Guidelines for Today’s Office Hour
Graduation Requirement Emergency Waiver (GREW) Updates for 2022-2023

A quick overview of Graduation Requirement considerations and the GREW for the 2022-2023 school year, and then Q&A

Use the Chat for questions – we’ll answer as many as possible each week, some as we go, some at the end...

Please practice patience and grace – we may not yet have ALL the answers
The purpose of a high school diploma is to declare that a student is ready for success in postsecondary education, gainful employment, and citizenship, and is equipped with the skills to be a lifelong learner. (RCW 28A.230.090)
24-Credit Subject Area Requirements: Foundational (Core) and Elective (Flexible) Credits

24 TOTAL CREDITS

17 FOUNDATIONAL

- ENGLISH
- SCIENCE
- MATH
- SOCIAL STUDIES
- HEALTH & FITNESS
- CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

7 ELECTIVES

- PERSONALIZED PATHWAY (PPR)*
- ARTS
- GLOBAL LANGUAGE

* Personalized Pathway Requirements (PPR) are electives in any subject that align with the student’s interests and their High School and Beyond Plan. The arts and world language credits can be replaced with other electives, based on the student’s plan.
Graduation Pathway Options

HB 1599 (2019) established graduation pathway options that replaced the system of graduation assessments and approved alternatives.

- State Assessment
- Dual Credit Courses
- AP/IB/Cambridge Exams
- SAT/ACT College Entrance Exams
- Transition Courses
- Combinations
- ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery)
- Career and Technical Education Course Sequence

SBE Graduation Pathway web page
# 24-Credit Subject Area Requirements: Creating Flexibility for Credit Recovery and Completion

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Subject Area Requirements: College Academic Distribution Requirements (CADR)

“Core” credits

17 FOUNDATIONAL

“Flexible” credits

7 ELECTIVES

* Personalized Pathway Requirements (PPR) are electives in any subject that align with the student’s interests and their High School and Beyond Plan. The arts and world language credits can be replaced with other electives, based on the student’s plan.
Helping Students Meet Graduation Requirements

As we transition into the 2022-2023 school year, we know that schools have had the opportunities to build and refine continuous learning 2.0, and that students will have more robust student support with the expansion of in person learning for all students, therefore we anticipate fewer waivers.

The GREW should continue to be used only as a last resort for a student whose learning and ability to meet credit and graduation pathway requirements has been impacted by COVID-19.

What’s New for 2022-2023?

- GREW in place at the beginning of the school year.
  - Consideration to use a GREW should take place at the end of the year, after a good faith effort has been made to help the student meet all graduation requirements.

- Students receiving special services in the Class of 2022 and beyond no longer have access to a Certificate of Individual Achievement (CIA).
  - They need support provided to meet a Graduation Pathway requirement that is accessible for all students.
Current and New Graduation Requirement Emergency Waiver (GREW)

Current (for Class of 2022)
- Allows a waiver of up to two credits
  - May be flexible or core credits
  - No more than one credit in each core subject area
  - Students must earn a minimum of 20 credits to graduate
- Graduation pathways may be waived

New (for Class of 2023)
- Same as current rules

New (for Class of 2024)
- Allows a waiver of up to one credit
  - May be flexible or core credit
  - Students must earn at least 21 credits
- Graduation pathways may not be waived

- The waiver is a last resort to help students graduate after their education has been disrupted by the pandemic; districts may only consider the waiver after making a good faith effort to support students meeting all requirements.
- Districts must administer the waiver equitably and track data on the use of the waiver.
- Students receiving the waiver must also demonstrate preparation for their next steps after high school.
- Districts must advise students on the potential benefits and limitations of using the waiver; students planning on attending a college or university should be encouraged to contact their higher education institution on potential impacts.
Graduation Requirements Emergency Waiver (GREW)

- Rules adopted by the State Board of Education (SBE) in May 2022 extend the 2021-2022 emergency waiver program through the 2022-2023 school year for the class of 2023
  - Limitations on what can be waived
  - LEA (Local Educational Agencies) authority to waive requirements for individual students after good faith effort
  - LEA responsibilities for communicating with students and families
  - Student eligibility criteria
  - Equitable administration, records, and reporting
- LEAs apply to the SBE for the authority to grant emergency waivers
  - Previous approval will extend through 2022-2023

Permits the waiver of credits and graduation pathway requirements, as a last resort for helping students who graduate in 2022-2023

Good faith effort:
- Individual student advising
- Academic supports
- Mastery-based crediting
- More examples in WAC 180-111-020
What Can Be Waived with the GREW for 2022-2023?

- **Up to 2 credits**
  - May be ‘flexible’ credits or ‘core’ credits
  - No more than 1.0 credit in any ‘core’ subject area

- **Graduation pathway options**

**Before use of this waiver, LEAs should consider using their *existing authority* to waive local graduation requirements, the 2-credit waiver of flexible credits for individual student circumstances, and flexibility in the PE and Washington State History requirements.**

Students must earn at least a total of 20 credits.
LEA Responsibility for Communication

LEAs must consult with the student to advise:

▪ A waiver of only those **credits that are least applicable** to the student’s postsecondary plans
▪ The potential **benefits and limitations** that could result from receiving the waiver
▪ Options for the individual student to decline the waiver

**Limitation** considerations may include:
• College Academic Distribution Requirements (CADR)
• preparation for intended majors
• college course placement
• employment eligibility and readiness
Student Eligibility for the Waiver

- Reasonably expected to graduate during the 2022-2023 school year [WAC 180-111-020(5)]
- Demonstrated postsecondary preparation for their next steps as identified in their High School and Beyond Plan
- Experienced a significant disruption to their ability to complete graduation requirements due to the emergency

Demonstration of Postsecondary Preparation:
- Complete a graduation pathway option
- Earn college credit
- CTE preparatory course
- More examples in WAC 180-111-020

Can students who want to graduate early use the GREW? Students who want to graduate early must meet all credit and subject area requirements for their cohort. The GREW may be applied only to the graduation pathway requirement.
Equitable Administration, Records, and Reporting

- LEAs should disaggregate waiver data by student groups
- Maintain a record of ‘good faith efforts’, course(s) and graduation pathway waived, and how a student ‘demonstrated postsecondary preparation’
- Keep a record of waivers requested and not granted
- Report on the administration of the waiver to the SBE
- Report student level waiver data to OSPI
  - **Transcript**: Waived Credits = “V”
  - **Transcript**: Grad Pathways = “MET” or “WAIVED” if using a GREW
- EDS-Graduation Alternatives: Submit Approved Waivers for Grad Pathways
  - Window to submit in EDS will be early Feb. --> early Sept.

LEAs will examine data for disproportionality. If disproportionality is found, the school district/STEC will take appropriate action to ensure **equitable administration**.
Determining a Seniors’ Grad Status: Is a GREW “Needed”?

HSBP Is senior actually prepared for post-HS plan?

CREDITS Are all credits needed for post-HS plan taken?

GRAD PATHWAYS What relevant options are available this year?
Access to Graduation Pathways

SBA & WA-AIM
- Fall WA-AIM testing is for 11th & 12th
- Spring SBA + WA-AIM testing is for 10th-12th

AP/IB/ACT/SAT/ASVAB
- In-person access to other exams related to Grad Pathways should improve....

Course-Based Pathways
- Are there still course options that can help student meet a Grad Pathway and/or demonstrate preparation?
Confirming Postsecondary Preparation

Grad Pathway * Career Prep/Career Launch * CTE ‘Prep’ Course * Apprenticeship

Flexibility

Interests

Passion(s)

Problem(s)

Skills

Values

College Credit * Industry Cert. * 4-yr College Admissions * Math/ELA Placement

Leadership / Employability Skills

Summer Bridge/Transition * Scholarship
Advising Seniors in Making Graduation Decisions

Senior was...
- "reasonably expected to graduate"
- impacted by significant disruption to their education

School made...
- "good faith effort" to help student meet at least min. state graduation requirements

Senior is advised about:
1.) pros/cons to using a GREW,
2.) remaining credits and any grad pathway options needed for post-HS plan,
3.) ability to stay at HS longer

Senior can "demonstrate postsecondary preparation" & finish needed credits/grad pathway(s).... [by 8/31/23]

Senior decides to come back to finish grad reqs, prepare for post-HS plan and/or access services

Senior uses GREW for credit(s) and/or Graduation Pathway(s)
Sample Template

THANK YOU

Emergency Waiver of
Graduation Requirements for Class of 2020-2021

Student Name: ___________________________ Class of: _____________

☐ Student/Parent/Guardian consent to an evaluation for purposes of the 2020-2021 Emergency Waiver of graduation requirements explained in Chapter 180-111 WAC.

- Student was "reasonably expected to graduate" in compliance with WAC 180-115-020.
- School made "good faith effort" to provide access to needed courses/graduation pathways.
- Students' unique circumstances "substantially limit" their ability to complete courses/graduation pathways.
- Student/Parent/Guardian understands benefits and limitations of using this Emergency Waiver.
- Planned courses/pathways were consistent with post-high school goals as documented in student's High School and Beyond Plan, but not all were unsalable due to COVID-19 impacts.

Rationale for granting waiver (check all that apply):

☐ Limited or disrupted access to technology and/or academic supports
☐ Limited or disrupted access to specific courses needed to complete graduation pathway
☐ Limited or disrupted access to exam-based graduation pathways
☐ Personal and/or family health concerns
☐ Other COVID-19 related impacts

Credit Waiver
School districts may waive up to 2.0 additional credits under this emergency waiver, provided that students graduate with no fewer than 20 credits total. The emergency waiver may be applied to core or flexible credits as defined in WAC 180-51-230, provided that no more than one credit in each core subject area is waived. Prior to applying this waiver, all existing policy options to waive credits were considered and/or applied.

Number of Credits for Waiver Request

English ______ Math ______ Science ______ Social Studies ______ Arts ______ Health & Fitness ______

CTE ______ Elective ______ ☐ WA and WA State History

Notes:


Graduation Pathway Waiver
Completing a Graduation Pathway helps prepare students for what comes after high school. Students may waive this graduation requirement, even if they have met part of a Graduation Pathway as defined in WAC 180-51-220, once they demonstrate post-secondary preparedness for the next steps identified in their High School and Beyond Plan.

Updated 04.22.2021
Aligning Graduation Requirements to Washington's Profile of a Graduate: Feedback Opportunity

- Ways to engage:
  - Email us: Linda.Drake@k12.wa.us
  - Future listening sessions later this year
  - Upcoming Survey
  - Board Meetings (public comment times)
  - Invite us to your meetings to engage with your community

- Background Information on this initiative
More Information and Resources

- Permanent Rules (WAC 180-111)
- Emergency Rules FAQ
- Current vs New GREW
- Emergency Waiver Program application
  - (Form Package 956 in iGrants)
- WSSDA Model Resolution for the Emergency Waiver Program

Contact us!

SBE.wa.gov
facebook.com/washingtonSBE
Twitter: @wa_SBE
Email: sbe@k12.wa.us
Phone: 360-725-6025
Web updates: bit.ly/SBEupdates
This GREW Office Hour Will be Posted!

https://www.youtube.com/waOSPI

Give us about 2 weeks to caption and edit the video, but you’ll find it posted on OSPIs YouTube for future reference.
Thank you for coming! What Questions do you have?

Please use the chat box!