HB 1308 Graduation Pathway Options

Statutory and/or Budget Language

$141,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2024 and $130,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2025 are provided solely for implementation of House Bill No. 1308 (graduation pathway options).

Purpose

In 2023, HB 1308 modified graduation pathways requirements, including established a performance-based pathway option, the provisions of information to students and families, and requiring review and monitoring.

Graduation Pathway Options proviso funding is intended to support the administration of the review and monitoring requirements. HB 1308 states that districts need to review student pathways data, including disaggregation's by race, ethnicity, gender, dependency status, homelessness, and multilingual/English learner status.

Description of Services Provided

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction provides training/professional development, documents, guidance, printed parent information, video and webinar links posted to the OSPI website, and other resources as required by HB 1308 to ensure school district staff as well as parents and youth have graduation pathway information. Additionally, OSPI provides a report to the Governor and the Legislature, starting in 2025, and every odd-numbered year after that.

With the proviso funding, OSPI has developed and maintains two graduation pathways dashboards. A secure data dashboard is available for districts to review student and aggregate level pathways data disaggregated by cohort year, specific graduation pathways, race, ethnicity, gender, dependency status, homelessness, and multilingual/English language learner status. Additionally, a public version of the graduation pathways data in aggregate form has been made available on the OSPI website ensuring the information is available to students and families. The dashboards will be updated with information for future graduating classes as the data becomes available.

To support graduation pathways and implementation of HB 1308, OSPI hired a Data Consultant 4 position. This position supports the graduation pathways team by providing accurate, timely, and meaningful analysis of graduation pathways data on an ad-hoc basis. This position is also responsible for annual refresh/update of the graduation pathways displays, which enhances the provision of information to students, families, and school/district personnel. Finally, this position helps administer technical support to users of the Graduation Pathways Database in OSPI's Education Data System (EDS) by annually updating an accompanying business rules document.

Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Criteria for Receiving Services and/or Grants

HB 1308 does not include grants or other direct funding to local districts.

Beneficiaries in the 2023-24 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

Pathways data are available at the school, district, county, ESD, and state level.

Are Federal or Other Funds Contingent on State Funding?

No

State Funding History

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
2024	$141,000	$131,980 – 1 FTE Data Analyst

Number of Beneficiaries Per Fiscal Year (e.g. School Districts, Schools, Students, Educators, Other)

Fiscal Year	Number of Beneficiaries
2024	295 districts (plus charter schools, Tribal Compacts and other LEAs)

Programmatic Changes Since Inception (If Any)

Graduation Pathways legislation was initially adopted in 2019 (HB1599) and established multiple graduation pathway options that began with the class of 2020. The stated intent of the pathways options was to provide students with multiple pathways to graduating with a meaningful high school diploma that are tailored to the students' goals.

Program Evaluation or Evaluation of Major Findings

The Data Consultant 4 funded through this proviso maintains data displays that allow districts to evaluate their pathways data. Because these displays allow districts to disaggregate data across student groups, they support districts in identifying—and subsequently rectifying—disproportionalities in access to and participation in the various pathway options.

The performance-based pathway option was implemented in 2023-24 and school districts were beginning to incorporate this pathway after adopting associated district policy. At this point, the data on the performance-based option are still preliminary, and OSPI staff are monitoring participation in this pathway.

Preliminary data suggest that the performance-based pathway option is being utilized by organizations of various sizes (e.g., by districts supporting >15,000 students as well as by districts/STECs supporting <1,200 students) and types (e.g., Public Schools, State-Tribal Education Compact Schools, Institutions, etc.). Pathways data will be available in the legislative report as required in RCW 28A.655.070

Major Challenges Faced by the Program

As with any new collection one of the largest challenges faced is reporting accuracy. In the initial reporting years, inconsistencies often arise due to unfamiliarity with the new reporting requirements. Over time, district staff will become more familiar with the data process and more districts will adopt and incorporate the performance-based pathway, likely increasing its utilization in addition to better reporting and data accuracy.

Future Opportunities

Future opportunities include continuing to improve our Graduation Pathways data displays. Another possible future modification would allow districts to view data disaggregated by multiple student groups simultaneously (e.g., race *and* gender, as opposed to race *or* gender) to help them identify disproportionalities associated with certain intersectional identities.

OSPI program staff have also expressed interest in using similar data displays to guide their technical assistance efforts.

Other Relevant Information

N/A

Program Contact Information

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