



## FAQs for Secondary Counselors | Spring 2025

**NOTE:** This is an FAQ with resource links to courses and pathway updates for pre-registration for 2024-25. As additional questions are asked, answers will be added – please send your questions to [Dave Peters](mailto:Dave.Peters). *Thank you for all you do!*

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### Career & Technical Education (CTE)

Email [CTE@everettsd.org](mailto:CTE@everettsd.org) with your questions.

CTE has created a Counselor Portal to support you and it houses much of the information below and other resources. It can be found here: <https://www.everettsd.org/Page/43093>

**MIDDLE SCHOOL STEM & CTE** |  [CTE Info](#) & [VIDEO](#) | [Signature STEM Programs VIDEO & Info](#)  
(Integrated Tech I/II, Exploring Robotics, Robotics Tech I/II, Exploring Graphic Arts, Digital Manufacturing, Exploring Industrial Tech 6-7)

#### Robotics

**Q:** Are there prerequisites for Robotics at the MS?

**A:** The only prerequisite is that a student signed up for Robotics Tech II has taken Robotics Tech I.

#### High School Credit

**Q:** Can students earn high school credit at the middle school?

**A:** While students can earn high school credit for a number of middle school courses, students, per OSPI, they cannot earn high school CTE credit.

#### 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> graders who are NOT ready for a high school course?

**Q:** What are options for students who are taking MS level courses from 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades?

**A:** They can take Integrated Tech I/II and Exploring Industrial Tech 7

**HIGH SCHOOL CTE PROGRAM** |  [CTE Info](#) & [VIDEO](#) | [Signature STEM Programs VIDEO & Info](#)

#### Course Changes

**Q:** Are there new course names?

**A:** Yes:

- Principles of Marketing formerly known as Foundation of Business and Marketing
- Culinary I formerly known as Nutrition and Food Prep I
- Culinary II formerly known as Nutrition and Food Prep II
- Automotive Technology 1, formerly known as Automotive Maintenance
- Automotive Technology 2, formerly known as Automotive Technology
- Manufacturing, formerly known as Foundations of Manufacturing

**Q: Are there new courses?**

**A:** Yes:

- Cisco Networking Academy II
- Cisco Networking Academy II
- NJROTC Drill Dynamics & Fitness

**Cisco**

**Q:** Where can a student take Cisco?

**A:** All HS students can access the Cisco Networking Academy as it is now a Signature STEM program.

**Q:** Is Cisco a part of the Signature STEM program?

**A:** Cisco is now a part of the Signature STEM program as of the 2025-26 school year.

**Q:** Is there a prerequisite for this course?

**A:** No, however, computer knowledge and technical skills are strongly encouraged.

**Signature STEM Programs**

**Q:** Where can I get more information about signature stem programs?

**A:** More information on Signature STEM program:

- Refer to CTE program updated given to you by CTE at building counselor meetings.
- Webpage with details for families and you: <https://www.everettsd.org/Page/42426>
- Video for students: [www.everettsd.org/ctesignaturestem](http://www.everettsd.org/ctesignaturestem) and the QR code to scan



**Signature STEM Engineering & Manufacturing: Aerospace Engineering & Manufacturing**

**Q:** Where is this program located?

**A:** CHS

**Q:** Is transportation provided?

**A:** Yes; students will travel to CHS during 2<sup>nd</sup> lunch and return after school. Qualifying students will be dropped at their bus stop.

**Q:** What courses are a part of this program?

**A:** Astronomy & Aerospace Engineering (1 period) and Manufacturing (1 period)  
CHS students will be able to register for courses without the block requirement.

**Q:** What periods should students be scheduled for this program?

**A:** 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> period, with 2<sup>nd</sup> period.

**Signature STEM Engineering & Manufacturing: Automotive Mechatronics**

**Q:** Where is this program located?

**A:** CHS

**Q:** Is transportation provided?

**A:** Yes; students will travel to CHS during 2<sup>nd</sup> lunch and return after school. Qualifying students will be dropped at their bus stop.

**Q:** What courses are a part of this program?

**A:** Automotive Technology 1 S1, Automotive Technology 2 S2, & Mechatronic.  
CHS students will be able to register for courses without the block requirement.

**Q:** What periods should students be scheduled for this course?

**A:** CHS-any period in the master schedule; JHS and EHS-5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> period

**Signature STEM: Healthcare Academy**

**Q:** *Where is this program located?*

**A:** EHS

**Q:** *Is transportation provided?*

**A:** Yes; students will travel to EHS during 2nd lunch and return after school. Qualifying students will be dropped at their bus stop.

**Q:** *What courses are a part of this program?*

**A:** Introduction to Patient Care, Nutrition and Wellness S1, and Medical Terminology S2.

**Q:** *What periods should students be scheduled for this course?*

**A:** 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> period; EHS-1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> lunch; JHS and CHS-2<sup>nd</sup> lunch

**Signature STEM NJROTC**

**Q:** *Where is this program located?*

**A:** EHS

**Q:** *Is transportation provided?*

**A:** Yes; students will travel to EHS during 2nd lunch and return after school. Qualifying students will be dropped at their bus stop.

**Q:** *What periods should students be scheduled for this course?*

**A:** EHS-any period; North MS-first period, JHS and CHS-5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> period, with 2<sup>nd</sup> lunch.

**Q:** *What courses are part of the program?*

**A:** For all students, there are 5 options. EHS students will be able to register for courses without the block requirement.

- NJROTC 1 –4 and NJROTC Drill Dynamics and Fitness
- Cascade or HM Jackson High School students will also be required to take a secondary course in either period 5 or 6, as determined by student schedule request and counselor input
- Registrars are up to date on this process

**Q:** *What credit can students earn?*

**A:** CTE, PE and junior year Social Studies and Fine Arts

**Q:** *Are students required to sign up for the military?*

**A:** No, they are not. This course promotes leadership, a sense of belonging, community service, and diverse competitive after school events such as marksmanship, drill, cyber security and color guard.

**Signature STEM Cisco Networking Academy**

**Q:** *Where is this program located?*

**A:** JHS

**Q:** *What courses are a part of this program?*

**A:** Cisco Networking Academy I, Cisco Networking Academy II, Cisco Networking Academy III. This program will be available in eSchools for all students for registration.

**Q:** *Is transportation provided?*

**A:** Yes; students will travel to JHS during 2nd lunch and return after school. Qualifying students will be dropped at their bus stop.

**Q:** What periods should students be scheduled for this course?

**A:** JHS-Periods 1 and 2; EHS and CHS-Periods 5 and 6, with 2<sup>nd</sup> lunch.

**Q:** What credit can students earn?

**A:** CTE



## English Language Arts

### MIDDLE SCHOOL

**(English 6, 7, 8 and Honors English 7, Honors English 8, Pre-AP 1)**

**Q:** Do students need to take an ELA course each year?

**A:** Yes, students are required to take two semesters of ELA each year.

**Q:** What students should take the honors English courses?

**A:** Any student who expresses interest in the honors levels can take the course. For example, a 7<sup>th</sup> grader who took English 7 can take Pre-AP 1 as an 8<sup>th</sup> grader. Please note, students will skip an entire year of standards which can be impactful in the coming years. Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders who were in the Highly Capable program should be encouraged to take Honors English 7. Please review the “recommendations in the course catalogue.”

### HIGH SCHOOL

**Q:** Can students take 2 English courses at the same time?

**A:** Yes, however, this is not recommended unless the student is attempting credit recovery or there is a specific need the student is trying to fulfil. Once a student completes Pre-AP 2, they can select a variety of AP courses that could meet their needs. Please ensure students are aware of course selection and impacts with college admissions (which courses count as English course vs. those that do not). Students may choose to take their primary English course and an elective course at the same time (i.e. AP Lit and creative writing).

**Q:** Why aren't all the English courses listed in the catalog available for students at my school?

**A:** Needs for different courses has changed over the years and buildings are choosing to align their FTE in different manners.

## Mathematics

Email [KTrosvig@everettsd.org](mailto:KTrosvig@everettsd.org) with your questions.



### MIDDLE SCHOOL MATH PATHWAYS | [Placement Resource for MS Students](#)

**Q:** Which course should incoming 6<sup>th</sup> grade students take coming from a 5<sup>th</sup> grade or HC 5<sup>th</sup> class?

**A:** [Rising 5th graders- Suggested math placement decision matrix.pdf](#) Use this matrix to help make decisions about their math course in 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Please remember these are suggestions and should be taken into consideration with teacher input and assessment scores.

**Q:** Can students skip a math course during middle school? (i.e. go from Accelerated 6<sup>th</sup> to Algebra)

**A:** We do not have students skip a math course in middle school because of the math standards they would miss by not taking a course. Students need to learn all the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade standards prior to moving into an Algebra course.

**Q:** How does a student move from standard math pathway to the accelerated pathway in middle school?

**A:** [Placement Resource for MS Student](#) If a student did not choose to enter the accelerated pathway as

an incoming 6<sup>th</sup> grader, they have two other opportunities to bridge into that pathway. Both require them to participate in the 3-week summer school program. Bridge to Accelerated 7<sup>th</sup> Academy takes a student who has completed the standard 6<sup>th</sup> grade course and preps them for moving into the accelerated 7<sup>th</sup> grade course, it does not replace the accelerated 7<sup>th</sup> grade course. Bridge to Algebra Academy takes a student who has completed the standard 7<sup>th</sup> grade course and preps them for moving into the Algebra course, it does not replace the Algebra course. The bridge courses are a way to support students who have a strong desire and work ethic to move into the faster paced accelerated pathway.

**Q:** *Can you explain the difference between a general math course (Math 6, Math 7) and the accelerated 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> math courses?*

**A:** [Placement Resource for MS Student](#) Accelerated courses compact one and one-half years of math standards into a one-year course. Accelerated 6<sup>th</sup> contains all the 6<sup>th</sup> grade math standards and half of the 7<sup>th</sup> grade math standards. Accelerated 7<sup>th</sup> contains all the 8<sup>th</sup> grade math standards and the other half of the 7<sup>th</sup> grade math standards. Because these courses are compacted it is important that students can move through the content at a faster pace, be more self-motivated and currently enjoy math to be successful in the course.

**Q:** *Why isn't there an Accelerated 8<sup>th</sup> grade course?*

**A:** Once students have completed the Accelerated 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> course, they have learned all the math content standards for grades 6,7, and 8. They then move into the high school Algebraic Concepts course.

## **HIGH SCHOOL | [4<sup>th</sup> year math options after Advanced Algebraic Concepts](#)**

**Q:** *Can students take 2 math courses at the same time?*

**A:** Yes, certain math courses could be taken concurrently as long as one is not a prerequisite to the other. (e.g. AP Statistics and Precalculus; Precalculus, and Introduction to Data Science, etc.) Individual students' strengths should be considered when making this decision.

**Q:** *Why aren't all the math courses listed in the catalog available for students at my school?*

**A:** Needs for different courses have changed over the years and buildings are choosing to align their FTE in different manners.

**Q:** *What classes are available for students after Advanced Algebraic concepts?*

**A:** We have increased the options for students for their 4<sup>th</sup> year math. [4<sup>th</sup> year math options after Advanced Algebraic Concepts](#)

## **[Introduction to Data Science | Information Flyer](#)**

**Q:** *Is this course a prerequisite for AP statistics?*

**A:** No. This course can be taken before or after AP statistics.

## **AP Calculus BC**

**Q:** *We do not have enough students to support a separate AP Calculus BC course. What options are available for those students?*

**A:** Students can enroll in the Spokane Virtual Learning program to take the class virtually. Please contact Jeanne Willard or Jaci Barbano for more information. Ccr@everettsd.org

## **Multilingual Learners**

### **MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**Q:** *What are the best English and English Language Development course placements for middle school multilingual learners?*



**A:** Please work with your ML Teachers to review course placements. Multilingual learners are extremely diverse in terms of the support needed. Please review the [MS Course Placement Guidance](#) that was developed in collaboration with Middle School ML teachers last spring.

**Q:** Which middle school multilingual students qualify for S/U grading instead of a letter grade?

**A:** The qualification for S/U grading is based on student proficiency in English. Please review the [ML Middle School Grading Requirements](#).

**Q:** Who do I contact if I have questions about multilingual learners?

**A:** Contact your school's ML Teacher(s) and/or the ML Facilitators: [Kristine Gooding](#) and [Alexandra McElwee](#).

## HIGH SCHOOL

**Q:** What are the best English and English Language Development course placements for high school multilingual learners?

**A:** Please work with your ML Teachers and ML Success Coordinators to review course placements. Multilingual learners are extremely diverse in terms of the support needed. Please review the [HS Course Placement Guidance](#) that was developed in collaboration with High School ML teachers last spring.

**Q:** Which newcomers should be placed in Sheltered Content Courses?

**A:** Multilingual students that are new to the country are an extremely diverse group. Students may need all, some, or no sheltered content courses. Please review the [HS Sheltered Course Placement Guidance](#).

**Q:** Which high school multilingual students qualify for S/U grading instead of a letter grade?

**A:** The qualification for S/U grading is based on student proficiency in English. Please review the [ML High School Grading Requirements](#).

**Q:** What is the process when a student transfers into high school from another country?

**A:** All international transcripts reviews are completed by Kristine Gooding, ML Facilitator, and school staff to determine which credits meet graduation requirements in Washington State. Please review the [EPS International Transcript Review Process](#) document for additional details.

**Q:** Who do I contact if I have questions about multilingual learners?

**A:** Contact your school's ML Teacher(s), ML Success Coordinators, and/or the ML Facilitators: [Kristine Gooding](#) and [Alexandra McElwee](#).

## Physical Education & Health



### MIDDLE SCHOOL

**(Foundational 6,7,8-required, Elective- Personal Fitness- 6,7,8, and Team Sports- 7,8)**

**Q:** Can a student opt out of PE in grades 6-8?

**A:** Yes, if they meet one of the following under [Procedure 2123P](#) I.A. *Physical Education Exceptions in Grades One Through Eight* ([RCW 28A.230.040](#)):

Students in grades 1-8 may be excused from participating in physical education for the following reasons:

1. Physical disability, with a note from the student's physician indicating the reason and length of time for the request;

2. Religious belief, with a note indicating the religious doctrine that prevents the student's participation in physical education; or
3. Participation in directed athletics, including community-based, organized athletics. These students must: (i) document seventy-five (75) hours of participation in community-based, organized athletics to qualify for one (1) semester of middle school physical education; or (ii) participate on two (2) school-based athletic teams to qualify for 75 hours of participation.

**Q:** Can a student just take the elective PE class instead of the Foundational?

**A:** No, students must take the Foundational classes, but can also take the electives just not as a substitute.

**Q:** Can a student opt out of Health 6 or 7?

**A:** No, but they can opt out of the Sexual Education unit by the student's parent or guardian by filling out and submitting the [district form](#) from [Procedure 2123P](#).

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

**(PE 1, Cardio and Core, Advanced Cardio and Core, Team Sports, Advanced Team Sports, Court Sports, Advanced Court Sports, Yoga Core Training, Lifetime Sports, Sports Performance, Walking, Into to Weights, Weight Training, Advanced Weight Training, PE Peer Tutor)**

**Q:** What does a student need to graduate?

**A:** 1.5 credits of PE and .5 credit of Health

**Q:** Can a student be excused from PE?

**A:** Yes, under [Procedure 2123P](#) I.B. *Physical Education Exceptions in High School* ([RCW 28A.230.050](#)):

Students may be excused from participating in the fitness portion of the physical education requirement (though they shall be required to demonstrate proficiency in the knowledge portion of the physical education requirement on the district approved competency-based assessment) for the following reasons:

1. Physical disability, with a note from the student's physician indicating the reason and length of time for the request;
2. Employment, with a note from the student's employer indicating the nature of the employment that prevents the student from participating in the fitness portion of the physical education requirement;
3. Religious belief, with a note indicating the religious doctrine that prevents the student's participation in physical education;
4. Participation in directed athletics or military science or tactics (JROTC). Students participating in directed athletics, including community-based, organized athletics, are eligible to receive up to 1.5 credits of the physical education requirement for their participation time. These students must: (i) document seventy-five (75) hours of participation time to qualify for 0.5 credits; or (ii) participate on one (1) school-based athletic team to qualify for 0.5 credits upon successful completion of the season.
5. For other good cause as determined by the principal

**Q:** What might be an example of an employment basis for a student to be excused from PE in #2 above?

**A:** An example might include a job that requires physical stamina that is of such a degree that participating in a PE class earlier in the workday would negatively influence employee performance, particularly when sustained over time.



**Q:** Can a student opt out of Family Health?

**A:** No, but they can opt out of the Sexual Education unit by the student's parent or guardian by filling out and submitting the [district form](#) from [Procedure 2123P](#).

## **Science**



### **MIDDLE SCHOOL**

(Science 6, 7, 8 and Coordinated Science)

**Q:** Do students need to take a Science course each year?

**A:** Yes, students are required to take two semesters of Science each year.

**Q:** Who should register for Coordinated Science?

**A:** Students with strong math and science skills and content knowledge, as well as the desire to engage in a high school science course in middle school, should consider Coordinated Science. Please see the Middle School Course catalog and the [Science Pathways Tool for Rising Grade 8 Students](#) for more information.

### **HIGH SCHOOL**

**Q:** What Science courses options are available for Grade 9 students?

**A:** Rising 9<sup>th</sup> Graders should register for either Biology and the Environment or AP Environmental Science.

**Q:** Which grade 9 science course should I enroll in, Biology and the Environment or AP Environmental Science?

**A:** Unless a student has a strong interest in ecological topics or desires the opportunity for college credit in a 9<sup>th</sup> grade course, it is recommended that he/she enroll for the rigorous Biology and the Environment course. All students will have the opportunity to enroll in AP Environmental Science as an elective in 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade if not taken in grade 9. Please see the High School Course catalog and the [Science Pathways Tool for Rising Grade 9 Students](#) for more information.

**Q:** Which Science courses options are available for Grade 10 students?

**A:** Rising 10<sup>th</sup> Graders should register for either Physics in the Universe or AP Physics 1.

**Q:** Which grade 10 science course should I enroll in, Physics in the Universe or AP Physics 1?

**A:** Unless a student has a strong interest in physics-based topics or desires the opportunity for college credit in a 10<sup>th</sup> grade course, it is recommended that he/she enroll for the rigorous Physics in the Universe course. All students will have the opportunity to enroll in AP Physics 1 as an elective in 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade if not taken in grade 10. Please see the High School Course catalog and the [Science Pathways Tool for Rising Grade 10 Students](#) for more information.

## **Social Studies**



### **MIDDLE SCHOOL**

(World History, Washington State History, US History and Human Geography)



**Q:** *How many semesters of social studies is required per year?*

**A:** 6th graders must take one semester of World History, 7<sup>th</sup> graders must take one semester of Washington State History, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders must take two semesters of US History.

**Q:** *Who should register for Human Geography?*

**A:** Human geography is an elective course. Students who are interested in history/social studies and may be interested in taking AP Human Geography in high school should register for this course.

**Q:** *Do all students need to take Washington State History in middle school?*

**A:** Yes. Starting in 7<sup>th</sup> grade, all students must take Washington State History. This is a graduation requirement. If students do not pass in 7<sup>th</sup> grade, they should plan to retake the course to meet their graduation requirement prior to high school.

## HIGH SCHOOL

**Q:** *How many credits of social studies are needed to graduate?*

**A:** 3 credits

**Q:** *What year should students take the civics requirement?*

**A:** Civics or an equivalent should be taken in 12<sup>th</sup> grade but may be taken in 11<sup>th</sup> grade if appropriate.

**Q:** *Why aren't all the Social Studies courses listed in the catalog available for students at my school?*

**A:** Needs for different courses have changed over the years and buildings are choosing to align their FTE in different manners.

## Visual & Performing Arts



### MIDDLE SCHOOL | [Electives Video for Students](#)

**(Art, Graphic Arts, Yearbook, Performing Arts (drama), Band, Choir, Orchestra, General Music)**

**Q:** *Do students need to take a visual arts course or performing arts course each year?*

**A:** Yes, students are required to take one semester of art, music or a performing arts class each academic year.

**Q:** *How do I know which level of Band, Choir or Orchestra students should take?*

**A:** Most 6<sup>th</sup> graders should start at the beginning with level I courses, or Prelude Orchestra. If students have lots of previous experience, then they should register for Band II or Choir II or Intermezzo Orchestra. Please check with your performing arts teachers if you have questions.

**Q:** *Can incoming 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> graders take beginning music classes?*

**A:** Yes, students should register for the class at the same level matching their music skills.

**Q:** *Are there any art or music classes that offer students high school credit?*

**A:** The only class offered that gives students high school credit is Exploring Graphic Arts. Students earn .5 CTE and .5 V&P high school credit. This .5 credit will automatically be included on the high school transcript unless requested otherwise by the students and the student's family by the end of 11<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Q:** *Is Art 8 yearlong?*

**A:** We have both Art 8 one semester courses, and yearlong courses, depending on the school. Most schools are offering Art 8 as a one semester course.

**Q:** *Do families need to rent or purchase an instrument for band or orchestra?*

**A:** Families are encouraged to rent or purchase an instrument; however, we do have school instruments available to rent, or at no cost for students that need them.

**Q:** *When should students rent or purchase an instrument?*

**A:** Students should wait until after they talk with their music teacher before renting or purchasing an instrument. Teachers will offer specific information about instruments. This will happen after school begins.

**Q:** *Are students in performing arts classes expected to attend performances?*

**A:** Yes, performances are an important part of each performing art class and align with music standards.

**Q:** *Is there an art or performing arts fee for students?*

**A:** Possibly- please check with your specific school about this.

**Q:** *Are there any new visual or performing art classes this year?*

**A:** No, yearbook and performing arts courses were new last year. Yearbook is one semester long. Performing Arts (drama) is also one semester long.

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

### **(Visual Art, Theatre, and Music)**

**Q:** *Do students need to take Visual or Performing Arts courses in high school?*

**A:** Yes, students need 2 Arts credits, or 1 Arts and 1 PPR (elective course aligned to HSBP) Course.

**Q:** *What are the prerequisites for visual art classes?*

**A:** Students should start with Intro to Art or Intro to Graphic Design at JHS & Sequoia, and Intro to Art, Intro to Graphic Design, or Intro to Ceramics at CHS and EHS.

**Q:** *Are there any new visual art courses this year?*

**A:** Yes. New arts classes are Graphic Design offered at EHS this year, and Ceramics Studio Technician offered at EHS & JHS this year.

**Q:** *Do families need to rent or purchase an instrument for band or orchestra?*

**A:** Families are encouraged to rent or purchase an instrument; however, we do have school instruments available to rent, or at no cost for students that need them.

**Q:** *Is there an art or performing arts fee for students?*

**A:** Possibly- please check with your specific school about this.

**Q:** *How do I know which level of Band, Choir or Orchestra students should take?*

**A:** Students should register for the class at the same level matching their music skills. Students may need to audition for Performing Arts Classes. Please check with teachers if you have questions.

**Q:** *Are students in performing arts classes expected to attend performances?*

**A:** Yes, performances are an important part of each performing art class and align with music standards.

