



HIGH SCHOOL  
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS  
CLASSES OF 2005-2007

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## POLICY

It is the policy of the Seattle School Board that all students in the graduating classes of 2005-2007, must meet the following requirements regarding GPA, credits, exit standards and service learning, in order to graduate. These requirements are in addition to those specified in the high school graduation requirements bulletin.

### 1. Credit Requirements

Students must have a minimum of 20 requirements in order to graduate. The State requires 19 credits, and the District requires one additional credit, for the total of 20. The credit distribution is included in the Graduation Requirements Bulletin. While students are required to have 20 credits to graduate, students are urged to examine their post-high school plans, and to take the appropriate credits that will allow them to achieve their postgraduate goals. Additionally, students are encouraged to gain proficiency in many areas of the curriculum.

Individual schools may wish to require additional credits for graduation; to do so, the school must receive a written waiver from the Director of High Schools and the Chief Academic Officer.

### 2. Grade Point Average Requirements

In order to graduate, students are required to have a 2.0 or above cumulative Grade Point Average (G.P.A.) and a 2.0 or above cumulative GP A in all courses in all English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, and Science (the "core" G.P.A.). For purposes of this Board-adopted graduation requirement only, the GP A will be calculated in a way that treats an "E" grade the same as an "N" grade.

If a student retakes a course, the highest grade received will be counted towards the student's G.P.A., and the student may receive credit towards graduation for only one of the courses. However, a record of all classes taken, including the grades received, will remain on the student's transcript.

### 3. Interventions

Schools are encouraged to utilize the following interventions to assist those students who are in danger of not meeting the 2.0 G.P.A. requirement:

Homework  
centers



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After school tutoring  
Volunteer tutors  
Saturday academics  
9th grade transition class  
5th and 15th week progress reports  
Quarterly reports  
Report cards  
Teacher home contact  
Advisory periods  
Mentors  
Summer school

Academic achievement plans at each school site will address "safety net" issues around intervention strategies to help students at risk of not earning a C grade.

4. Research Paper

In order to graduate, all students must write a comprehensive, well researched paper that will be orally presented and defended during the student's senior year.

5. Service Learning

Students are required to participate in service learning activities, which are jointly developed by the District and school sites. Students are required to complete 60 hours of service learning before graduation.

6. Taking the 10th Grade Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL)

In order to graduate, all 10<sup>th</sup> graders will be required to take the 10th grade WASL. The Superintendent is directed to develop specific procedures to ensure consistent implementation across the District, and to develop guidelines for exempting students from this policy, including special needs students who are exempt by their Individualized Education Plan, students with limited English proficiency, students who enter the District after tenth grade, or students with other special circumstances, as determined on a case-by-case basis.



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Reference: WAC 180-51

Cross Reference: Graduation Requirement Bulletin (distributed to students and also available at [www.seattleschools.org](http://www.seattleschools.org))

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