

OSPI Rule Making Public Hearings

Public Hearings and Comment Period for Rule Making

OSPI will hold a public hearing for proposed changes to rules, also known as Washington Administrative Code (WAC). Changes to the following WAC chapters and/or sections are being considered:

- 392-410-350, re: Seal of Biliteracy

The purpose of the hearing and comment period is to provide the public with an opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to the WAC/rule language. **Please review the proposed changes before submitting comments or testifying.**

Participating in the Public Hearing and Comment Period

Due to public health concerns caused by the COVID-19 virus, the public hearing will be held online, via Zoom. An in-person hearing (physical location) will not be available.

You can participate in the rules hearing and comment period by:

1. **Submitting written comments by September 21, 2021:**
 - Email: veronica.trapani@k12.wa.us (please include "Rules" in email subject line)
 - Mail: OSPI, Attn: Veronica Trapani, PO Box 47200, Olympia, WA 98504
2. **Attend the public hearing (webinar).** Please follow the link below to register to participate in the hearing. Once registered, you will be provided the hearing link.
 - [September 21, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.](#)
 - If you plan to testify during the hearing, please indicate that when you register. In order to allow all those interested a chance to testify, each person will have up to five (5) minutes to comment on the proposed WAC language changes during the hearing. Please ensure your comments are specific to the proposal.

For questions or concerns about World Languages or the Seal of Biliteracy, not related to the proposed rules changes, please contact Veronica Trapani, World Languages and International Education Program Supervisor for OSPI at: veronica.trapani@k12.wa.us or by phone: 360-725-6129, or TTY: 360-664-3631.

For questions about the rules hearing process, please contact the OSPI Rules Coordinator, Kristin Murphy, at Kristin.murphy@k12.wa.us.



WAC 392-410-350 Seal of biliteracy. (1) ~~((The authority for this section is RCW 28A.300.575, which authorizes the office of the superintendent of public instruction to adopt rules establishing criteria for award of the Washington state seal of biliteracy.~~

~~(2))~~ Graduating high school students must meet the following criteria to be awarded the Washington state seal of biliteracy:

(a) Students must demonstrate proficiency in English by ~~((i))~~ meeting the statewide minimum graduation requirements in English ~~((under WAC 180-51-066 through 180-51-068, as amended; and (ii) meeting the state standard on the reading and writing or English language arts assessments under RCW 28A.655.061))~~ in compliance with RCW 28A.655.250; and

(b) Students must demonstrate proficiency in one or more world languages ~~((through any one of the following methods:~~

~~(i) Passing a foreign language advanced placement examination with a score of three or higher;~~

~~(ii) Passing an International Baccalaureate examination with a score of four or higher;~~

~~(iii))~~, which includes heritage and tribal languages, by one of the following:

(i) Demonstrating intermediate-mid level proficiency or higher on all components in the world language based on the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) proficiency guidelines, using a national or international assessment((s)) approved by the office of the superintendent of public instruction ((for competency-based credits;

~~(iv) Qualifying for)); or~~

(ii) Earning four competency-based credits ((by demonstrating proficiency in the world language at intermediate-mid level or higher based on the ACTFL proficiency guidelines,)) according to the school district's policy and procedure for competency-based credits for world languages; or

~~((v))~~ (iii) Demonstrating proficiency in ((speaking, writing, and reading the world language through other national or international assessments approved by the office of superintendent of public instruction at a level comparable to intermediate-mid level or higher based on the ACTFL proficiency guidelines.

~~(3) "Foreign language" and "world language" as used in this section means a language other than English, and includes, without limitation, American sign language, Latin, and Native American or other indigenous languages or dialects))~~ tribal or Native American languages; or

(iv) Demonstrating intermediate-mid proficiency in American Sign Language (ASL); or

(v) Passing an International Baccalaureate examination with a score of four or higher; or

(vi) Passing a world language Advanced Placement examination with a score of three or higher.

(2) Proficiency in tribal or Native American languages under subsection (1)(b)(iii) of this section is determined by the sovereign tribal government.

(a) Students of Native American languages spoken by Washington's twenty-nine federally recognized tribes must be assessed by a first

peoples' first language, culture, and oral traditions certified educator under WAC 181-78A-700 and 181-79A-140.

(b) For Native and tribal languages that are outside of Washington's twenty-nine federally recognized tribes, consult the office of native education.