



**REAL LEARNING
FOR REAL LIFE**

Ready Washington

**Washington's K-12 Learning Standards
and Assessments**

September 19, 2015

READY WA

www.ReadyWA.org

Ready Washington Coalition

Ready Washington is a coalition of state and local education agencies, associations and advocacy organizations that support college and career ready learning standards and assessments: Common Core State Standards, Next Generation Science Standards and Smarter Balanced assessments.

The coalition believes all students should be better prepared for college, work and life to build the skills to compete for the quality jobs that our state has to offer.



Ready Washington Coalition



College & Career Ready Systems

- **Standards:** Shared set of expectations for what students should know and be able to do – the destination
- **Curriculum:** Materials and methods used by teachers for instruction – the road
- **Assessment System:** Tools used to support, inform and measure teaching and learning throughout the school day and year – the sign posts



Why College & Career Readiness?

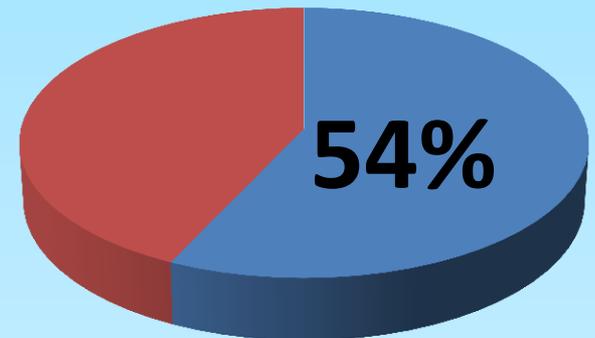
Equity in education – Dr. Susan Enfield (August 2015)

- The jobs of the future require a higher level of learning and education. That's what Common Core is about.
- If we set high standards and expectations, all students are capable of achieving them.
- High standards and high-quality assessments are critical to achieving equity for students.



Why College & Career Readiness?

- Many students attending college in Washington need to brush up on their academic skills before taking college-level courses.
- Of recent high school graduates, 54 percent have to take at least one remedial class in math or English in 2-year WA colleges. (2013)
- Most students take one or two pre-college courses, typically math, while enrolled in other college-level classes. This is a time and money issue.



Why College & Career Readiness?

March 2013, Washington Roundtable report:

- **50,000:** Projected number of unfilled jobs in WA for highly skilled workers by 2017
- **80:** Percentage of new jobs created in WA that will be in STEM and healthcare by 2017
- **70:** Percentage of jobs in WA that will require a college degree or certificate by 2018



College & Career Ready Standards

K-12 learning standards

- Washington state has had learning standards for more than 20 years.
- Learning standards include many subjects: the arts, science, social studies, health & fitness and more.
- Common Core math and English language arts are part of Washington's K-12 Learning Standards.



College & Career Ready Standards

Common Core State Standards:

- **build on one another**, allowing students to apply the skills and knowledge they learned in the previous grade to real-life situations.
- **go deeper into fewer topics** and focus on developing students' deeper understanding of key concepts (typical state standards are thought to be a mile wide and an inch deep).

Ready Washington

Accomplishments in 2015

- Conducted 2 media roundtables (March & August 2015) to build baseline of knowledge for reporters
- Conducted 5 tele-town halls in summer
- Produced 3 Smarter Balanced videos (state & national versions)
- Translated 5 primary documents into 6 languages
- Worked with State PTA on parent outreach grant



Ready Washington



OSPI Randy I. Dorn, State Superintendent | *Every student ready for career, college, and life*

State Learning Standards & Testing

What are “learning standards”?
The Washington State K–12 Learning Standards define what all students should know and be able to do at each grade level.

Why do we need them?
Rigorous learning standards require students to think critically and creatively about content—rather than memorize it—so they are ready for careers, college, and life after high school.

Which content areas have learning standards?

- English Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies
- The Arts
- Educational Technology
- Health and Fitness
- Integrated Environment and Sustainability
- World Languages
- English Language Proficiency

How are they developed?
Learning standards are carefully developed by content experts from across the state and nation, with input from educators, parents, and the public.

How often are the learning standards updated?
The standards are updated periodically to ensure they are aligned with the evolving expectations of colleges and the workforce.

Why do we have state tests?
Achievement data for students, schools, districts, and the state help districts and schools decide which teaching practices and curricula best support student understanding of the learning standards.
They also give families valuable information about how well their child is doing and where additional help might be needed.
Statewide testing is important because it helps ensure all public school students, no matter where they go to school, receive a quality education.

Are they required?
State and federal laws require students to be tested in:

- **English language arts and math:** Grades 3 through 8 and high school
- **Science:** Grades 5, 8, and 10

To see which tests are required for high school graduation, please visit www.WAtesting.com.

Learn more! Learning Standards
bit.ly/StateStandards
or email CoreStandards@k12.wa.us

Learn more! State Testing
www.WAtesting.com
or email StateTesting@k12.wa.us

Distributed new back-to-school handout; translated into 16 languages. All of our handouts can be found at

www.ReadyWA.org/translations.

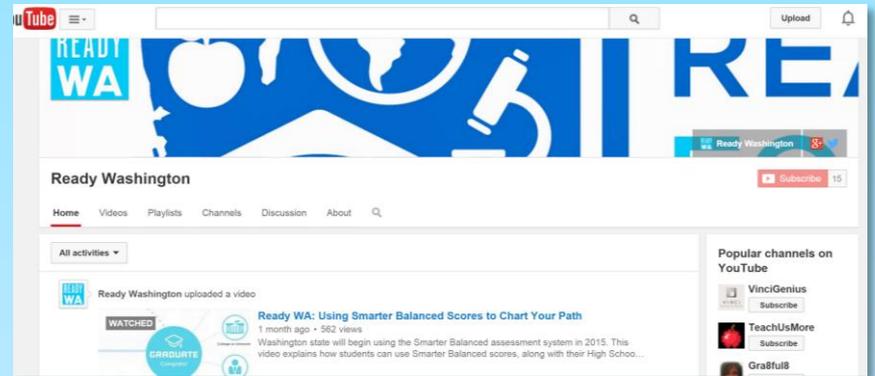
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Resources

Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction

www.WAtesting.com

Ready Washington

www.ReadyWA.org

State Report Card

<http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us>

