



APPLICATION

Temporary Waiver from High School Graduation Requirements Under Chapter 217, Laws of 2014

Instructions

RCW 28A.230.090(1)(d)(ii) authorizes school districts to apply to the State Board of Education (SBE) for a temporary waiver from the career and college ready graduation requirements directed by Chapter 217, Laws of 2104 (E2SSB 6552) beginning with the graduating class of 2020 or 2021 instead of the graduating class of 2019. This law further provides:

In the application, a school district must describe why the waiver is being requested, the specific impediments preventing timely implementation, and efforts that will be taken to achieve implementation with the graduating class proposed under the waiver. The state board of education shall grant a waiver under this subsection (1)(d) to an applying school district at the next subsequent meeting of the board after receiving an application.

The SBE has adopted rules to implement this provision as WAC 180-51-068(11). The rules provide that the SBE must post an application form on its public web site for use by school districts. The rules further provide:

- The application must be accompanied by a resolution adopted by the district's board of directors requesting the waiver. The resolution must, at a minimum:
 1. State the entering freshman class or classes for whom the waiver is requested;
 2. Be signed by the chair or president of the board of directors and the district superintendent.
- A district implementing a waiver granted by the SBE under this law will continue to be subject to the prior high school graduation requirements as specified in WAC 180-51-067 during the school year or years for which the waiver has been granted.
- A district granted a waiver under this law that elects to implement the career and college ready graduation requirements in WAC 180-51-068 during the period for which the waiver is granted shall provide notification of that decision to the SBE.

For questions or assistance with this application, please contact:

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Application

Please complete in full. Please identify any attachments provided by reference to the numbered items below.

1. Name of district: Green River College

2. Contact information

Name and title: Shaunie Decker: Faculty, Program Coordinator & High School Completion Committee Chair

Telephone: 253-833-9111 ext. 5583

E-mail address: sdecker@greenriver.edu

3. Date of application: 12/17/2018

4. Please explain why the district is requesting a waiver to delay implementation of career and college ready graduation requirements in WAC 180-51-068.

While the framework for the additional 2019 graduation requirements has been developed, we have discovered some advising, process and system issues that need to be resolved to accommodate Personalized Pathways, world language requirements, and credit waivers for extenuating circumstances. Because of these issues, students have been caught in the transition without clear direction on how to meet, or demonstrate completion of the 2019 graduation requirements, and their high school diplomas are currently being delayed while these issues are being resolved.

5. Please describe the specific impediments preventing implementation of the career and college ready graduation requirements beginning with the graduating class of 2019.

We serve a wide range of students including Youth Reengagement, High School 21+, and International Programs. Our students vary in age from 16 to adulthood and as such, bring differing life experiences and educational backgrounds.

In implementing these new requirements, we must:

- 1) Refine our process for determining proper course substitutions for Personalized Pathways. The method we initially developed has led to questions of proper evaluation by faculty and our Enrollment Services Department as well as upholding equity among our students. Our advising staff must then be trained on the appropriate use of Personal Pathways.
- 2) Define world languages and decide how to best evaluate students with transcripts from non-English speaking countries as well as refugees who are fluent in an another language but cannot access school transcripts from their home countries. We do not have access to the language tests that many high schools use for assessment of world languages and must find a way to provide our students with a similar opportunity.
- 3) Reach consensus on when and how to offer credit waivers to students who may face extenuating life circumstances.

6. Please indicate below the graduating class for which the district will first implement the career and college ready graduation requirements.

Class of 2020

Class of 2021

7. Please describe the efforts that will be undertaken to achieve implementation of the career and college ready graduation requirements for the graduating class indicated above.

We have formed a High School Completion Committee composed of administration, faculty, advisors, and transcript evaluators. Together, we created the course offering listing, processes and forms required for the 2019 high school graduation requirements. We are now meeting regularly to determine how to improve these processes to best serve all high school in college students that we serve. We are doing this by examining individual student diploma applications and evaluating where our current processes need revision. We are collaborating across departments and student services to understand how all populations we serve will be affected by our administration of these requirements to ensure fairness and equity.

Final step

Please attach the district resolution required by WAC 180-51-068, signed and dated by the chair or president of the board of directors and the district superintendent.