



# GRADE 10

## Your Child's Progress

### Learning goals for the 2011-12 school year

#### Learning Standards: **Grade 10**

Your 10th-grade student has specific learning goals in every subject. Washington has learning standards that define the knowledge and skills students should gain in each subject starting with kindergarten. Each teacher is responsible not only for the learning standards in the grade they are currently teaching, but also for those in previous grades. Below are examples of key learning goals for 10th grade. To learn more about our state learning standards, go to: [www.k12.wa.us/standards](http://www.k12.wa.us/standards).

#### WRITING



- Writes for a variety of audiences and purposes, including persuading and explaining
- Analyzes ideas, selects a manageable topic and elaborates using specific, relevant details and/or examples
- Knows and applies spelling, punctuation, capitalization, grammar and paragraphing appropriate to the grade level

#### MATH (GEOMETRY)



- Formalizes reasoning skills from previous grades and solidifies understanding of what it means to prove a geometric statement mathematically
- Knows and proves theorems about two- and three-dimensional geometric figures, both formally and informally
- Extends the problem-solving practices developed in earlier grades and applies them to problems related to mathematical and applied situations

#### READING



- Shows awareness of vocabulary and comprehension strategies used, especially when encountering difficult text and/or reading for a specific purpose
- Shows greater ability to make connections and adjust understandings as knowledge is gained
- Continues to increase academic vocabulary

#### SCIENCE



- Extends and refines understanding of the nature of inquiry and ability to formulate questions, propose hypotheses, and design, conduct and report on investigations
- Calculates average speed, velocity and acceleration, and develops understanding of forces due to gravitational and electrical attraction
- Learns the fundamental concepts of energy

#### Washington State Learning Goals

The four state learning goals below provided the foundation for the development of the Essential Academic Learning Requirements (EALRs), which help measure progress and accountability:

1. Read with comprehension, write with skill and communicate effectively and responsibly in a variety of ways and settings
2. Know and apply core concepts and principles of math, science, the arts, social studies, health and fitness
3. Think analytically, logically and creatively, and integrate experience and knowledge to form reasoned judgments and solve problems
4. Understand the importance of work and how performance, effort and decisions directly affect future career and educational opportunities



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# State Testing in Washington: High School

Most students in 10th grade and above take the High School Proficiency Exam (HSPE). About one percent of students participate in the Washington Alternate Assessment System (WAAS), an equally challenging program for some students in special education.

The HSPE name conveys the goal of the test: to *measure a student's proficiency of basic skills*. Students in the class of 2014 must pass reading, writing and math to be eligible for a diploma. The state began end-of-course testing in algebra 1 and geometry in spring 2011, and will debut an end-of-course biology exam in spring 2012.

Please visit [www.WAtesting.com](http://www.WAtesting.com) to learn more about state testing.

## State Testing FAQ

### What types of questions appear on state tests?

The reading, math and science HSPE includes multiple-choice and short-answer questions. Four-point essay questions have been eliminated on reading, math and science tests. This change allows students to show they are able to solve the problems, while not being scored on their writing ability. The HSPE writing test requires students to answer to questions.

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## State Testing and Reporting Timeline

- March 13-14:** Writing HSPE
- March 15:** Reading HSPE
- End of Year:** Biology EOC
- Jan/Feb:** Math EOC retakes
- End of Year:** Math EOCs
- Early June:** HSPE results released for high school students
- Aug. 14-16:** Reading & Writing (summer session)

## The Move to Online Testing

Washington is not the first state to make the move to online testing, but it is among the leaders. The state's goal is for the majority of elementary and middle school grades in reading, math and science to be tested via computers in all school districts by 2014.

In spring 2012, the MSP will be given online in grades 3-8, with third graders being offered the opportunity for the first time. Last year, fourth and fifth graders began testing online in reading and math. Feasibility studies are being conducted for online testing in high school and fourth- and seventh-grade writing.

## Who Gets Tested and When?

The federal No Child Left Behind Act requires yearly testing of students in grades 3-8 and 10 in reading and math, and in three grades in science (grades 5, 8 and 10 in Washington). Our state also tests students in writing (grades 4, 7 and 10). Our state has also moved to online testing.

Grade	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
Reading	✓ ■	✓ ■	✓ ■	✓ ■	✓ ■	✓ ■	NT	✓	<i>Necessary only if student has not met state assessment graduation requirement.</i>	
Math	✓ ■	✓ ■	✓ ■	✓ ■	✓ ■	✓ ■	✓	✓		
Writing		✓			✓		NT	✓		
Science			✓ ■			✓ ■	✓	✓		

■ Offered online in spring 2012

NT Subject not tested (9th graders only take end-of-course exams in math and science, if they are in those specific courses)

## What Does a HSPE Score Mean?

Students receive a score for each HSPE test taken. Scores are based on how an individual student performed, so you won't find percentiles often provided by other standardized tests. Scores fall into one of four levels:

- Level 4 Exceeds State Standards:** Represents advanced mastery of skills and knowledge in a subject.
- Level 3 Meets State Standards:** Represents mastery of skills and knowledge in a subject.
- Level 2 Below State Standard:** Represents some mastery of skills and knowledge in a subject.
- Level 1 Well-Below State Standard:** Represents little to no mastery of skills and knowledge in a subject.



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## For more information

OSPI: [www.k12.wa.us](http://www.k12.wa.us)

MSP/HSPE: [www.WAtesting.com](http://www.WAtesting.com)

Questions: [StateTesting@k12.wa.us](mailto:StateTesting@k12.wa.us)