

BASIC EDUCATION PROGRAM COMPLIANCE BY SCHOOL DISTRICTS

BACKGROUND

School districts are required to show compliance with the Basic Education entitlement requirements (pursuant to WAC 180-16-191 through WAC 180-16-225) and the minimum high school graduation requirements. School districts demonstrate compliance by submitting a completed SPI Form 1497 to the State Board of Education (SBE) by the first Monday in November of each school year.

SBE must certify whether each school district is in compliance or noncompliance and provide that information to the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI). SPI will distribute the state's basic education allocation funding for the remainder of the 2009-10 school year and the beginning of the 2010-11 school year to all school districts that are certified by SBE as in compliance with the Basic Education entitlement requirements.

Categories of Reporting for the 2009-10 School Year:

- **Total Instructional Hour Offering** (RCW 28A.150.220/WAC 180-16-200) - Kindergarten offering of 450 hours. Grades 1–12 offering of a district-wide annual average of 1,000 hours linked to the Essential Academic Learning Requirements and other district-determined subjects/activities (not tied to grade spans).
- **K–3/4–12 Students to Classroom Teacher Ratio** (RCW 28A.150.250/WAC 180-16-210) - The district ratio of students per classroom teacher in grades kindergarten through three is not greater than the ratio of students per classroom teacher in grades four and above.
- **Minimum 180-Day School Year** (RCW 28A.150.220(3)/WAC 180-16-215) - The 180-day program is accessible to all legally eligible students, including students with disabilities, five years of age, and under 21 years of age who have not completed high school graduation requirements.
- **State High School Graduation Minimum Requirements** (RCW 28A.230.090/WAC 180-51-061/WAC 180-51-066) - Compliance on their minimum high school graduation requirements. All high schools in the district require students to take the minimum 19 state credits in all subject areas (20 credits for the class of 2013 and beyond). In addition, the district must ensure that the minimum state credits are aligned at a minimum with the grades 9/10 grade level expectations or state essential academic learning requirements at Benchmark three (high school).

POLICY CONSIDERATION

All 295 Washington State school districts have submitted SPI Form 1497 and have shown compliance with the Basic Education entitlement requirements for the 2009-10 school year.

EXPECTED ACTION

SBE certification of all 295 school districts' compliance, with the Basic Education allocation entitlement requirements.