



Beginning with the Class of 2019, students will have the opportunity to complete additional criteria to qualify for a Life Ready Graduate Certificate upon graduation.

The criteria required for this important distinction is based on research that outlines predictors of success after high school regardless of the path chosen.

CRITERIA for LRG CERTIFICATE

ACADEMICS - Maintain an unweighted GPA higher than a 2.8 during **junior and senior year**.

ATTENDANCE - Have a 98% attendance rate - including unexcused absence and unexcused tardies combined during his/her **junior and senior years**.

COMPLETE THE ONLINE CIVICS AND FINANCIAL LITERACY COURSES

by the end of first semester during senior year **or** take the face to face Government and/or Personal Finance courses at EHS.

DISCIPLINE - No infractions that result in in-school suspension (ISS) or out-of-school suspension (OSS).

EXTRACURRICULAR – Complete with documentation any combination 2 of the 3 options below. A student may duplicate any of the 3 to satisfy the requirement.

- *Complete a season of an extracurricular activity each year.*
- *Volunteer for greater than 20 hours each year.*
- *Employment of more than 40 hours each year.*

COMPLETE THE LIFE READY GRADUATE CAREER PORTFOLIO –

Counselors will assist with tracking career items and other items (such as video conferences) in student portfolios.

TIMELINE



Typically, it will be: at the end of a student's freshman year, Civics will be unlocked and at the end of the sophomore year, Financial Literacy will be unlocked.

Students in the class of 2021 may begin work on the online Civics course at the end of the 18-19 school year. Both courses need to be completed by the end of first semester senior year.

Students in the class of 2019 and 2020 may begin work on the online Civics course at the end of the 17-18 school year and then proceed to the online Financial Literacy class. The first possible LRG Certified students will be the class of **2019**.

TRACKING



FOR THE CIVICS COURSE – the EHSW teachers will track progress through the Schoology courses. They will create a document that teachers will access to see how their homeroom students are doing. This will inform conversations throughout the year to encourage students to do the courses.

FOR FINANCIAL LITERACY - Greg LoPiccolo will track and work with students to encourage them to finish the coursework. Greg will also be responsible for approving that the civics course has been done before signing off on the checking account deposit of \$50.00.

COUNSELORS will help track students and we will create quarterly updates toward those goals.



Q: Which class will be the first with the option to be offered the Life Ready Graduate Certificate?

A: The class of 2019

Q: What is the timeline for seniors to be considered for the LRG Certificate?

A: Senior grades, discipline, and attendance are considered up until 3 days before graduation. One page description of extracurriculars completed by April 15th of senior year (signed by Coach, Supervisor, etc), Civics and Financial Literacy completed by January of senior year.

Q: What if a student defers taking online Civics to take government his/her junior year?

A: This works! A student may take Government in place of online Civics and Personal Finance in place of online Financial Literacy. We will just need to know so we can “unlock” Financial Literacy.



Q: How do students prove their extracurricular activities?

A: Students will create a 1-page “here is what I did” document. The Coach, Advisor, Supervisor will sign off and student does a reflection.

Q: Why is this just for the junior and senior years?

A: We chose not to count grades 9 and 10 to allow for resilience and opportunity for growth.

Q: Does Economics cover Personal Finance?

A: No, it does not cover the same practical content

Q: What if something happens to a student in his/her senior year that keeps them from completing these requirements, but his/her freshman or sophomore years were much better?

A: For all special circumstances, there is an appeal process where students can advocate for themselves.



Q: Why is this valuable?

A: Beyond the concept that these are the targets our students should be aiming for, we are also working with local businesses to validate the LRG Certificate when hiring their employees.



EPHRATA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

LIFE READY GRADUATE

ACQUIRE
KNOWLEDGE



APPLY
SKILLS

DEMONSTRATE
DISPOSITIONS

YOUR
QUESTIONS

