

**E2SSB 5849** - H COMM AMD  
By Committee on Education

**NOT CONSIDERED 03/07/2024**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.230  
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 (1)(a) Except as provided otherwise by this section, beginning  
6 with the graduating class of 2030, each student graduating from a  
7 public high school must demonstrate competency in the computer  
8 science state learning standards. Students may demonstrate this  
9 computer science competency graduation requirement through:

10 (i) Completion of a stand-alone computer science course aligned  
11 to the state learning standards;

12 (ii) Completion of a different subject matter course where the  
13 state computer science learning standards are embedded with other  
14 learning standards; or

15 (iii) A demonstration of competency of the foundational skills  
16 established in the computer science state learning standards.

17 (b) For purposes of (a)(iii) of this subsection, demonstration of  
18 competency could include completion of a competency examination as  
19 established in RCW 28A.230.300 or any of the options allowed by the  
20 rules adopted by the state board of education under RCW 28A.230.090  
21 that address mastery-based crediting, such as: (i) Completing a  
22 locally established portfolio or culminating project; (ii)  
23 participating in supervised work experience or other outside school  
24 experience; (iii) taking career and technical education classes; (iv)  
25 taking courses offered by regional or community centers or programs;  
26 (v) receiving credits earned at a postsecondary institution; or (vi)  
27 providing documentation of a prior learning activity that  
28 demonstrates proficiency of the identified learning standards. Any of  
29 the options used must include evidence that the student meets or  
30 exceeds the computer science state learning standards.

31 (c) Consideration of seat time or instructional hours is not  
32 required to demonstrate competency for purposes of this section.

1 (d) Students must be allowed to present multiple types of  
2 evidence for the demonstration of competency.

3 (2) Students may request a waiver for the requirements of  
4 subsection (1) of this section from their school principal if their  
5 high school and beyond plan delineates course taking and education or  
6 training and career goals for which demonstrated computer science  
7 competencies are not applicable. Principals who receive these waiver  
8 requests must approve them. Additionally, students in grade 12 who  
9 have not been able to demonstrate competency in the computer science  
10 state learning standards as required by this section because of  
11 previous residence outside the state may have the requirement of this  
12 section waived by their principal.

13 (3) Nothing in this section increases the number of high school  
14 credits required for graduation as established by the state board of  
15 education under RCW 28A.230.090.

16 (4)(a) The office of the superintendent of public instruction  
17 shall:

18 (i) Ensure that sufficient professional development opportunities  
19 are made available to educators for the purpose of assisting students  
20 in meeting the graduation requirement established in this section;  
21 and

22 (ii) Collect relevant disaggregated demographic data on the  
23 student completion of the computer science competency graduation  
24 requirement created under this section to assess if the requirement  
25 has created any negative impacts on any class of students including,  
26 but not limited to, students who are currently struggling in school,  
27 low-income, person of color, experiencing homelessness, or enrolled  
28 in a school or a school district with high rates of these students.

29 (b) Beginning December 1, 2030, and annually thereafter, the  
30 office of the superintendent of public instruction shall submit a  
31 report to the education committees of the legislature summarizing the  
32 data collected under this subsection.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The office of the superintendent of  
34 public instruction shall initiate a review and update of the state  
35 computer science learning standards for students in grades  
36 kindergarten through 12. In developing the update of the state  
37 computer science learning standards, the office of the superintendent  
38 of public instruction shall review computer science learning  
39 standards adopted by other states and consult with nonprofit

1 organizations that have a demonstrated expertise in assisting states  
2 in developing computer science learning standards. In developing the  
3 state learning standards and supporting documents for grades nine  
4 through 12, the office of the superintendent of public instruction  
5 shall identify the standards considered to be foundational for  
6 graduation purposes as established in section 1 of this act.

7 (2) The state board of education shall collect information from  
8 school districts about the courses and other learning opportunities  
9 currently offered in computer science for high school students in  
10 their district, how the district already assesses or plans to assess  
11 competency of the computer science state learning standards, and what  
12 the district may need in order to ensure that students are ready for  
13 the graduation requirement established under section 1 of this act.  
14 The data collection required by this subsection may be conducted  
15 concurrently with other oversight and monitoring activities conducted  
16 by the state board of education. The state board of education shall  
17 report a summary of the information collected to the legislature by  
18 October 31, 2025, and shall include any recommendations on what  
19 actions the legislature could take to assist school districts in  
20 meeting the needs identified by school districts, including whether  
21 exploring options for increasing the number of educators endorsed to  
22 teach computer science is necessary.

23 (3) This section expires July 1, 2026.

24 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.655.070 and 2019 c 252 s 119 are each amended to  
25 read as follows:

26 (1) The superintendent of public instruction shall develop state  
27 learning standards that identify the knowledge and skills all public  
28 school students need to know and be able to do based on the student  
29 learning goals in RCW 28A.150.210, develop student assessments, and  
30 implement the accountability recommendations and requests regarding  
31 assistance, rewards, and recognition of the state board of education.

32 (2) The superintendent of public instruction shall:

33 (a) Periodically revise the state learning standards, as needed,  
34 based on the student learning goals in RCW 28A.150.210. Goals one and  
35 two shall be considered primary. To the maximum extent possible, the  
36 superintendent shall integrate (~~goal four~~) technology literacy and  
37 fluency from goal three and the knowledge and skill areas in the  
38 other goals in the state learning standards; and

1 (b) Review and prioritize the state learning standards and  
2 identify, with clear and concise descriptions, the grade level  
3 content expectations to be assessed on the statewide student  
4 assessment and used for state or federal accountability purposes. The  
5 review, prioritization, and identification shall result in more focus  
6 and targeting with an emphasis on depth over breadth in the number of  
7 grade level content expectations assessed at each grade level. Grade  
8 level content expectations shall be articulated over the grades as a  
9 sequence of expectations and performances that are logical, build  
10 with increasing depth after foundational knowledge and skills are  
11 acquired, and reflect, where appropriate, the sequential nature of  
12 the discipline. The office of the superintendent of public  
13 instruction, within seven working days, shall post on its website any  
14 grade level content expectations provided to an assessment vendor for  
15 use in constructing the statewide student assessment.

16 (3)(a) In consultation with the state board of education, the  
17 superintendent of public instruction shall maintain and continue to  
18 develop and revise a statewide academic assessment system in the  
19 content areas of reading, writing, mathematics, and science for use  
20 in the elementary, middle, and high school years designed to  
21 determine if each student has mastered the state learning standards  
22 identified in subsection (1) of this section. School districts shall  
23 administer the assessments under guidelines adopted by the  
24 superintendent of public instruction. The academic assessment system  
25 may include a variety of assessment methods, including criterion-  
26 referenced and performance-based measures.

27 (b) Effective with the 2009 administration of the Washington  
28 assessment of student learning and continuing with the statewide  
29 student assessment, the superintendent shall redesign the assessment  
30 in the content areas of reading, mathematics, and science in all  
31 grades except high school by shortening test administration and  
32 reducing the number of short answer and extended response questions.

33 (c) By the 2014-15 school year, the superintendent of public  
34 instruction, in consultation with the state board of education, shall  
35 modify the statewide student assessment system to transition to  
36 assessments developed with a multistate consortium, as provided in  
37 this subsection:

38 (i) The assessments developed with a multistate consortium to  
39 assess student proficiency in English language arts and mathematics  
40 shall be administered beginning in the 2014-15 school year, and

1 beginning with the graduating class of 2020, the assessments must be  
2 administered to students in the tenth grade. The reading and writing  
3 assessments shall not be administered by the superintendent of public  
4 instruction or schools after the 2013-14 school year.

5 (ii) The high school assessments in English language arts and  
6 mathematics in (c)(i) of this subsection shall be used for the  
7 purposes of federal and state accountability and for assessing  
8 student career and college readiness.

9 (d) The statewide academic assessment system must also include  
10 the Washington access to instruction and measurement assessment for  
11 students with significant cognitive challenges.

12 (4) If the superintendent proposes any modification to the state  
13 learning standards or the statewide assessments, then the  
14 superintendent shall, upon request, provide opportunities for the  
15 education committees of the house of representatives and the senate  
16 to review the assessments and proposed modifications to the state  
17 learning standards before the modifications are adopted.

18 (5) The assessment system shall be designed so that the results  
19 under the assessment system are used by educators as tools to  
20 evaluate instructional practices, and to initiate appropriate  
21 educational support for students who have not mastered the state  
22 learning standards at the appropriate periods in the student's  
23 educational development.

24 (6) By September 2007, the results for reading and mathematics  
25 shall be reported in a format that will allow parents and teachers to  
26 determine the academic gain a student has acquired in those content  
27 areas from one school year to the next.

28 (7) To assist parents and teachers in their efforts to provide  
29 educational support to individual students, the superintendent of  
30 public instruction shall provide as much individual student  
31 performance information as possible within the constraints of the  
32 assessment system's item bank. The superintendent shall also provide  
33 to school districts:

34 (a) Information on classroom-based and other assessments that may  
35 provide additional achievement information for individual students;  
36 and

37 (b) A collection of diagnostic tools that educators may use to  
38 evaluate the academic status of individual students. The tools shall  
39 be designed to be inexpensive, easily administered, and quickly and

1 easily scored, with results provided in a format that may be easily  
2 shared with parents and students.

3 (8) To the maximum extent possible, the superintendent shall  
4 integrate knowledge and skill areas in development of the  
5 assessments.

6 (9) Assessments for goals three and four of RCW 28A.150.210 shall  
7 be integrated in the state learning standards and assessments for  
8 goals one and two.

9 (10) The superintendent shall develop assessments that are  
10 directly related to the state learning standards, and are not biased  
11 toward persons with different learning styles, racial or ethnic  
12 backgrounds, or on the basis of gender.

13 (11) The superintendent shall review available and appropriate  
14 options for competency-based assessments that meet the state learning  
15 standards. In accordance with the review required by this subsection,  
16 the superintendent shall provide a report and recommendations to the  
17 education committees of the house of representatives and the senate  
18 by November 1, 2019.

19 (12) The superintendent shall consider methods to address the  
20 unique needs of special education students when developing the  
21 assessments under this section.

22 (13) The superintendent shall consider methods to address the  
23 unique needs of highly capable students when developing the  
24 assessments under this section.

25 (14) The superintendent shall post on the superintendent's  
26 website lists of resources and model assessments in social studies,  
27 the arts, and health and fitness.

28 (15) The superintendent shall integrate financial education  
29 skills and content knowledge into the state learning standards  
30 pursuant to RCW 28A.300.460(2)(d).

31 (16)(a) The superintendent shall notify the state board of  
32 education in writing before initiating the development or revision of  
33 the state learning standards under subsections (1) and (2) of this  
34 section. The notification must be provided to the state board of  
35 education in advance for review at a regularly scheduled or special  
36 board meeting and must include the following information:

37 (i) The subject matter of the state learning standards;

38 (ii) The reason or reasons the superintendent is initiating the  
39 development or revision; and

1 (iii) The process and timeline that the superintendent intends to  
2 follow for the development or revision.

3 (b) The state board of education may provide a response to the  
4 superintendent's notification for consideration in the development or  
5 revision process in (a) of this subsection.

6 (c) Prior to adoption by the superintendent of any new or revised  
7 state learning standards, the superintendent shall submit the  
8 proposed new or revised state learning standards to the state board  
9 of education in advance in writing for review at a regularly  
10 scheduled or special board meeting. The state board of education may  
11 provide a response to the superintendent's proposal for consideration  
12 prior to final adoption.

13 (17) The state board of education may propose new or revised  
14 state learning standards to the superintendent. The superintendent  
15 must respond to the state board of education's proposal in writing."

16 Correct the title.

EFFECT: (1) Delays the requirement to demonstrate competency in the computer science state learning standards by one year, making the graduation requirement begin with the graduating class of 2030.

(2) Permits students to request a waiver for the computer science competency requirement from their school principal if their high school and beyond plan delineates course taking and education or training and career goals for which demonstrated computer science competencies are not applicable.

(3) Requires school principals to approve the waiver requests from students.

(4) Requires the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to ensure that sufficient professional development opportunities are made available to educators for the purpose of assisting students in meeting the requirement to demonstrate competency in the computer science state learning standards.

(5) Requires the OSPI's first issuance of a report on student completions of the computer science competency graduation requirement to be on December 1, 2030, instead of December 1, 2029.

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