

Old Capitol Building
PO Box 47200
Olympia, WA 98504-7200

ospi.k12.wa.us



Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
Chris Reykdal, Superintendent

March 13, 2026

() Action Required
(X) Informational

BULLETIN NO. 008-26 TEACHING, LEARNING, AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

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 Mathematics and English Courses — Invitation to Register for the 2026–27 School Year

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

Serena O’Neill, Associate Director of Secondary Mathematics
360-701-3486, serena.oneill@k12.wa.us

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND

This bulletin provides information and expectations for Bridge to College courses for the 2026–27 school year. It is intended for school districts currently offering Bridge to College courses as well as those considering adoption.

Bridge to College is a statewide transition course developed through a partnership between the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) and the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI). The program is designed to strengthen alignment between high school instruction and college-level expectations in mathematics and English courses.

A defining feature of Bridge to College is its integrated professional learning model, which reflects the understanding that high-quality, sustained professional development for teachers leads to stronger instruction, more consistent implementation, and improved student learning and postsecondary outcomes.

This bulletin outlines program goals, course descriptions and considerations, registration fees, and district responsibilities related to course implementation, professional learning, and registration.

KEY GOALS FOR THE BRIDGE TO COLLEGE PROGRAM

The Bridge to College Program is designed to:

- **Improve student learning, confidence, and postsecondary outcomes** by preparing students for success in college-level English and mathematics courses through high-quality transition instruction in a supportive environment.
- **Achieve these outcomes through high-quality, sustained, job-embedded professional learning** that equips teachers with a college-level transition curriculum, instructional support, and a professional community.

BRIDGE TO COLLEGE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS AND KEY CONSIDERATIONS

Bridge to College courses provide students with a structured, supportive transition experience that builds college-readiness skills and academic confidence while supporting on-time graduation.

Bridge to College English (BTCE)

What is Bridge to College English?

Bridge to College English is a transition course that prepares students for college-level reading, writing, and critical thinking aligned with college composition expectations.

What do students get out of it?

- Students who earn a B or higher in one semester qualify for placement into English 101 at any Washington community college and at Eastern Washington University.
- All public baccalaureate institutions recognize BTCE as a senior English credit.
- Earning 1.0 credit in BTCE fulfills the Transition Course Graduation Pathway.
- Students completing the course as juniors may qualify to take a dual-credit College Composition course as seniors.

Important to consider for BTCE

- Course code is WA 0001.
- Prep course code is WA 0049.
- May be taught in person or online.
- Prep course for juniors available.
- May be taken as a junior, especially if the students plan to take a college-level course as seniors (College in the High School, Running Start, AP, etc.).

Bridge to College Mathematics (BTC Math)

What is Bridge to College Mathematics?

Bridge to College Mathematics is a senior-year transition course that follows Algebra II and emphasizes mathematical reasoning, problem-solving, and quantitative skills needed for non-calculus college math pathways. The course reinforces and applies prior learning rather than repeating Algebra II.

What do students get out of it?

- Students who earn a B or higher in the second semester qualify for placement into Math in Society (MATH 107) or Statistics (MATH 146) at any Washington community college and at Eastern Washington University.
- All public baccalaureate institutions recognize BTC Math as a senior-year quantitative course that satisfies one of the College Academic Distribution Requirements (CADRs).
- Earning 1.0 credit in BTC Math fulfills the Transition Course Graduation Pathway for mathematics.

Important to consider for BTC Math

- Course code is WA 0003.
- Must be taught at least 50% face-to-face and is not designed or suited for a fully online environment.
- There is no BTC Math prep course.
- Only available to seniors.

For additional details about course design, placement eligibility, and professional learning support, please visit the [OSPI Bridge to College webpage](#).

TEACHER PROFESSIONAL LEARNING AND PROGRAM COSTS

Student success in Bridge to College courses is supported by a comprehensive professional learning model aligned to curriculum and assessment.

The Bridge to College professional learning model:

- Deepens teachers' understanding of Bridge to College curriculum and assessments.
- Provides collaborative, job-embedded professional learning focused on improving instructional practice and college readiness.

School districts are required to register both new and returning teachers annually to ensure access to current instructional materials and professional learning.

ANNUAL PER-TEACHER REGISTRATION FEES

Bridge to College courses are fully self-supporting. Registration fees fund the professional learning infrastructure and the ongoing maintenance and updates of instructional and

assessment materials.

Annual costs:

- \$1,750 for new Bridge to College teachers.
- \$750 for returning Bridge to College teachers.

Note: Teachers who attend a New or Returning Teacher Institute but do not teach a Bridge to College course during the school year will still be charged to cover costs associated with the Institute.

WHAT THE FEES COVER

Registration fees include:

- Registration for the required Summer Teacher Institute, including some meals, and accommodations.
- Access to all Bridge to College curriculum and assessment materials.
- Ongoing instructional support and technical assistance.
- Up to 20 hours of professional learning through Communities of Practice or curriculum workshops during the school year (required for new teachers; optional for returning teachers).

DISTRICT ASSURANCE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

As part of the Bridge to College registration process, participating districts are required to affirm a District Assurance for Bridge to College Implementation, reflecting a shared commitment to high-quality instruction and professional learning.

School districts are responsible for covering travel, substitute costs, teaching time, and instructional supplies for teachers participating in the Summer Teacher Institute and school-year professional learning activities.

For a full list of district responsibilities and implementation requirements, please review the [2026–27 District Assurance for Bridge to College Implementation](#), available on the OSPI Bridge to College webpage.

OFFERING AND REGISTERING FOR BRIDGE TO COLLEGE COURSES

To qualify as a graduation pathway or for college placement eligibility, districts must use the state-approved Bridge to College course codes. Eligibility is monitored by SBCTC in partnership with OSPI.

Registration is now open. Information is available on the [OSPI Bridge to College webpage](#). School districts are encouraged to register by June 2, even if teacher assignments are not yet finalized.

After the school year begins, school districts will receive an invoice for professional development and curriculum access fees for each registered Bridge to College teacher for the 2026–27 school year.

For more information about registration, course benefits, or professional development requirements, please visit the [OSPI Bridge to College web page](#). Updates for [2026–27 registration](#) will be posted regularly.

INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

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

For information about this bulletin, please contact Serena O'Neill, Associate Director of Secondary Mathematics, at 360-701-3486, or email serena.oneill@k12.wa.us, or Praxia Apostle, Associate Director of Secondary English Language Arts, at 360-972-4044, or email praxia.apostle@k12.wa.us.

The OSPI [Telecommunication Relay Services](#) number is 711 or 1-800-833-6384.

This bulletin is also available on the [Bulletins](#) page of the OSPI website.

Susan Lathrop
Chief Education Officer

Andra Kelley-Batstone
Assistant Superintendent
Teaching, Learning, & School Improvement

Katie Taylor
Director
Secondary Education Content

CR:am

OSPI provides equal access to all programs and services without discrimination based on sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. Questions and complaints of alleged discrimination should be directed to the Equity and Civil Rights Director at 360-725-6162/Telecommunication Relay Services: 711 or 1-800-833-6384; or P.O. Box 47200, Olympia, WA 98504-7200; or equity@k12.wa.us.