

ENDS 2: Academics and Foundations

Upon graduation, students will be academically prepared and confident to pursue higher education or specialized career training.

Interpretation

“Upon graduation, students will be academically prepared and confident to pursue higher education or specialized career training.”

- We interpret **students** to mean all students in the graduating class of the current year.
- We interpret **graduation** to mean meeting the district’s established graduation requirements and earning a diploma.
- We interpret **academically prepared** to mean meeting the state’s high school proficiency exam.
- We interpret **confident to pursue** to mean meeting Washington state public universities’ or community/technical colleges’ minimum entrance requirements.
- We interpret **higher education** to mean post-secondary education institutions including two- and four-year colleges and universities.
- We interpret **specialized career training** to mean programs that prepare students for a particular career, including apprenticeships, technical schools, military service, and specialized training programs.

Reasonable progress: We have confidence that students are meeting the targets of E2 when they navigate our educational system and earn a diploma. The Issaquah School District’s graduation requirements necessitate that a student meet the state’s proficiency exams, earn credits in courses that meet the requirements for state/community/technical college entrance, and establish and implement a post-graduation plan of action. Under this definition, monitoring will focus on three major areas: (1) ensuring the graduation requirements meet the requirements of E2, (2) determining who is not graduating and why (3) tracking our students enrollment in post-secondary education and other programs that prepare our students for a career.

Limitations inherent in E2: It is difficult to guarantee and measure critical thinking; assessment systems are imperfect measurements of learning; ongoing changes in state assessments and standards. We do not survey 100 percent of graduates to get data so our results are dependent on a sample size. In addition, the data is self reported. Data for some evidence will always be a year behind (i.e., tracking failed courses by students who didn’t graduate).