ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

LESSON 11-8 ▲ POSTSECONDARY ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

**LEARNING GOALS/OUTCOMES**

* Students will describe the admission requirements for admission to a Washington state public or other four-year college or university.
* Students will summarize their progress toward meeting postsecondary admission requirements.
* Students will complete a high school graduation requirements credit check.

**MATERIALS NEEDED**

* **Student Handouts:**
* Postsecondary Timeline Worksheet
* Credit Check Worksheet
* **Family Handouts:**
* High School Graduation Requirements
* Preparing for Postsecondary
* **Computer, projection device and screen** for projecting accompanying PowerPoint presentation
* **PowerPoint Presentation: “Postsecondary Admissions”**
* **Internet access** for your students

**CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES**

1. **Review college admission requirements.** Ask for volunteers to share what they hope to do after high school: get a job right away, attend a community or technical college, enlist in the military, or attend a four-year college. If you wish, write each of these categories on the board and ask for a show of hands for how many students plan to pursue each option. Remind students that Washington State has six public four-year colleges and universities, as well as 34 community and technical colleges. In addition, there are more than 3,000 other colleges and universities around the country. If students want to attend a four-year college, they will have to meet certain admission requirements.
2. **Show the “Postsecondary Admissions” presentation.** Show the **“**Postsecondary Admissions”Power Point with students, focusing on the things students need to do during junior and senior year to prepare. Remind students that the College Academic Distribution Requirements (CADRs), which are required for Washington State’s public four-year colleges and recommended for community or technical colleges, are just the **minimum** they should do.
3. **Research colleges.** Give each student or group a copy of the *Postsecondary Timeline Worksheet* and make sure each student has access to a computer. Tell them to select their top choice postsecondary program using one of the following web sites:

* [www.CheckOutACollege.com](http://www.CheckOutACollege.com) for Washington State community and technical colleges.
* <http://www.wsac.wa.gov> for Washington State four-year public colleges and universities *Have students click on “About Our System” in the upper left of the page, and then “Washington’s Institutions.” That will lead them to links to the six public colleges, including branch locations.*
* [www.CollegeBoard.org](http://www.CollegeBoard.org) for information about any college or university in the country (including community colleges and public colleges). *Have students click on “College Search.”*

Have students use these web sites to find and then go to the web site for their top choice postsecondary program. Then ask students answer the questions on the worksheet to set their own personal postsecondary timeline.

**STUDENT PRODUCTS**

* **Completed *Postsecondary Timeline Worksheet***
* **Completed *Credit Check Worksheet***

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AND OTHER INFORMATION**

* **The Washington State Board of Education**

<http://www.sbe.wa.gov/documents/GradRequirements/GradReqVisualsAug2014.pdf>

Minimum requirements for Washington State

* **TheWashBoard.org**

[www.thewashboard.org](http://www.thewashboard.org)

A scholarship matching service for students in Washington State

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

LESSON 11-8 STUDENT HANDOUT

POSTSECONDARY TIMELINE WORKSHEET

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**What is your top choice for postsecondary education? Select one of the options below:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 🞏 | Find an apprenticeship | 🞏 | Join the military |
| 🞏 | Attend a community or technical college | 🞏 | Attend a four-year college or university |

Name and describe your top choice:

**Describe the steps you have taken to apply to a postsecondary program:**

* **Research postsecondary programs.** Describe what you have done to learn about postsecondary programs.

* **Take required assessment exams.** Visit the web site of your top choice postsecondary program and learn which exams you must take to be admitted. On the list below, make a check mark by the exams that program requires. Then circle the exams you have already taken or plan to take.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 🞏 | SAT | 🞏 | SAT Subject Tests (# \_\_\_\_\_\_\_) | 🞏 | ACCUPLACER |
| 🞏 | ACT | 🞏 | ASVAB (for military) | 🞏 | COMPASS |

* **Meet course requirements.** Visit the web site of your top choice postsecondary program and learn which courses you must take during high school to be admitted. On the list below, write down the credits required in each subject area. Then circle the subjects for which you have (or will have) completed the requirements by graduation.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| \_\_ | Math | \_\_ | English | \_\_ | World Language |
| \_\_ | Science | \_\_ | Social Studies | \_\_ | Arts/Occupational |

* **Request recommendations.** No matter what postsecondary program you hope to enter, you will need to have teachers and/or your school counselor submit letters of recommendation for you. To make their letters of recommendation as powerful as possible, you should ask them during spring of junior year or at the beginning of senior year. You should include a resume or activity log when you request a letter to help jog their memory. List below at least three people (at least two teachers and a school counselor) that you could approach for a letter of recommendation. Next to each name, list what you could say to remind them about you and your work.

* **Make a list of programs to apply.** Most experts recommend that you apply to between three and ten postsecondary programs. The programs you choose should include academic and financial “safeties” (programs to which you are certain to be admitted and can afford to attend) as well as “reach” schools. Have you made a list yet? You should make a list by the fall of senior year and learn what you must do to apply to each one. On the lines below, list any programs to which you are reasonably sure you will apply.

* **Write application essays.** Most postsecondary programs ask you to write at least one short essay about yourself: why you want the particular program, one of your accomplishments, or a lesson you’ve learned. On the lines below, write down ideas for possible essays to introduce yourself. You might list your hobbies, your goals, or something else that would be interesting about yourself.

* **Keep track of deadlines.** Make a calendar with the deadlines for each program’s application clearly marked. You should also note any special details about each program’s application.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

LESSON 11-8 STUDENT HANDOUT

CREDIT CHECK WORKSHEET

**Instructions:** Please fill out the grid below. First, list the required credits for your postsecondary plan (either the minimum graduation requirements for your district, the minimum admission requirements for Washington State public, four-year colleges, or the recommended credits for your preferred postsecondary program). Next, list the credits from courses you have already taken or are taking this year, and the courses you plan to take over the next few years in high school. Then total up your credits to see how you are doing. PPR = Personalized Pathway Requirement based on High School & Beyond Plan.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SUBJECT** | **REQUIREMENTS  I MUST MEET *(For HS or postsecondary)*** | **COURSES I HAVE ALREADY  TAKEN *(Completed or currently enrolled)*** | **COURSES  PLANNED  FOR THE FUTURE** | **TOTAL CREDITS I HAVE OR  WILL EARN** | **CREDITS I STILL NEED** |
| **English** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Math** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Science**  **(including Labs)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Social Studies** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **World Language (or PPR)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Arts (or PPR)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Health / Fitness** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Occupational Ed (CTE)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **General Electives** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL CREDITS** |  |  |  |  |  |

For more information, visit the OSPI web site at: [www.k12.wa.us/graduationrequirements](http://www.k12.wa.us/graduationrequirements/)

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

LESSON 11-8 FAMILY HANDOUT

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

To graduate from high school in Washington State, a student must: (1) earn high school credit by taking courses in different subject areas in high school; (2) meet standard on State tests, including the HSPE and end-of-course exams; and (3) prepare a High School & Beyond Plan.

What courses should you take to earn the required high school credits? There are several different standards: there is a minimum needed to graduate in Washington State, a minimum needed to graduate in your school district, a minimum needed to apply to a Washington State four-year public college or university, and the recommended amount for highly selective colleges and universities. For more information: [www.k12.wa.us/graduationrequirements](http://www.k12.wa.us/graduationrequirements) or [www.wsac.wa.gov](http://www.wsac.wa.gov).

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SUBJECT | WA STATE GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (2016, 2017, 2018) | WA STATE GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (2019)\* | MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR WA PUBLIC COLLEGES | RECOMMENDED FOR HIGHLY SELECTIVE COLLEGES |
| ENGLISH | 4 credits | 4 credits | 4 credits | 4 credits |
| MATH | 3 credits | 3 credits | 3 credits (Incl math senior year) | 3-4 credits |
| SCIENCE (1 Lab) | 2 credits (1 lab) | 3 credits (2 lab) | 2 credits (2 labs) | 3-4 credits |
| SOCIAL STUDIES | 3 credits | 3 credits | 3 credits | 3-4 credits |
| WORLD LANGUAGE *or Personalized Pathway Requirement (PPR)* |  | 2 credits  (both can be PPR) | 2 credits | 3-4 credits |
| ARTS | 1 credit | 2 credit | 1 credit | 2-3 credits |
| HEALTH/FITNESS | 2 credits  (.5 Health and 1.5 Fitness) | 2 credits  (.5 Health and 1.5 Fitness) | \*Your school district’s requirements may be higher than the state minimums. Students must have at least a 2.0 GPA to be admitted to a public college or university in Washington State. TOTAL OF 24 credits class of 2019 and beyond. | | |
| CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION | 1 credit | 1 credit |
| GENERAL ELECTIVES | 4 credits | 4 credits |

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

LESSON 10-8 FAMILY HANDOUT

PREPARING FOR POSTSECONDARY

**IT’S TIME TO START THINKING ABOUT POSTSECONDARY!**

Washington State has 34 community and technical (two-year) colleges. In addition, we have six public four-year colleges and universities: University of Washington, Washington State University, Western Washington University, The Evergreen State College, Eastern Washington University, and Central Washington University. And, there are more than 3,000 public and private colleges around the country. There’s a program for every interest!

**LEARN ABOUT FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

Students who would like to attend a public college must meet certain minimum standards. These are required for the four-year public colleges and recommended for two-year community or technical colleges:

* **College Academic Distribution Requirements,** which include specific courses students must take during high school (see below). Year-long courses in high school results in one annualized credit. To graduate from high school, students must earn a certain number of credits by taking approximately six courses per year.
* **2.0 Minimum Grade Point Average (GPA)** during high school, out of a 4.0 scale.
* **Official SAT/ACT scores.** Students must take an official college entrance exam, such as the SAT or ACT, and have their scores sent directly to the college.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE ACADEMIC DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS** | |
| **SUBJECT** | **REQUIREMENTS (Note that requirements may change)** |
| **ENGLISH 4 credits** | Including 3 credits of college prep composition or literature |
| **MATH 3 credits** | Algebra I & II + Geometry or Integrated Math I, II, III Must take a math-based quantitative course during senior year |
| **SCIENCE 2 credits** | One credit must be in an algebra-based science course One credit must be in biology, chemistry, or physics |
| **SOCIAL STUDIES 3 credits** | History or other social science |
| **WORLD LANGUAGE 2 credits** | Two credits must be earned in the same language One credit may be earned during middle school |
| **ARTS 1 credit** | Fine, visual, or performing arts |

Learn more about Minimum College Admission Requirements at <http://www.wsac.wa.gov>