

E2SSB 6552 – Modifying instructional hour and graduation requirements

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Basic Education Definition Under ESHB 2261

Two aspects of the revised definition of Basic Education in ESHB 2261 had implementation schedules “to be adopted by the Legislature:”

- 1. Increased minimum Basic Education Instructional Hours offered by school districts.**
- 2. The opportunity for students to complete 24 credits for high school graduation.**

1. Basic Education Instructional Hours

Prior Law/Budget	E2SSB 6552
<p><u>School districts:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must provide a district-wide average of 1,000 hours in grades 1-12.• May use the last 5 days of the school year for non-instructional purposes for seniors, without a reduction to BE allocation.• Must increase the hours to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">-- 1,000 in each of grades 1-6.-- 1,080 in each of grades 7-12.<i>(according to a schedule adopted by Legislature, but not before 2014-15)</i> <p>A 2013-2015 budget proviso included funding and directed implementation of the increased hours beginning in 2014-15.</p>	<p><u>School districts:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must increase the hours to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">-- 1,000 in grades 1-8.-- 1,080 in grades 9-12.• May use a district-wide average to calculate the hours.• May use the last 5 days of the school year for non-instructional purposes for seniors to count towards the hours requirement.• Begins in 2015-16.

2. 24 Credits for High School Graduation

Prior Law/Budget	E2SSB 6552
<p>State Board of Education (SBE) has statutory authority to adopt state graduation requirements. Current requirements are 20 specified credits, culminating project, and High School & Beyond Plan.</p> <p>SBE proposed a 24 credit Career & College Ready framework in 2010 (modified in 2014).</p> <p>Under ESHB 2261, changes in graduation requirements determined to have a fiscal impact may not be implemented unless authorized and funded by the Legislature.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directs SBE to implement the 24 credit Career & College Ready framework with Class of 2019, with modifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Districts may apply to delay to Class of 2020 or 2021. SBE must approve applications at next meeting. • Districts may waive up to 2 credits for individual students based on unusual circumstances, based on district policy. WSSDA adopts model policy. • Students choose content of 3rd math and science credit, based on their plans and with approval. • Removes culminating project as state graduation requirement.

Associated Changes to Statutory Prototypical School Funding Formula

Prior Law/Budget	E2SSB 6552
<p><u>In statute:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High School Counselors: 1.909 • K-12 MSOC = \$517.91 (+ inflation) • H.S. Class Size: 28.74 students • Budget may include special class size for laboratory science. <p><u>In 2013-2015 budget:</u> \$97 million</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High School Counselors: 2.009 • K-12 MSOC = \$781.72 • New allocation for 2014-15 based on 2.2222 hours per week of increased instruction for students in grades 7-12. • No special lab science class size. 	<p><u>Legislative intent:</u> To shift the focus of investments from compliance with increased instructional hours to assisting districts with providing students the opportunity to earn 24 credits for High School graduation.</p> <p><u>Changes in statute:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High School Counselors: 2.539 • New 9-12 MSOC = \$164.25 (in 2014 + inflation thereafter) • New lab science class size for grades 9-12 = 19.98 <p><u>Changes in 2014 suppl. budget:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reallocates \$97 million to fund the formula changes in statute.

Other Topics in E2SSB 6552

Career & Technical Education (CTE) Course Equivalencies

- Directs OSPI to develop curriculum frameworks for a list of CTE courses considered equivalent to math or science courses required for graduation. Requires submission to the SBE for review, public comment, and approval.
- Beginning in 2015-16, requires districts to grant academic credit for CTE courses on the OSPI list and offer students access to at least one course on the list. Provides possible options for providing this access. Allows districts with fewer than 2,000 students to apply for a waiver.

Task Force on Students with Special Needs

- Directs the Office of the Education Ombuds (OEO) to convene a 3-year Task Force to examine barriers for students with special needs in earning a diploma and fully accessing education in public schools.
- **GOVERNOR VETOED.** *2014 Supplemental Budget proviso directs OEO to develop a scope of work and proposed workplan for such a Task Force, and submit it to the Legislature by December 1, 2014*