

PLAN YOUR PATH USING SMARTER BALANCED ASSESSMENTS AND THE HIGH SCHOOL AND BEYOND PLAN

To help you on a pathway to success after high school, Washington's career and college ready learning standards define what you should know and be able to do at each grade level.

Your school measures the progress you and your classmates are making in meeting these standards, including important skills such as problem solving, writing, and critical thinking, with the Smarter Balanced assessments. The assessment is one way to help you, your family, and teachers know how you are doing in school and what you can do to help achieve your dreams. If you score 1 or 2, you are not yet on track to be career and college ready, and you're not alone. Some of your classmates are in the same situation, and with hard work and extra help, you can get back on the career and college ready path.

What does career and college ready mean?

Being career and college ready means you have the skills, such as writing, critical thinking, and problem solving, to succeed in college credit-bearing courses or on the job training necessary for your chosen career.

Scoring a 3 or higher on the math or English assessment is one way of demonstrating that you are on track to be ready for college or career training after high school.

If you score below a 3 on your math or English assessment, you have two more years to get on track for college and career.

You can become career and college ready if you scored a 1 or 2 on the math or English assessments.

You can graduate high school ready to succeed in college, an apprenticeship, or a professional/technical program, but it will take some work and planning. One way to plan your path is the High School and Beyond Plan. The High School and Beyond Plan is a graduation requirement that helps you define and plan your educational and career goals. It can help you identify supports or additional courses that can keep you on track to reaching your goals. The following opportunities can help achieve your goals:

- **Enroll in a Bridge to College transition course** (if available at your school).
- **Explore options** for after school and summer expanded learning.
- **Find and attend tutoring** through your school or community organizations.
- **Keep up** good attendance and homework habits.
- **Identify and connect** with mentors who can guide and support you.
- **Lead your school conferences** with your teachers and family. Discuss your progress, challenges, and goals for the future.
- **Tour a college and a worksite** in person or virtually to see how your hard work and dedication can pay off. Talk with your teachers and coaches about their college experiences.
- **Celebrate** your successes!

WHAT DO THE SBA SCORES MEAN?



SBA

Assessments are scored on a 1 to 4 scale. If you score a 3 or 4 on your high school Smarter Balanced assessments, you are on track to be career and college ready by the end of 12th grade. If you score a 1 or 2 you can get on a pathway to education and training after high school, but it's going to take some extra work—and maybe a bit more time.

TRANSITION COURSES



Bridge to College transition courses are full-credit, one-year courses taught during the school day at many high schools across the state. Students who earn a B or higher in these courses can enroll in college level math or English at participating Washington higher education institutions, including the state's 34 community and technical colleges. Ask your counselor or learn more at bridgetocollegecourses.org.

RESOURCES:

Ready Washington
readywa.org

Ready Set Grad
readyssetgrad.org

High School and Beyond Plan (HS+BP)
www.k12.wa.us/graduationrequirements/Requirement-HighSchoolBeyond.aspx

Graduation Requirements
sbe.wa.gov/graduation.php

YOU CAN DO THIS!

1

2

If you scored below career and college ready (a 1 or 2) on your math or English assessments, you're not alone. Some of your classmates are in the same situation, and with hard work and extra help, you can get back on the career and college ready path.

3

SCORED A 3 OR A 4?

You are on track to be ready for career or college. You can qualify for credit-bearing courses in college and avoid the cost and time of remedial or high school level courses in college.

4

