



GRADE 4

Your Child's Progress

Learning standards for the 2018–19 school year

Washington has K–12 learning standards that define the knowledge and skills every student needs to be prepared for post-secondary pathways, careers, and civic engagement when they complete high school.

Below are brief examples of Washington's key learning goals for 4th grade. For more complete information, visit:

www.YourChildsProgress.com

The Arts

Use the principles of choreography; perform music; understand how dialogue is used in scripts; create and explain artwork.

Educational Technology

Compare characteristics of native people from several regions of Washington using selected websites.

English Language Arts (ELA)

Read and discuss a variety of literary and nonfiction texts; analyze ideas, select topics, and elaborate while writing.

Health and Physical Education

Set goals for healthy habits and social skills; understand consequences of behaviors.

Math

Develop an understanding of equivalent fractions and addition and subtraction of fractions.

Science

Explore wave patterns; analyze and interpret data from maps; learn how external features support plants and animals.

Social Studies

Explore Washington's past and present, including geography, economy, and government today; examine local, regional, and state-wide issues and events, analyzing them from multiple perspectives.

Washington State Learning Goals

The [Washington State Legislature](http://www.wa.gov) has established four learning goals to provide the foundation for the development of all academic learning standards in the state:

1. Read with comprehension, write effectively, and communicate successfully in a variety of ways and settings and with a variety of audiences;
2. Know and apply the core concepts and principles of mathematics; social, physical, and life sciences; civics and history, including different cultures and participation in representative government; geography; the arts; and health and fitness;
3. Think analytically, logically, and creatively, and to integrate technology literacy and fluency as well as different experiences and knowledge to form reasoned judgments and solve problems; and
4. Understand the importance of work and finance and how performance, effort, and decisions directly affect future career and educational opportunities.

Washington also has learning standards in **Integrated Environment and Sustainability**, **World Languages**, **Career and Technical Education** (frameworks and industry standards for middle and high school), **English Language Proficiency** (in ELA, math, and science), as well as guidelines for **Early Learning** (birth–3rd grade) that complement a well-rounded education for all students.

Special education: Students who receive services have accommodations, modifications, and supports identified in their individual education plans.

English learners: Students who are learning to speak English have language proficiency standards that help teachers plan instruction across subjects that is appropriate to each student's level of language development.



Office of Superintendent
of Public Instruction
www.k12.wa.us

State Testing in Washington

Federal law requires yearly testing of students in grades 3–8 and once in high school in English language arts (ELA) and math, and in grades 5 and 8 and once in high school in science. Washington state requires students to pass specific tests to be eligible to graduate from high school. Most students in grades 3–8 will take the **Smarter Balanced Assessments** in ELA and math, and the Washington Comprehensive Assessment of Science (**WCAS**) in grades 5 and 8. These tests may be taken with or without tools, supports, or accommodations.

Some students with significant cognitive disabilities may take the state alternate assessment, the Washington Access to Instruction & Measurement (**WA-AIM**) in ELA, math, and science if documented in the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP).

State testing should *never* be the sole judge of a student's academic skills and knowledge. If you have questions about your child's learning, please contact your child's teacher or school.

Students learning to speak English in grades K–12 will take the English Language Proficiency Assessment for the 21st Century (**ELPA21**). This assessment measures English language skills and annual growth in reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Students who receive a proficiency level of Emerging or Progressing on ELPA21 qualify to receive English language program support services.

Tests by Grade Level for 2018–19

	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
ELA				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Math				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Science						✓			✓

Notes:

- The ELPA21 is necessary for students learning to speak English. Students test to qualify to receive support. They continue to test annually until they reach English language proficiency.
- Other tests are required, but districts have some flexibility in choosing the tests and in deciding when students take them. The tests include second grade reading and OSPI-developed assessments in social studies, the arts, health, physical education, and educational technology. More information can be found in the subject area links on the [OSPI Assessment](http://www.k12.wa.us/assessment/default.aspx) web site: <http://www.k12.wa.us/assessment/default.aspx>.
- School districts also may require additional tests. Check with your local district for more details.

State Testing FAQ

Why does my child need to take state tests?

State testing is required by state and federal laws. It isn't the only way to find out how a student is doing in school, but it might help identify learning issues sooner rather than later.

In high school, passing state tests or approved alternatives shows students have a solid foundation of academic skills, no matter where they went to school or what they choose to do after they graduate.

May I view my child's test?

For test security reasons, students may not discuss the content of state tests with their friends and family. However, families are welcome to review their child's tests after they are scored.

State Testing Windows

Testing is scheduled within the windows listed below. Contact your local school district to find out which dates your child will be testing.

STATE TESTING WINDOWS

Oct 15–Apr 5: WA-AIM

Jan 28–Mar 22: ELPA21

Mar 4–Jun 7: Smarter Balanced

OSPI provides score reports for all tests listed above. Contact your local school district for more information.

What Does a State Test Score Mean?

- Level 4 Exceeds Achievement Standard:**
Demonstrates advanced progress toward mastery of the knowledge and skills in a subject.
- Level 3 Meets Achievement Standard:**
Demonstrates progress toward mastery of the knowledge and skills in a subject.
- Level 2 Nearly Meets Achievement Standard:**
May require further development to demonstrate the knowledge and skills in a subject.
- Level 1 Does Not Meet Achievement Standard:**
Needs substantial improvement to demonstrate the knowledge and skills in a subject.