



Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
Chris Reykdal, State Superintendent

*All students prepared
for post-secondary pathways,
careers, & civic engagement.*

May 23, 2019

() Action Required

(X) Informational

BULLETIN NO. 029-19 Legal Services

TO: Educational Service District Superintendents
School District Superintendents
School District Business Managers

FROM: Chris Reykdal, Superintendent of Public Instruction

RE: Economy and Efficiency Waivers

CONTACT: Kristin Murphy, Waiver Coordinator
360-725-6133, kristin.murphy@k12.wa.us

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction may grant waivers from the basic education requirement of a 180-day school year to school districts that propose to operate one or more schools on a flexible calendar for purposes of economy and efficiency (RCW 28A.150.222). School districts still must offer minimum instructional hours as required under RCW 28A.150.220.

School districts with less than 500 students are eligible to apply for the Economy and Efficiency 180-day Waiver. Economy and Efficiency Waivers (formerly known as "Option Two" waivers) may be granted to ten (10) or fewer school districts with student populations of less than 500 students. Two of the ten waivers must be reserved for school districts with student populations of less than 150 students. Waivers may be granted for up to three years. The criteria to be utilized for evaluating requests for Economy and Efficiency Waivers is stated in WAC 180-18-065.

Effective May 7, 2019, the state statute related to Economy and Efficiency Waivers was changed to increase the number of available waivers from five to ten. Currently, five Economy and Efficiency Waiver spots are available. The other five spots were filled prior to the statute change and will remain in place until their scheduled expiration.

ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY WAIVER REVIEW AND DECISION TIMELINE FOR 2019–20 SCHOOL YEAR

For eligible school districts interested in applying for the Economy and Efficiency waiver and planning to implement the change for the upcoming 2019–20 school year, the following is the review and decision timeline:

- Applications received by May 31, 2019, will have a decision issued by June 14, 2019.
- Applications received June 1–14, 2019, will have a decision issued by June 28, 2019.
- Applications received on or after June 15, 2019, will follow the regular waiver decision schedule. (For example, applications received by July 5, 2019, will have a decision issued by August 9, 2019; applications received by August 5, 2019, will have a decision by September 10, 2019.)

Information about 180-Day School Year Waivers, including the Economy and Efficiency Waiver application, can be found on the [OSPI webpage](#).

INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

For questions regarding this bulletin, please contact Kristin Murphy, Waiver Coordinator, at 360-725-6133 or email kristin.murphy@k12.wa.us. The OSPI TTY number is 360-664-3631.

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

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CR:km