Waiver of High School Graduation Credits

The board seeks to provide all students with the opportunity to complete graduation requirements without discrimination and without disparate impact on groups of students. In so doing, the board acknowledges that circumstances may arise that prevent a student from earning all twenty-four credits required for high school graduation. Such circumstances may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Transfer during the last two years of high school from a school or other state with different graduation requirements; and
- Other circumstances that significantly impact a student’s ability to earn credits or their ability to learn over an extended period of time including but not limited to: homelessness, health condition, emergency, natural disaster, trauma, personal, or family crisis.

The superintendent’s designee will review the severity, duration, timing, and overall impact of each student’s circumstances before granting a waiver. Sufficient evidence of the circumstances will be required and the district also may request that the student or parent/guardian provide evidence in support of their waiver request.

The board delegates to the superintendent or his/her designee discretion to grant a waiver of a maximum of two elective credits required for graduation. The superintendent will develop procedures and a timeline for students to apply to waive credit. Students granted a waiver must still earn seventeen required subject credits (four English, three Math, three Science, three Social Studies, two Health and Fitness, one Arts, one Career and Technical Education) which may be by satisfactory demonstration of competence as provided by WAC 180-51-050.

Cross References: 2410 - High School Graduation Requirements
RCW 28A.230.090 High school graduation requirements or equivalencies—High school and beyond plans—Career and college ready graduation requirements and waivers—Reevaluation of graduation requirements—Language requirements—Credit for courses taken before attending high school—Postsecondary credit equivalencies

Legal References: RCW 28A.345.080 Model policy and procedure for granting waivers of credit for high school graduation.
WAC 180-51-068 State subject and credit requirements for high school graduation—Students entering the ninth grade on or after July 1, 2015.
WAC 180-51-050 High school credit—Definition.

2015 - April Policy Issue

Adoption Date: 3/8/17
Classification: Essential
Revised Dates: 3/11/20