

Getting Ready for High School



and Beyond!



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WARM UP



Questions...

When you think about high school, what comes to mind?

What have you heard about high school and where did you hear it?

What questions do you have?



LEARNING TARGETS

- Understand what a high school CREDIT is and how to earn high school CREDIT
- Define the term GPA and be able to calculate your own GPA
- Learn high school graduation requirements
- Know about higher education opportunities
- Understand the difference between high school graduation requirements and college entrance requirements



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WHAT IS A CREDIT?

A **CREDIT** is...

A numerical value given when a class is passed with a grade of D (60%) or higher.

- 1 semester (half year) class = .5 credit
- 1 year long class = 1.0 credit

Did you know that some of the classes you take in middle school could be used as high school credit?



SEATTLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR CLASS OF 2020

To graduate high school and earn a diploma, the following five criteria must be met:

1. 24 total credits minimum earned
2. 2.0 cumulative grade point average (G.P.A.)
3. State tests – certificate of academic/individual achievement
4. High school and beyond plan
5. SERVICE LEARNING – 60 hours completed.

**[OSPI Graduation Requirements](#)



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SEATTLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION CREDIT REQUIREMENTS FOR CLASS OF 2020

SUBJECT	CREDITS
English/Language Arts	4.0
Social Studies	3.0
Mathematics	3.0
Science (2 labs)	3.0
Career and Technical Education (CTE)	1.0
Health and Fitness (Physical Education)	2.0
World Languages	2.0
Fine Arts	2.0
Electives	4.0
TOTAL CREDITS	24.0



High School and Beyond Plan

- To graduate, students must develop a plan detailing how they will meet the high school graduation requirements and what they will do following high school.
- A student's plan, starts in eighth grade and it is revised as he/she moves forward. It includes identifying interests, linking them to possible careers and identifying what type of training or education is needed for a career in that field.



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GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA)

- Your **Grade Point Average**, or **GPA**, is a mathematical average of all grades you have earned. Each letter grade you earn (A, B, C, D + or E) is assigned a number value.
- These numbers are added together and divided by the total number of credits / classes you have taken. That is how you calculate your individual GPA for a semester, a year, or for all of high school.
- A **CUMULATIVE GPA** is your total grade point average for all of your high school work.



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Letter Grades and Number Values

Percentage	Letter Grade	Grade Point	Honors Class Rank Weighting	AP/IB/Running Start Class Rank Weighting
93-100	A	4.0	4.5	5.0
90-92	A-	3.7	4.2	4.7
87-89	B+	3.3	3.8	4.3
83-86	B	3.0	3.5	4.0
80-82	B-	2.7	3.2	3.7
77-79	C+	2.3	2.8	3.3
73-76	C	2.0	2.5	3.0
70-72	C-	1.7	2.2	2.7
67-69	D+	1.3	1.8	2.3
60-66	D	1.0	1.5	2.0
Below 60	E	0	0	0



GPA CALCULATION – Semester 1

(.5 Credit / Class)

Class	Grade	Grade Point Value	Credit	Value x Credit
Language Arts 9	B+	3.3	.5	1.65
World History	A-	3.7	.5	1.85
Geometry	B	3.0	.5	1.5
9 th Physical Science	B	3.0	.5	1.5
Health	A-	3.7	.5	1.85
Spanish 2	B-	2.7	.5	1.35
	Totals		3.0	9.7
GPA	Total of Value x Credit / Total Credits			3.23



GPA CALCULATION – Semester 2 (.5 Credit / Class)

Class	Grade	Grade Point Value	Credit	Value x Credit
Language Arts 9	D+	1.3	.5	.65
World History	A-	3.7	.5	1.85
Geometry	B	3.0	.5	1.5
9 th Physical Science	B	3.0	.5	1.5
Intro to Business	A-	3.7	.5	1.85
Spanish 2	B-	2.7	.5	1.35
	Totals		3.0	8.7
GPA	Total of Value x Credit / Total Credits			2.9



Middle School Classes for High School Credit?

Classes that *could* count for credit are:

- World Language
- Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2
- Biology

Advantages: Gain credits quicker, less requirements in high school, more room for electives

Disadvantages: Classes from middle school transfer as a standard weighted grade for class rank purposes, if grade isn't great, it may bring down your overall GPA.



WHAT'S NEXT?



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Options for Further Training and/or Education

- Technical/Vocational College
- Internships/Apprenticeships
- Military
- Running Start (get college & HS credit Jr/Sr year of HS)
- Community/City College
- 4 Year and Advanced Degree
College/University (Public or Private)



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College Entrance Requirements VS. High School Grad Requirements

College Entrance Requirement Examples:

Seattle Central Community College

<http://seattlecentral.org/admissions/index.php>

Washington State University

<http://admission.wsu.edu/requirements/freshman.html>

University of Washington

<http://admit.washington.edu/Admission/Freshmen>

Stanford University

<http://www.stanford.edu/dept/uga/basics/selection/prepare.html>



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What things are 4 year colleges / universities looking for in an applicant?

Academic Preparation and Performance

- High GPA
- Take Challenging courses (Honors, AP, IB, Running Start)
- High Test Scores (SAT, etc.)
- Academic awards / distinctions
- Teacher/ counselor recommendations
- Strong personal statement / essay



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What other things are 4 year colleges / universities looking for in an applicant?

Personal Achievements and Characteristics:

- Community service / volunteer work
- Leadership – clubs, teams, coaching, work experience
- Demonstrating perseverance, overcoming hardships, or unique perspectives and experiences.
- Athleticism – goal driven, commitment
- Artistic or creative talent – music, drama, fine arts
- Recommendations from community / civic leaders.



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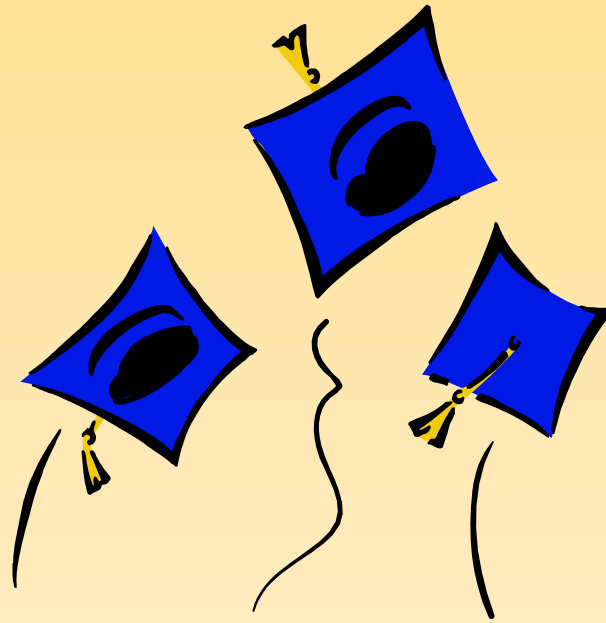
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What can I be doing now to prepare for High School and Beyond?

- Build strong study habits
- Develop self-control / self-discipline.
- Earn the best grades you can.
- Take challenging classes.
- Explore different interests by taking classes or volunteering
- Get involved in extra-curricular activities in and outside of school.
- Think ahead, about the consequences of the choices that you make today.



A Great Future Is Ahead.



Make It Yours!



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