

INSTRUCTION

Certificate of Educational Competency

The Board of Directors recognizes the need to outline the process and criterion for determining the eligibility of a student who is at least sixteen years of age and less than nineteen years of age to take the general educational development test. A person of this age range is eligible only if the district's designated employee determines they have a substantial and warranted reason for leaving the regular high school program or that the student has been home-schooled.

Certificates of educational competency will be awarded by the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges.

The student may apply for eligibility to the resident district or the school the student last attended in the state of Washington. The application must be signed by the student's parent and shall include the recommendation of a designated employee. Reasons for withdraw from the regular high school program to seek a certificate of educational competency may include one or more 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 for 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;
- 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 engage in employment; or
- F. The student has been home-schooled and has essentially completed high school work.

Any student who feels that the denial to apply for a certificate of educational competency was unwarranted may appeal to the board of directors. The board of directors will issue a decision within 30 calendar days of receipt of the appeal. The decision will be final, subject to an appeal to a court of law pursuant to RCW 28A.645.010.

Legal References:	<u>RCW 28A.205.030</u>	Reentry of prior dropouts into common schools, rules -- Eligibility for test to earn a high school equivalency certificate.
	<u>RCW 28A.305.190</u>	Eligibility to take test to earn a high school equivalency certificate.
	<u>WAC 392-180-96</u>	General Educational Development (GED) Test
	<u>WAC 392-131-48</u>	High School Equivalency Certificate

Adoption Date: 2/25/2015

District Name: University Place School District

Classification: Essential