

EQUIVALENCY CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES

I. Career and Technical Education Courses Provided by the District

The Board of Directors shall adopt core academic course equivalencies for high school career and technical courses, provided that the career and technical course has been reviewed and approved for equivalency credit by a district team appointed by the Superintendent, or designee.

The equivalency credit team shall include the Director of Secondary Education, the Director of Career and Technical Education, the high school principals, an instructor from each high school for the core academic subject area, an instructor from each high school for the appropriate career and technical course, and a counselor from each high school.

Career and technical courses approved for equivalency must meet the following criteria:

- A. Align with the state's essential academic learning requirements and grade level expectations; and
- B. Align with current industry standards, as evidenced in the curriculum frameworks. The local career and technical advisory committee shall certify that courses meet industry standards.

II. Elective Credit for Paid Work Experience

Students ages 16 and older may earn up to two elective high school credits through paid work experience according to the requirements contained in chapter 28A.600 RCW, which include preapproval of a proposal and assessment of the student's grade-level proficiency on the state financial education learning standards. Credits earned through this policy do not restrict students from earning additional credits through cooperative worksite learning (WAC 392-410-315) through mastery/competency policy.

Students who are legally eligible for paid employment may earn elective credit for paid work experience. Students who meet the requirements below as determined by the appropriate school official will be awarded one-half elective credit for each 180 hours of paid, verified work experience. Students may earn up to a maximum of two elective high school credits through this process.

In order to be eligible to receive elective credit, the student's High School and Beyond Plan must be updated to reflect the paid work experience. In addition, the student's paid work experience must be approved in advance and in writing by the school counselor, principal, or principal designee. Approval is contingent upon the student's submission of the following information:

- Identification of the work-based sponsor (employer) who will serve as the point of contact for the employer and participate in supervising the student during the student's employment;
- A student narrative describing how the paid work experience will enable the student to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to meet the goals of basic education, including those essential to understanding the importance of work and finance and how performance, effort, and decisions directly affect future career and educational opportunities as provided in RCW 28A.150.210(4); and
- A plan for demonstrating or otherwise assessing the student's:
 - Grade-level proficiencies on the state financial education learning standards for employment and income or financial decisions as provided in the state financial education learning standards adopted in RCW 28A.300.469; and
 - Growth in proficiency in meeting the state financial education learning standards that occurred between pre-work and post-work experiences.

The hours worked may occur during a student's school day, outside of the regular school calendar, or in accordance with WAC 180-51-050 and 180-51-051. The district will verify the number of paid hours worked by the student at least once per term.

Legal References: WAC 392-410
WAC 180-51

Courses of Study and Equivalencies
High School Graduation Requirements

RCW 28A.230.120

High School Diplomas –
Issuance- Option to receive final
transcripts –Notice

Management Resources: *Policy News, August 2006*

Legislature Codifies Course Equivalency
for Career and Technical Courses

Adopted: August 30, 2010

Revised: May 26, 2026