

Collection of Evidence Fact Sheet

In March 2006, the Washington State Legislature passed HB 6475, which authorized the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to implement the collection of evidence (COE) alternative assessment. The following provides additional information about the collection of evidence option.

What is the Collection of Evidence (COE)?

A Collection of Evidence is a selection of student work in a specific content area that the student has gathered over the course of several months. It clearly demonstrates the breadth and depth of the WASL skills and knowledge in the content area. The student work is called a set of *work samples*, and each work sample is accompanied by an affidavit signed by student and teacher affirming that it is the student's work. All work samples are written documents. They may be on-demand samples, independent samples, or classroom samples with limited teacher direction.

How does a student qualify to attempt one or more of the CAA Options?

Students qualify to attempt one or more of the CAA options by meeting two criteria:

1. Making a good faith effort to pass the WASL two different times and not meeting standard
2. Meeting district-determined eligibility standards based on the recommendations for their Student Learning Plans including attendance, participation in extended learning opportunities, or other assistance programs. White Pass Junior Senior High School provides WASL prep classes during the regular school day and also tutoring in both math and English after school. In addition, we require an attendance rate of at least 85% for any student requesting the Collection of Evidence option after two failures of the WASL.

Can a student submit a collection for more than one content area in the Collection of Evidence (COE)?

Absolutely. A student may submit three individual collections, one for each content area, if they choose. Each collection must meet the sufficiency guidelines for each content area and teacher signatures must be collected for each work sample. If each of the collections is sufficient, they will be scored separately; and the student will receive three separate Individual Student Report Forms indicating whether or not the student has met standard in that content area.

When can students begin collecting work samples for the Collection of Evidence (COE)?

Students can retain work from all high school classes for potential inclusion in a COE. Work from middle school or junior high school will not be considered as evidence of

ability as it is not high school level equivalent work. One exception to the rule is if students have taken high school level mathematics while at middle school or junior high school.

How many times can a student submit a collection for a Collection of Evidence (COE)?

A student may submit a collection for each content area up to four times. There are two submission windows in a student's junior year and two submission windows in the senior year. For the Class of 2008, however, there are only three submission windows.

Will students have to submit a brand new collection each time?

No. Scorers will provide feedback for each collection regarding weaknesses in particular learning strands in the case of mathematics and reading and in persuasive or expository elements for writing. Students may submit work samples that address improvement in identified learning strands.

When will my child have to commit to the collection of evidence process?

Students can register at the state website starting in November but no later than January 1.

Can a student/parent appeal the score of the Collections of Evidence (COE)?

Yes, students and/or parents can appeal the result of the COE scoring. The protocols will follow those established by the WASL appeal process. A COE score may be appealed in two different ways: one, the student/parent believes the COE was scored incorrectly, or two, the student/parent believes the COE administrative process was not followed appropriately.