



Washington Office of Superintendent of **PUBLIC INSTRUCTION**

High School Graduation Requirements

1. **Purpose:**

Support the work of HB 1599 in promoting career and college readiness through modified high school graduation requirements and providing students with multiple pathways to graduation. HB 1599 expanded the ways Washington students show their readiness for their next step after high school. Building off a robust plan (High School and Beyond Plan) and quality instruction across core academic areas, completing a [graduation pathway](#) will help prepare students for what comes after high school graduation.

Additionally, HB 1599 tasked OSPI with facilitating the creation of a list of available electronic High School and Beyond Plan (HSBP) platforms that meet the following requirements:

- Enable students to create, personalize, and revise their HSBP;
- Grant parents and guardians, educators, school counselors, and other support staff appropriate access to student's HSBPs for the purpose of supporting their academic and career goals;
- Utilize a technology that can be modified as graduation requirements change;
- Include a sample financial aid award letter and link to the financial aid calculator;
- Comply with state and federal requirements for student privacy; and,
- Allow for portability of HSBP information between platforms.

2. **Description of services provided:**

- a. OSPI provided funds to State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) for the Bridge to College Community of Practice (CoP) leaders. SBCTC coordinated all arrangements for twenty CoP leaders to each facilitate five days of professional learning to Bridge to College teachers during the 2019-20 school year. Bridge to College transition courses in mathematics and English language arts are designed to provide high school seniors not yet ready for college-level work a targeted opportunity to prepare for success in those courses. These courses are not designed for remediation but for preparation of students who can become college ready in one year.
- b. Staffing to support pathways coordination within OSPI

- c. OSPI completed a review of the self-evaluations provided by the various HSBP vendor currently used in Washington state and other vendors for compliance and published a list prior to the 2020-21 school year.

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

Bridge to College Community of Practice (CoP) leaders (higher education and K-12 educators) were selected by the OSPI/SBCTC Bridge to College leadership team (community and technical college faculty, SBCTC staff and OSPI staff). The CoP leaders were each required to plan and facilitate up to five (5) days of professional learning with small groups of Bridge to College teachers over the 2019–20 school year to discuss Bridge to College teaching strategies, review instructional materials, and share good practices as well as ongoing challenges. CoP leaders convened to refine Bridge to College course materials and co-plan the 2020 summer institute for new and returning Bridge to College teachers.

Beneficiaries in 2019-20 School Year:

Number of School Districts: 137
Number of Schools: 225
Number of Students: NA
Number of Educators: 488
Other: *Name other...* 0

Number of OSPI staff associated with this funding (FTEs): 1.6 FTE
Number of contractors/other staff associated with this funding: 2 Contracts

FY20 Funding: State Appropriation: \$400,000
Federal Appropriation: \$0
Other fund sources: \$0
TOTAL (FY20) \$400,000

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

No

Yes, please explain.

If state funds are not available, the state will not be eligible...

5. **State funding history:**

Fiscal Year	Amount Funded	Actual Expenditures
FY20	\$400,000	\$189,858

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

Fiscal Year	Number of School Districts	Number of Schools	Number of Educators
FY20	137	225	488

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

The Bridge to College courses, Math and English Language Arts (ELA), were developed and implemented through a grant from the College Spark Foundation. With the assistance of this private funding, SBCTC and OSPI collaborated to design and launch Bridge to College (BTC) courses in the 2015-16 school year. Although the original grant ended, OSPI and SBCTC have continued their shared leadership of the BTC program, now systematized by HB 1599 as a graduation pathway, and formalized through a cross-sector agreement with higher education. SBCTC took the lead on coordinating CoP leaders who delivered the training to teachers in 2019-20.

Senate Bill 5141 (2020) added another requirement to the list above that mandates vendors include a sample financial aid award letter and link to the financial aid calculator once those resources have been created. However, it was not included in OSPI's original process of creating the list of available electronic HSBP platforms per House Bill 1599 (2019). Subject to future policy change, there is currently no mandate for OSPI to update the electronic HSBP list of vendors following the creation of this original list.

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

Collaboratively designed and developed by higher education faculty, high school teachers, and curriculum specialists from multiple colleges and school districts, the Bridge to College courses are grounded in essential career and college readiness expectations as reflected by Washington State's K-12 Learning Standards for English language arts and mathematics.

BERC Group evaluations of Bridge to College have demonstrated that these courses are an effective way to increase the number of students who are prepared for college when they leave high school.

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

The COVID-19 pandemic and school closures forced changes in the curriculum (resulting in changes in the professional learning provided), and a shift to all-virtual professional learning.

10. **Future opportunities:**

N/A

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

ESSB 6168, Sec. 501 (4)(k) \$400,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2020 and \$196,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2021 are provided solely for the implementation of Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill No. 1599 (high school graduation reqs.). ~~((If the bill is not enacted by June 30, 2019, the amounts provided in this subsection shall lapse.))~~

12. **Other relevant information:**

N/A

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

See [OSPI's Grantee List](#)

14. **Program Contact Information:**

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