

Transition Mathematics Project

Why should high school students take math?

- We live in a technologically-rich society, which has drastically increased the need for mathematical thinking and problem-solving skills.
- Too few students take enough math – or the right math – in high school.
- Fifty percent of high school graduates who enter Washington's two-year colleges directly after high school need to take pre-college math before they are ready for credit math courses.
- 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, according to the American Diploma Project.
- There are 40,000 Washington businesses that say they cannot find job applicants with the math skills needed to do entry-level jobs, the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board reports.
- Most Washington students – nearly 75 percent – enter some form of college (a job training program, community college or four-year university) within three years of graduating from high school, too many of these students are not ready for college-level math.
- The Transition Mathematics Project – a joint effort between Washington's K-12 schools, two-year colleges and public four-year universities – is working to motivate more students to take more math in high school to multiply their options in life, work and college.