

Alternative Learning Experience Programs

The Wenatchee School District Board of Directors has the highest commitment toward ensuring an equal educational opportunity for every student. Therefore, the board authorizes the creation of alternative learning experience (ALE) opportunities. The district will make available to students educational opportunities designed to meet their individual needs. The district will comply with all state requirements necessary to ensure state funding for ALE students.

ALE courses offered by the district may include:

- Site-based courses,
- Remote courses, and
- On-line courses

The board will annually review written policies authorizing alternative learning experiences, including each alternative learning experience program and program provider. This can be done through the consent agenda and periodically include a presentation.

The Wenatchee School District establishes the following alternative programs which are provided on site, over the internet or by other electronic means. The school district officials responsible for assuring that these programs are in compliance with state laws and reporting requirements are the Executive Director of Business and Finance and the principals/program administrators of the alternative schools.

WestSide High School	High School: Grades 9-12
Valley Academy of Learning	Grades K-8 Alternative Learning Experience

Reporting Requirements for District Officials:

The school district officials responsible for overseeing each ALE program will send an annual report to the board. This annual report will include at least the following:

- A. Documentation of ALE student headcount and full-time equivalent enrollment claimed for basic education funding;
- B. Identification of the overall ratio of certificated instructional staff to full-time equivalent students enrolled in each ALE program;

- C. A description of how the program supports the district's overall goals and objectives for student academic achievement; and
- D. Results of any self-evaluations.

State Reporting Requirements:

The district must report monthly to the Superintendent of Public Instruction:

- A. Accurate monthly headcount and full-time equivalent enrollment for students enrolled in alternative learning experiences; and
- B. Information about the resident and serving districts of such students.

The District must submit annually to the Superintendent of Public Instruction:

- A. A report detailing the costs and purposes of any expenditures made to purchase or contract for instructional or co-curricular experiences and services that are included in an ALE written student learning plan, along with the substantially similar experiences or services made available to students enrolled in the district's regular instructional program.
- B. The number of certificated instructional staff full-time equivalent assigned to each alternative learning experience program; and
- C. Enrollment of students (separately identified) where ALE instruction is provided entirely under contract.

The district will submit all required annual reports to the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Assessment Requirements:

Students must be assessed at least annually, using, for full-time students (greater than 0.8 FTE), the state assessments for the student's grade level and any other annual assessments required by the district. Part-time students must be assessed at least once annually. However, part-time students who are enrolled in an approved private school are not required to participate in the assessments.

Any student whose alternative learning experience enrollment is claimed as greater than 0.8 full-time equivalent in any one month through the January count date must be included by the district in any required state or federal accountability reporting for that school year, subject to existing state and federal accountability rules and procedures.

Students enrolled in nonresident district alternative learning experience courses or coursework who are unable to participate in required annual state assessments at the nonresident district must

have the opportunity to participate in such required annual state assessments at the district of physical residence, subject to that district's planned testing schedule. It is the responsibility of the nonresident enrolling district to establish a written agreement with the district of physical residence that facilitates all necessary coordination between the districts and with the student and, where appropriate, the student's parent(s) to fulfill this requirement. Such coordination may include:

- A. Arranging for appropriate assessment materials;
- B. Notifying the student of assessment administration schedules;
- C. Arranging for the forwarding of completed assessment materials to the enrolling district for submission for scoring and reporting; and
- D. Arranging for any allowable testing accommodations, and other steps as may be necessary.

The agreement may include rates and terms for payment of reasonable fees by the enrolling district to the district of physical residence to cover costs associated with planning for and administering the assessments to students not enrolled in the district of physical residence. Assessment results for students assessed according to these provisions must be included in the enrolling district's accountability measurements, and not in the district of physical residence's accountability measures.

Program Documentation Requirements:

- A. Written Student Learning Plans;
- B. Evidence of weekly contact;
- C. Student progress evaluations and intervention plans;
- D. Results of any assessments;
- E. Student enrollment detail substantiating FTE;
- F. Signed parent enrollment disclosure documents;
- G. Boundary release documents for out-of-district students.

Students who drop out of ALE courses

A school district offering or contracting to offer an alternative learning experience course to a nonresident student must inform the resident school district if the student drops out of the course or is otherwise no longer enrolled.

The superintendent/designee is directed to develop procedures to govern the administration of the district's ALE programs.

Cross References: 2020 - Course Design, Selection and Adoption of Instructional Materials
 2024 - Online Learning Policy:

Legal References: RCW 28A.150.305 Alternative educational service providers — Student eligibility.
 RCW 28A.232.010 Alternative learning experience courses — Generally — Rules — Reports.
 RCW 28A.150.262 Online course outline
 RCW 28A.250.050 Student access to online courses and online learning programs — Policies and procedures — Course credit — Dissemination of information — Development of local or regional online learning programs.
 WAC 392-121-107 Definition-Course of study
 WAC 392-121-182 Alternative learning experience requirements
 WAC 392-121-188 Instruction provided under contract

Management Resources: 2018 - May Issue
 2017 - April Issue
 2014 - February Issue
 2012 - October Issue
 2011 - October Issue

Adoption Date: 12.13.05

Classification: Essential

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