

# 2 GETTING READY: ALL ABOUT HIGH SCHOOL

High school is a time to build your skills and explore your interests to prepare you for life after high school. In order to graduate there are requirements you must meet and it's important to become familiar with them.

## WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL?

**Earn required credits** – Students in Washington State must complete a **minimum of 24 credits** to graduate from high school for the Class of 2019 and beyond. However, your high school may have slightly different credit requirements. You must take a certain amount of credits in specific subjects, such as four credits of English.

**Every class you take in high school counts towards graduation.**  
Talk with your counselor to get a list of your school's requirements.

**Meet standard on state assessments** – You must take and pass **state assessments** in English language arts, math and science or take and meet standard on a variety of state-approved alternatives.

**Complete your High School and Beyond Plan** – Starting in 7th or 8th grade you will create a plan to help you think about your future and choose classes that prepare you for your goals after high school.

## TIPS:

- ✱ What you do in high school can influence your future
- ✱ Pay attention in class and keep track of your grades
- ✱ Use a planner to stay organized and write down assignments, due dates and other responsibilities
- ✱ Don't be afraid to ask for help. Be an advocate for yourself and ask for support from your counselors, teachers, family members and mentors.

## SOME SCHOOLS HAVE ADDITIONAL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Check with your school counselor to see if you have any other requirements to earn your **diploma**

**Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA)** – The College Bound Scholarship and many school districts require at least a 2.0 GPA to graduate. The higher your **GPA**, the more college and scholarship options you will have available.

**Service learning** – You may need to complete service learning hours, where you give back to the community and reflect on your experience.

**SEPT:** GRADE 9 and 10