



# GRADE 10

## Your Child's Progress

Learning goals for the 2009-10 school year

### Grade Level Expectations: **Grade 10**

Your 10th-grade student has specific learning goals in every subject. Grade Level Expectations, or GLEs, define the knowledge and skills that students should gain from kindergarten through the 10th grade. Each teacher is responsible not only for the GLEs in the grade they are currently teaching, but also for those in previous grades. Below are examples of key learning goals for 10th grade. To learn more about Grade Level Expectations, go to: <http://www.k12.wa.us/standards>.

#### WRITING



- Writes for a variety of audiences and purposes, including persuading and explaining
- Analyzes ideas, selects a manageable topic and elaborates using specific, relevant details and/or examples
- Knows and applies spelling, punctuation, capitalization, grammar and paragraphing appropriate to the grade level

#### MATH (GEOMETRY)



- Formalizes reasoning skills from previous grades and solidifies understanding of what it means to prove a geometric statement mathematically
- Knows and proves theorems about two- and three-dimensional geometric figures, both formally and informally
- Extends the problem-solving practices developed in earlier grades and applies them to problems related to mathematical and applied situations

#### READING



- Shows awareness of vocabulary and comprehension strategies used, especially when encountering difficult text and/or reading for a specific purpose
- Shows greater ability to make connections and adjust understandings as knowledge is gained
- Continues to increase academic vocabulary

#### SCIENCE



- Examines scientific theories and masters investigative skills in experiments in the field and in controlled environments
- Develops physical, conceptual and math models to represent and investigate objects, events, systems and processes
- Infers and makes predictions based on scientific evidence and then applies skills and knowledge to new situations

#### Washington State Learning Goals

The four state learning goals below provided the foundation for the development of the Essential Academic Learning Requirements (EALRs), which help measure progress and accountability:

1. Read with comprehension, write with skill and communicate effectively and responsibly in a variety of ways and settings
2. Know and apply core concepts and principles of math, science, the arts, social studies, health and fitness
3. Think analytically, logically and creatively, and integrate experience and knowledge to form reasoned judgments and solve problems
4. Understand the importance of work and how performance, effort and decisions directly affect future career and educational opportunities



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# State Testing in Washington: High School

Beginning in spring 2010, most students in 10th grade and above will take the High School Proficiency Exam (HSPE), which replaces the Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL). About one percent of students participate in the Washington Alternate Assessment System (WAAS), an equally challenging program for some students in special education.

The HSPE name conveys the goal of the test: to *measure a student's proficiency of basic skills*. Students in the classes of 2010-2012 must pass a reading and writing assessment to be eligible to graduate. If a student has already passed a specific assessment via the WASL (ie., reading), they will not have to take the HSPE in that content area.

Please visit [www.WAtesting.com](http://www.WAtesting.com) to learn more about state testing.

## State Testing Changes

The HSPE is the new state test for students in high school. How does it differ from the WASL?

**Shorter:** Reading, math and science can be given in one day as opposed to two. Writing will remain at two days for now.

**Online:** During the next few years, students in most grades will take state tests via computer.

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## State Testing and Reporting Timeline

- March 16-18:** Reading and Writing HSPE
- April 13:** Math HSPE
- April 15:** Science HSPE
- Early June:** HSPE results released for high school students
- Aug. 9-12:** Reading, Writing & Math HSPEs (summer session)

## The Move to Online Testing

Washington is not the first state to make the move to online testing, but it is among the leaders. The state's goal is for the majority of grades and subjects to be tested via computers in all school districts by 2012.

In spring 2010, the grades 3-8 Measurements of Student Progress (MSP) will be offered online in grades 6-8. In spring 2011, high school reading, math and writing will be offered online. That's also the first year the revised K-12 math standards will be assessed in this state. The high school science exam will likely be first offered online in 2012.

## Who Gets Tested and When?

The federal No Child Left Behind Act requires yearly testing of students in grades 3-8 and 10 in reading and math, and in three grades in science (grades 5, 8 and 10 in Washington). Our state also tests students in writing (grades 4, 7 and 10).

Grade	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
Reading	✓	✓	✓●	✓■	✓■	✓■	9th grade testing is no longer available due to budget cuts.	✓●	Necessary only if student has not met state assessment graduation requirement.	
Math	✓	✓	✓●	✓■	✓■	✓■		✓●		
Writing		✓			✓			✓●		
Science			✓●			✓		✓		

- Offered online in spring 2010
- Offered online in spring 2011

## What Does a HSPE Score Mean?

Students receive a score for each HSPE test taken. Scores are based on how an individual student performed, so you won't find percentiles often provided by other standardized tests. Scores fall into one of four levels:

- Level 4 Exceeds State Standards:** Represents advanced mastery of skills and knowledge in a subject.
- Level 3 Meets State Standards:** Represents mastery of skills and knowledge in a subject. Student can apply knowledge and skills to real-world situations.
- Level 2 Below State Standard:** Represents some mastery of skills and knowledge in a subject.
- Level 1 Well-Below State Standard:** Represents little to no mastery of skills and knowledge in a subject.



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## For more information

OSPI: [www.k12.wa.us](http://www.k12.wa.us)  
MSP/HSPE: [www.WAtesting.com](http://www.WAtesting.com)  
Questions: [StateTesting@k12.wa.us](mailto:StateTesting@k12.wa.us)