



2023 NATIONAL
REPORT CARD

West Virginia

CLASS OF
2023 GRADE



PROJECTED CLASS
OF 2028 GRADE



GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Is a high school course with personal finance concepts required to be taken as a graduation requirement?

Yes, West Virginia requires students to take 1 credit (a full-year course) of civics, which includes personal finance content, or AP[®] Government and Politics. Students who take the AP[®] Government and Politics (or Dual-Credit Civics) must be provided instruction in the personal finance standards applicable to the civics course. In 2005, a law was passed requiring the State Board of Education to develop a high school program of instruction on personal finance. The law allows the program to be integrated into the curriculum of an existing course or courses.

Sources:

- [West Virginia Board of Education Graduation Requirements](#) (page 3)
- [WVBE Policy 2510](#)
- [HB 2387](#)

HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION STANDARDS

There are 45 civics, economics, personal finance, and geography standards in the civics course, 10 of which relate to personal finance. Based on this information, we estimate that students receive approximately 27 hours of instruction in personal finance (or 22% of a 120-hour full-year course).

Sources:

- [Grades 6 to 12 Social Studies College & Career Readiness Standards](#) (pages 33–39)

PROJECTED GRADE FOR CLASS OF 2028

Grade A for the Class of 2028. In March 2023, West Virginia passed a law that requires, beginning with the class of students entering 9th grade in the 2024–2025 academic year, that each high school student shall complete a half-credit course of study in personal finance during their 11th or 12th grade year as a requirement for high school graduation. The law requires the State Board of Education to develop and issue implementation guidance to local school districts as to curriculum, content matter standards, eligible teacher certification(s), and graduation requirements the course may fulfill before July 1, 2024. The Class of 2028 would be the first class to graduate with the new requirement.

Sources:

- [W. Va. Code §18-2-7c](#)
- [HB 3113](#)

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PRE-K TO GRADE 8 EDUCATION STANDARDS

The 8th grade economics and social studies standards include instruction on financial aid planning opportunities and programs to help students and families make sound college savings decisions. The state requires career development and life planning instruction in grades K to 8 with more substantive coverage of this personal finance-related topic in grades 6 to 8. In accordance with state law, middle schools must provide a comprehensive curriculum with embedded career exploration and project-based career activities; career development and counseling; and learning and life connection experiences for all students. Students in the state receive structured, ongoing experiences for career awareness, exploration, decision-making, instructional Career and Technical Education (CTE) practices, and career preparation, exposing students to 16 career clusters. Career development includes career exploration, entrepreneurial experiences, and/or simulated workplace learning for all students in grades 6, 7, and 8. Students must document a personalized career portfolio that is transportable throughout their middle and high school career.

Sources:

- [W. Va. Code §18-9D-19a](#)
- [WVBE Policy 2510 Guidance \(Grade K to 5\)](#)
- [Policy 2510 Foundations for High-Quality Middle School Programming Best Practices \(Grades 6–8\) \(page 10\)](#)

EXTRA CREDIT

The Department of Education website provides educators with resources on general career exploration.

Sources:

- [Career Exploration Resources](#)

CAVEAT

It is not clear how West Virginia measures student achievement in financial literacy.

