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April 18, 2025

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(X) Informational

BULLETIN NO. 025-25 SECONDARY EDUCATION AND PATHWAY PREPERATION

TO: Educational Service District Superintendents School District Superintendents School District Business Managers High School Building Principals High School Registrars

FROM: Chris Reykdal, Superintendent of Public Instruction

RE: Bridge to College Math and English Courses – Register for 2025–26 School Year

CONTACT: Praxia Apostle, Associate Director of Secondary English Language Arts 360-972-4044, praxia.apostle@k12.wa.us

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PURPOSE/BACKGROUND

This bulletin provides updated expectations and information for Bridge to College courses, including information for districts currently using the program and those considering adopting the program.

Key goals of the Bridge to College Program are:

- Equipping students with a relevant, college-level curriculum to bypass remedial coursework and placement tests.
- Deepening student understanding of the knowledge and skills essential for success in college.
- Supporting teachers with targeted professional development and communities of practice to enhance instructional practices and student success.

Benefits of Offering Bridge to College Courses

<u>Bridge to College</u> is a program that offers transition courses in mathematics and English which are designed to provide high school seniors and high school juniors (English course only) with

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targeted opportunities to strengthen their skills and confidently prepare for success in collegelevel courses. These courses aim to support students in achieving college readiness within a year, particularly those who might not have had access to such opportunities otherwise.

English

- Students who earn a B in one semester of the course qualify for placement into English 101 at any community college in Washington and at Eastern Washington University.
- All public baccalaureate institutions recognize Bridge to College English (BTCE) as a senior English credit.
- Earning 1.0 credit in BTCE fulfills the Transition Course Graduation Pathway.
- Students completing the course as juniors could then qualify to take a dual-credit College Composition course as seniors.
- BTCE can be taught in person or online.

Math

- Students who earn a B in the second semester of the course qualify for placement into Math in Society (MATH 107) or Statistics (MATH 146) at any community college in Washington and at Eastern Washington University.
- All public baccalaureate institutions recognize Bridge to College Math (BTCM) as a senior-year quantitative course that satisfies one of the College Academic Distribution Requirements (CADRs).
- Earning 1.0 credit in BTCM fulfills the Transition Course Graduation Pathway for mathematics.
- BTCM can only be taught in person, as it is not suited for an online environment.

Offering Bridge to College Courses

To qualify as a graduation pathway or for college placement, districts must use the state course code. Eligibility is monitored by the State Board of Community and Technical Colleges in partnership with OSPI.

Teacher Professional Learning Opportunities and Communities of Practice

Teachers consistently report that professional learning through Bridge to College training is essential for successful course implementation and offers opportunities to experience adaptive, up-to-date curriculum and rich communities of professional learning.

The program's summer training and ongoing professional learning opportunities:

- Deepen teachers' understanding of curriculum and assessment.
- Provide collaborative, job-embedded learning focused on improving student performance and college readiness.

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Districts are required to register both new and returning teachers to ensure access to the most recent instructional materials and rigorous learning experiences for students.

Annual Per Teacher Registration Fees

The Bridge to College courses are fully self-supporting, with fees funding the professional development infrastructure and continuous updates to instructional and assessment materials.

Annual Costs

- \$2,000 for new Bridge to College teachers
- \$850 for returning Bridge to College teachers
- Please note: Teachers who attend the New or Returning Teacher Institutes but do not teach the Bridge to College course during the school year will still be charged to cover the costs associated with the Institute.

What the Fees Cover

- Registration, some meals, and accommodations for the required Summer Teacher Institute.
- Access to all curriculum materials, as well as ongoing support and technical assistance.
- 20 hours of professional learning meetings or curriculum workshops in a Community of Practice format during the school year (required for new teachers, optional for returning teachers).

Additional District Responsibilities

School districts are responsible for covering travel, time, substitutes, and supplies for teachers attending the August Teacher Institute as well as other professional learning activities during the school year.

Registration Process

Registration is now open, and information can be found on the <u>OSPI Bridge to College</u> <u>webpage</u>. Districts are encouraged to register by June 1st, even if teacher assignments are not finalized.

After the school year begins, districts will receive an invoice from the program coordinator for Bridge to College at the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) and access to the curriculum feed for each teacher registered to teach the Bridge to College course in 2025-26.

For more information about registration, course benefits, or professional development requirements, please visit the <u>OSPI Bridge to College web page</u>. Updates for 2025–26 registration will be posted regularly.

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INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

For information regarding Bridge to College eligibility, courses, and registration, please contact Kristen Jaoui, Program Administrator of Student Services & K12 Alignment, SBCTC, at 360-704-1055 or email <u>kjaoui@sbctc.edu</u>.

For information about this bulletin, please contact either Serena O'Neill for Bridge to College Math, at 360-701-3486 or email <u>serena.oneill@k12.wa.us</u>, or Praxia Apostle for Bridge to College English, at 360-972-4044 or email <u>praxia.apostle@k12.wa.us</u>.

The OSPI TTY number is 360-664-3631.

This bulletin is also available on the **Bulletins** page of the OSPI website.

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