

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0241

School districts-assessments.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Harshman and Burkhardt and
Senator(s) Landen

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to the statewide assessment system;
2 providing for an end-of-course assessment system for
3 measuring student progress on the statewide educational
4 program; requiring the state board of education to
5 establish the system for implementation beginning in the
6 2012-2013 school year; providing assessment criteria;
7 imposing reporting requirements; delegating rulemaking
8 authority; and providing for an effective date.

9

10 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

11

12 **Section 1.** W.S. 21-2-304(a)(iv)(intro) and (v) by
13 creating a new subparagraph (J) and 21-3-110(a)(xxiv) are
14 amended to read:

15

16 **21-2-304. Duties of the state board of education.**

1

2 (a) The state board of education shall:

3

4 (iv) Establish, in consultation with local
5 school districts, requirements for students to earn a high
6 school diploma as measured by each district's body of
7 evidence assessment system prescribed by rule and
8 regulation of the state board and required under W.S.
9 21-3-110(a)(xxiv), and effective for the 2012-2013 school
10 year and each school year thereafter, as measured by high
11 school end-of-course examinations administered pursuant to
12 paragraph (a)(v) of this section. A high school diploma
13 shall provide for one (1) of the following endorsements
14 which shall be stated on the transcript of each student:

15

16 (v) Through the state superintendent and in
17 consultation and coordination with local school districts,
18 implement a statewide assessment system comprised of a
19 coherent system of measures that when combined, provide a
20 reliable and valid measure of individual student
21 achievement for each public school and school district
22 within the state, and the performance of the state as a
23 whole. Improvement of teaching and learning in schools and
24 fostering school program improvement shall be the primary

1 purposes of statewide assessment of student performance in
2 Wyoming. The statewide assessment system shall:

3
4 (J) Effective school year 2012-2013 and
5 phased-in through school year 2014-2015, and for grades
6 nine (9) through twelve (12) only, the statewide assessment
7 shall to the extent the system is being phased-in, be
8 comprised of an end-of-course assessment system established
9 by the state board. The end-of-course assessment shall be
10 restricted to mathematics, science, American and world
11 history and reading and language arts as specified by state
12 board rules and regulations.

13
14 **21-3-110. Duties of boards of trustees.**

15
16 (a) The board of trustees in each school district
17 shall:

18
19 (xxiv) Establish a student assessment system to
20 measure student performance relative to the uniform student
21 content and performance standards in all content areas for
22 which the state board has promulgated standards pursuant to
23 W.S. 21-2-304(a)(iii), ~~to the extent required by the state~~
24 ~~board under W.S. 21-2-304(a)(v) and (vi), the district~~

1 ~~assessment system shall be integrated with the statewide~~
2 ~~assessment system and the statewide accountability system.~~
3 and in grades nine (9) through twelve (12), effective
4 school year 2012-2013 and phased-in through school year
5 2014-2015, establish benchmark, formative and other short
6 cycle assessments which align to the end-of-course
7 assessment system established pursuant to W.S.
8 21-2-304(a)(v)(J). Except as otherwise provided in this
9 paragraph, a component of the district assessment system
10 required by this paragraph shall include a body of evidence
11 assessment system designed and used to determine the
12 various levels of student performance as described in the
13 uniform student content and performance standards relative
14 to the common core of knowledge and skills prescribed under
15 W.S. 21-9-101(b). Effective school year 2012-2013 and
16 phased-in pursuant to rule and regulation of the state
17 board, high school end-of-course assessments shall
18 determine the various levels of student performance
19 relative to the uniform content and performance standards
20 for specified courses in accordance with requirements
21 imposed by the state board of education. To the extent not
22 covered by the end-of-course assessment system during the
23 transition through school year 2014-2015, and on a schedule
24 prescribed by state board rule and regulation, the body of

evidence assessment system shall be administered in grades
nine (9) through (12) under this paragraph;

Section 2.

(a) The state board of education shall through rule and regulation establish a system of student assessment which is administered at the completion of specified core courses offered in grades nine (9) through twelve (12).

The end-of-course system shall:

(i) Measure student performance in each high school course offered under the required educational program for mathematics, science, American and world history and reading and language arts as specified by the uniform standards prescribed by the state board under W.S. 21-2-304(a)(ii), phased-in as follows:

(A) Effective school year 2012-2013 and each year thereafter, reading and language arts;

(B) Effective school year 2013-2014 and each year thereafter, math and science;

1 (C) Effective school year 2014-2015 and
2 each year thereafter, American and world history.

3

4 (ii) Prescribe a schedule for transition to a
5 high school end-of-course assessment system, specifying
6 subjects covered under the statewide assessment and local
7 body of evidence assessment systems and those subjects
8 covered by the end-of-course system and local short-cycle
9 assessments;

10

11 (iii) Primarily assess course content in
12 accordance with board standards promulgated under W.S.
13 21-2-304(a)(iii);

14

15 (iv) Establish satisfactory performance levels
16 and require satisfactory performance to exit the specific
17 course for which the assessment is administered;

18

19 (v) Replace the body of evidence component of
20 student assessments administered in grades nine (9) through
21 twelve (12) at the district level, staggered by subject
22 area in accordance with paragraphs (a)(i) and (ii) of this
23 section, and determine student performance under the
24 uniform student content and performance standards relative

1 to the specified core courses within the common core of
2 knowledge and skills for use in establishing high school
3 graduation endorsements under W.S. 21-2-304(a)(iv);

4
5 (vi) Comprise the statewide student assessment
6 system for grades nine (9) through twelve (12) for the
7 measurement of individual student performance and progress,
8 aligned to the uniform educational program and student
9 content and performance standards imposed by law and board
10 rule and regulation and staggered in accordance with
11 paragraphs (a)(i) and (ii) of this section.

12
13 (b) The state board of education shall establish the
14 end-of-course assessment system required under subsection
15 (a) of this section through the department of education and
16 in consultation and coordination with local school
17 districts. In addition to improving alignment of state
18 program standards, instruction and assessment, the state
19 board shall use the end-of-course assessment system to
20 motivate students and to hold students accountable for
21 performance. The state board shall include statewide
22 college and career-ready benchmarks within the assessment,
23 to be used to augment high school diploma endorsement
24 criteria. The college and career-ready benchmarks shall be

1 developed in consultation with the University of Wyoming
2 and Wyoming community colleges, as well as appropriate
3 representatives of Wyoming employers.

4
5 (c) The state board, through the department, shall
6 report progress on development of the end-of-course
7 assessment system to the joint education interim committee
8 and the joint appropriations interim committee. Reports
9 under this subsection shall be made in sufficient time for
10 consideration of any necessary statutory changes during the
11 2012 legislative session.

12
13 **Section 3.** This act is effective immediately upon
14 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law
15 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming
16 Constitution.

17
18 (END)