

Collection of Evidence: An Alternative Assessment path towards graduation

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Collection of Evidence (COE)

- ▶ It is an “alternative option” to meeting proficiency on the state standards and earning a Certificate of Academic Achievement.
- ▶ Students must take the large-scale, criterion-referenced test—the Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL)—before accessing the COE
- ▶ The COE must be comparable (or exceed) in content and rigor to the WASL
- ▶ It is a classroom-centered collection of student work that features examples of assignments that align with the state standards

What is the COE process?

- Student and teacher(s) identify appropriate tasks.
- Student completes specific tasks, adds to collection.
- Teacher monitors student work.
- Teacher/counselor and student review work.
- When assignment is complete both teacher and student sign off.
- The work sample is added to the student collection.
- When the collection is complete and has been reviewed for sufficiency, the collection is signed by the principal and sent to the district.

Who is a good candidate for the COE?

- ▶ Independent thinkers and workers
 - ▶ Students who found the traditional high school environment and testing environment challenging
 - ▶ Students who have specific—and even passionate—interests in topics and areas not covered in traditional curriculum
 - ▶ Hard workers willing to work independently and meet deadlines
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Sufficiency and Proficiency

In order to meet the **sufficiency** requirements, a student must submit a collection on time, include the appropriate number of work samples, and all of the skills must be addressed.

In order to meet **proficiency** (meet standard), the student must demonstrate the skills and knowledge necessary to meet the level of performance a committee has decided is appropriate

For reading, the student must earn 72 out of 96 points; for mathematics the student must earn 78 out of 128 points; and for writing the student must earn 17 out of 24 points.

Who scores the collections?

- ▶ High School teachers and college and university instructors from around the state
 - Years of experience in the content area
 - Prior experience scoring WASL or district-level assessments
 - Ability to score according to state standards using analytical scoring rubrics
 - Like to work long hours and revel in the growth of student performance!

COE results over time

- 4 scoring cycles so far:
 - June '07 800 collections
 - February '08 2300 collections
 - June '08 2700 collections
 - February '08 4200 collections
- Mostly mathematics collections submitted (75% meet standard)
- Good number of reading collections submitted (70% meet standard)
- Smaller number of writing collections submitted (50% meet standard)

Contact Information

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