

INSTRUCTION

Certificate of Educational Competency

A student who is 16 years of age or older but under 19 years of age and who has a substantial and warranted reason for leaving the regular high school program may make application, at the option of the applicant, to the resident district or the school last attended in the state of Washington, for a certificate of educational competency. The application must be signed by the student's parent and shall include the recommendation of a staff review committee and the superintendent.

Causes considered shall be those indicating that release from the District would be in the student's best interests, including any one of the following:

- A. Personal problems which seriously impair the student's ability to make reasonable progress toward high school graduation;
- B. A financial crisis which directly affects the student and necessitates the student's employment during school hours;
- C. The lack of curriculum and instruction which constitute appropriate learning experiences of the student;
- D. The inability or failure of the school of attendance to adjust its program for the individual or otherwise make arrangements for enrollment in a program in a manner which enables the student to advance toward graduation with reasonable progress and success; or,
- E. A determination by the designated employee of the district that it is in the best interests of the student to withdraw in order to enter a postsecondary institution or the military, or to engage in employment; or
- F. The student has been home-schooled and has essentially completed high school work.

The District shall make provisions for an appeal process for any student who feels that the denial to apply for a certificate of educational competency was unwarranted.

The board of directors will make a decision within 30 calendar days of the request and such decision be final, subject to an appeal to a court of law pursuant to [RCW 28A.645.010](#)

Certificates of educational competency shall be awarded by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Cross Reference:

3114 Part-Time, Home-Based, or Off-Campus Students

Legal References:

RCW 28A.205.030 Reentry of prior dropouts into common schools, rules—Eligibility for GED test

RCW 28A.305.190 Eligibility to take GED test

Chapter131-48 WAC Certificate of educational competence

Chapter 180-96 WAC General Education Development (GED) Test

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