. The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction has resources about graduation requirements at <http://www.k12.wa.us/GraduationRequirements/default.aspx>. Career Guidance WA at <http://www.k12.wa.us/SecondaryEducation/CareerCollegeReadiness/default.aspx> has a series of guidance curriculum for grades 6-12 with templates and planning tools for developing a school-wide career and college readiness program. Templates for the High School and Beyond Plan are included and are in multiple languages.
- b. Career Interest Inventory and Postsecondary Options can be found at: Career Bridge, <http://www.careerbridge.wa.gov/>, from WA Workforce Training & Education Coordinating Board
- c. State Board of Education describes a high quality High School and Beyond Plan. <http://www.sbe.wa.gov/graduation.php>
- d. Online digital tool: A no or low-cost digital tool developed by WSIPC's My School Data for the Skyward is available through school district student information systems. The electronic platform used the format in the OSPI Career Guidance WA High School and Beyond Plan template to provide career interest inventory, postsecondary choices, pre-populated 4-year course plan with state assessments, and captures activities, experiences, resume, and academic plans, with the ability to upload other documents. Parent access and school counselor tracking tools are also a part of this digital format, that can be translated into 200 languages. This digital plan can follow students who transfer to other middle and high schools in our state.