



# A parent's guide to the B.C. Graduation Program (Grades 10-12)

## What's happening?

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British Columbia's graduation program is changing. Our education system has been recognized internationally for its excellence and we can make it even better. The Ministry of Education has worked with educators, post-secondary institutions and employers to update the [B.C. Graduation Program](#). The new program will help students develop their full potential and equip them with the skills they need to adapt and thrive well into the future.

## What's staying the same?

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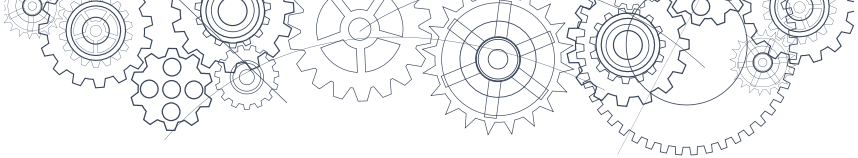
- ✓ **High standards** focused on foundational skills – reading, writing and math.
- ✓ **80 credits required to graduate** that represent a wide range of subject areas (52 required credits and 28 elective credits).
- ✓ **Letter grades and percentages** on formal reports and transcripts for all courses taken.
- ✓ **Alternative ways to earn credit** through independent directed studies, external credentials, course challenges, dual credit courses and equivalency credits.

## What's changing?

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### *New curriculum*

- The new curriculum is learner-centred and flexible.
- All courses allow for different teaching methods and all students are able to access any course. Courses are not designed to stream students into easier or more difficult pathways.
- The new model focuses on what students will know, be able to do and understand.
- Critical thinking, communication, and personal and social core competencies are emphasized across all grades and areas of learning. These are skills employers and post-secondary institutions are looking for.
- Indigenous knowledges and perspectives are woven across all grades and areas of learning.
- It features a robust new Career-Life Education program that includes a capstone project.
- There are more course options for students.



### **Three new Provincial Graduation Assessments** – Graduation Numeracy Assessment in Grade 10 and Graduation Literacy Assessments in Grade 10 and 12

- Rigorous, standardized assessments aligned with the new curriculum.
- Required for graduation.
- Provide feedback to students about their proficiency in numeracy and literacy and system-level information.
- Assess the essential numeracy and literacy graduates need for future success – in life, education and employment.
- Not based on specific courses, but on numeracy and literacy developed across all grades and areas of learning.
- Scored on a proficiency scale.
- Students may re-write the assessments. The best outcome for each will be recorded on the final transcript.

### **Language Arts exams**

- Language Arts courses will be fully assessed in the classroom. There will be no course-based Language Arts 12 provincial exams after the 2018/19 school year.

## **When?**

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- The Grade 10 curriculum started in all B.C. schools in the 2018/19 school year.
- The Grade 11 & 12 curriculum will start in the 2019/20 school year.
- The Graduation Numeracy Assessment was introduced in January 2018.
- The Grade 10 Graduation Literacy Assessment will be introduced in the 2019/20 school year; the Grade 12 Graduation Literacy Assessment will be introduced in the 2020/21 school year.

## **What about post-secondary institutions?**

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- The Ministry of Education continues to work closely with post-secondary institutions to ensure smooth transitions for students.
- Post-secondary institutions are reviewing their requirements to align with changes to the B.C. Graduation Program. Each has the authority to determine their admission requirements.
- This includes their consideration of the Provincial Graduation Assessments. Most have indicated they will not use the Graduation Numeracy Assessment for admissions at this time. Post-secondary institutions will give consideration to the Graduation Literacy Assessments as they are developed.
- Students may wish to contact the institution they are applying to for more information.

Find B.C. Graduation  
Program details:

[www.gov.bc.ca](http://www.gov.bc.ca)

Send us your questions  
and comments

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