

# A MATTER OF MONEY:

LEARN NOW OR PAY LATER

The more informed you are about your child's math and science courses, the better he or she will do. Use parent-teacher conferences to help map out your child's course schedule.

### YOUR CHILD'S NEXT CONFERENCE

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

### QUESTIONS TO ASK

1. What will my child learn from this course?
2. Does this course count toward high school graduation?
3. Will this course meet college entrance requirements?
4. If my child needs extra help, what resources are available?
5. What can I do to help my child with this class?

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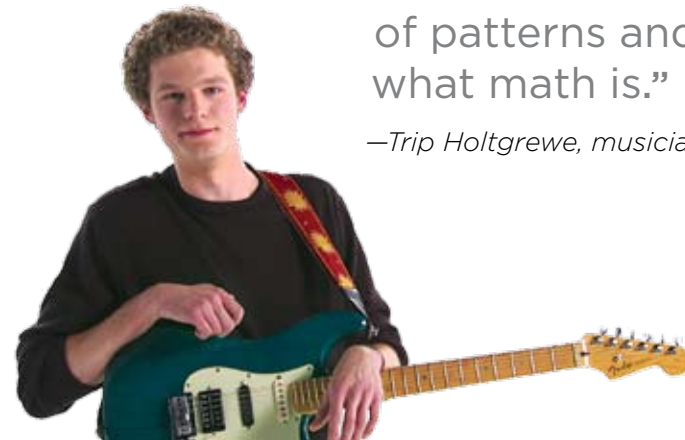
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[www.collegeworkready.org](http://www.collegeworkready.org)

All students planning to attend a 2-year or 4-year college must take a placement test in math. Those who don't pass must enroll in remedial, or "pre-college," classes. Students don't receive credit for pre-college classes, but they do have to pay for them. The lesson: Why pay for classes you can take for free in high school?

"Math is what takes sound and turns it into music. Music is a series of patterns and that's what math is."

—Trip Holtgrewe, musician



FIND OUT MORE AT [www.collegeworkready.org](http://www.collegeworkready.org)

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

MATH & SCIENCE  
MATTER

THE WORLD IS WAITING.  
WILL YOUR CHILD BE READY FOR COLLEGE & WORK?

#### PARTNERSHIP FOR LEARNING

An independent, statewide nonprofit supported by Washington businesses and community leaders, the Partnership informs and mobilizes opinion leaders, educators, parents and the general public to improve public schools and better prepare high school graduates for the demands of today's global society. The Partnership's website features the latest education news, an active blog and other online resources for parents.

[www.partnership4learning.org](http://www.partnership4learning.org)

#### TRANSITION MATHEMATICS PROJECT (TMP)

A collaborative project of K-12 schools, community and technical colleges, and baccalaureate institutions, TMP offers online tools, relevant news and information to help students successfully transition from high school math to college-level math.

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

#### WASHINGTON STATE LASER

Working in conjunction with nine regional alliances across the state, LASER is a public-private partnership led by Pacific Science Center, Battelle and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. LASER helps school districts implement an ongoing, K-12 inquiry-based science program, aligned with the Washington State Grade Level Expectations in science. LASER's website offers online resources for school districts including instructional toolkits, a network of contacts and the latest science research.

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

#### ABOUT THE AGENDA

The College & Work Ready Agenda is a coalition formed to champion a set of four educational priorities:

- Strengthen the quality of early learning programs
- Improve K-12 math and science education
- Increase production of bachelor's degrees in high-demand fields
- Enhance support for university research and graduate education

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# A MATTER OF SUCCESS:

WHY YOUR CHILD NEEDS MATH & SCIENCE

## More math and science = more opportunities.

The more your child knows about math and science, the more options he or she will have in life.

## Math makes the difference.

A majority of workers who earn more than \$40,000 annually have two or more high school credits at the algebra 2 level or higher.

## Math and science are part of everyday life.

Math and science teach critical skills that your child will use daily in their adult lives, whether they're assessing the terms of a home loan, making healthcare decisions or negotiating the terms of a car lease.



"Science got me excited about how the body works, which is really what nursing is all about. It also taught me how to organize my thought process and make key decisions—skills I use every day on the job."

—Lynn Johnston, nurse,  
Harborview Medical Center

# A MATTER OF FACTS:

NUMBERS DON'T LIE

## More and more jobs require math and science.

Nationwide, the number of jobs requiring technical training is growing five times faster than other occupations.

## Even at the entry level math matters.

In 2005, 26,000 Washington employers reported they could not find applicants with the math skills needed to fill their entry-level jobs.

## Yet Washington's graduates aren't prepared.

Washington leads the nation in jobs for people with bachelor degrees in science and engineering, but is 38th in the number of students graduating with these degrees, forcing employers to look outside of Washington to fill these high-wage jobs.

# A FAMILY MATTER:

TIPS FOR PARENTS

"Being a vet wasn't my first career. But I'm glad my high school required me to take four years of math because that strong foundation helped me later in life."

—Cynthia Knapp,  
veterinarian



**Get involved.** Actively participate in your child's course selection each semester. Encourage them to take three or four years of math and science in high school.

## Have high expectations at home.

You have the biggest impact on your child's success.

## Help your child make the connection.

Discuss how high school courses affect his or her future career options.

**Be your child's best advocate.** If your child is struggling with math or science, visit with a teacher or school counselor to get extra help.

**Remind your child that it's not just about the grade.** It's about learning and being prepared for the future.

# A MATTER OF PREPARATION:

WHAT IT TAKES TO BE READY FOR COLLEGE & WORK

	TO GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL	TO QUALIFY FOR WASHINGTON'S PUBLIC 4-YEAR UNIVERSITIES	TYPES OF CLASSES NEEDED
<b>MATH</b>	2 Credits (This will increase to 3 credits*)	3 Credits (4 credits for science & technology majors or selective colleges)	Integrated 1, 2 & 3 Algebra 1 & 2 Geometry Trigonometry Pre-calculus Calculus
<i>*The State Board of Education will set the implementation date.</i>			
<b>SCIENCE</b>	2 Credits (Must include one of: biology, chemistry, physics, principles of technology)	3 Credits (4 credits for science & technology majors or selective colleges)	Biology Chemistry Earth Science Physics Astronomy Oceanography Geology
<i>Some career and technical education classes may meet these requirements. Check with your local school district.</i>			

## NO MATTER THE CAREER, MATH & SCIENCE MATTER

	ALGEBRA 2	CHEMISTRY	COLLEGE CHEMISTRY	COLLEGE CALCULUS	JOB-RELATED COMPUTER & TECH. SKILLS
<b>TECHNICAL TRAINING</b>	Auto Mechanic	X	X		X
	Computer Programmer	X			X
	Medical Lab Tech.	X	X	X	X
<b>2-YEAR DEGREE</b>	Dental Hygienist	X	X	X	X
	Firefighter	X	X		X
	Web Designer	X			X
<b>4-YEAR DEGREE</b>	Accountant	X	X	X	X
	Agricultural Tech. & Manager	X	X	X	X
	Registered Nurse	X	X	X	X
	Software Engineer	X	X		X



"I knew I wanted to be a firefighter and figured I wouldn't need math and science for that. As it turned out, I had to take additional math classes during my job training, and wasted time on things I should have learned in high school."

—Mike Aguilar, firefighter



## Did you know?

The highest level of math taken by students in high school is the greatest indicator of their chances to earn a bachelor's degree, regardless of race, background or income.