



Washington Office of Superintendent of **PUBLIC INSTRUCTION**

High School Transcript Adjustments – Weighted GPA

1. **Purpose:**

The proviso instructed OSPI to convene a workgroup to examine the Washington K-12 standardized transcript. Specifically, OSPI was tasked to work in consultation with the Washington four-year higher education institutions, the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC), and the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (WTB) to review and report back on potential changes to the standardized high school transcript including, but not limited to, allowing the use of a weighted grade point average (GPA) for accelerated coursework.

2. **Description of services provided:**

The following activities were carried by OSPI to draft recommendations around whether a weighted GPA for accelerated coursework should be included on the Washington K-12 standardized transcript:

- (1) OSPI facilitated transcript workgroup membership by following RCW 28A.230.125 and included additional members to represent school counselors and registrars.
- (2) The transcript workgroup met four times to discuss the feasibility and utility of implementing a weighted GPA.
- (3) OSPI drafted a report citing the groups findings and recommendations, which was reviewed and revised according to workgroup feedback.
- (4) Final report is pending publication on OSPI's website.

3. **Criteria for receiving services and/or grants:**

The proviso provided \$10,000 to OSPI to carry out this work. OSPI did not expend these funds for this effort.

Beneficiaries in 2020-21 School Year:

Number of School Districts:	N/A
Number of Schools:	N/A
Number of Students:	N/A
Number of Educators:	N/A
Other:	N/A

Number of OSPI staff associated with this funding (FTEs): 0 FTE

Number of contractors/other staff associated with this funding: 0 FTE

FY21 Funding: State Appropriation: \$10,000
Federal Appropriation: \$0
Other fund sources: \$0
TOTAL (FY21) \$10,000

4. **Are federal or other funds contingent on state funding?**

- No
 Yes, please explain.

5. **State funding history:**

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
FY21	\$10,000	\$0
FY20	\$0	\$0
FY19	\$0	\$0
FY18	\$0	\$0

6. **Number of beneficiaries (e.g., school districts, schools, students, educators, other) history:**

Fiscal Year	Number of School Districts	Number of Schools	Number of Students	Number of Educators
FY21	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY20	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY19	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY18	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

7. **Programmatic changes since inception (if any):**

None.

8. **Evaluations of program/major findings:**

After review of K-12 and higher education practices and policies, as well as data on the availability of accelerated coursework across the state and for specific student groups, the workgroup recommends that weighted GPAs not be adopted at this time. Instead, the workgroup recommends this issue be revisited after school districts have adequate time to put in place their policies around academic acceleration, as specified in [RCW 28A.230.090](#), and the state has adequate time to evaluate the impact of these policies on increasing equitable access to accelerated

coursework for all students. An evaluation of these efforts would be appropriate in the 2025-26 school year, which would allow adequate time for students who were in 7th grade when [HB1599](#) passed to have graduated.

9. **Major challenges faced by the program:**

Time constraints/prioritization of this work in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

10. **Future opportunities:**

The workgroup also recommended that the Transcript Workgroup continue to meet from January – August 2021 to address the following K-12 Transcript issues:

- An electronic transcript
- Designation of graduation pathways
- Updating and designation of College Academic Distribution Requirements (CADRs)
- Inclusion of incomplete grades starting Spring 2020 and beyond
- Inclusion of course designation code 'Y' for Youth Re-Engagement Dual Credit courses

11. **Statutory and/or budget language:**

ESSB 6168, Sec. 504 (4)(ff) \$10,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2021. OSPI must work in consultation with Washington’s four-year higher education institutions, the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC), and the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (WTB), to review and report on potential changes to the standardized high school transcript, including, but not limited to allowing the use of a weighted GPA for accelerated coursework. The report shall include findings and recommendations and shall be submitted by January 1, 2021.

12. **Other relevant information:**

N/A

13. **Schools/districts receiving assistance:**

N/A

14. **Program Contact Information:**

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