



Planning to Go to College?

Smarter Balanced and your 12th-grade coursework choices can help

College leaders in eight states believe students who score well on Smarter Balanced tests and take challenging courses throughout high school will enter college ready to succeed. More than 220 colleges, universities, and community and technical colleges in these states have agreed to allow students who score a 3 or 4 on Smarter Balanced tests to enroll directly in entry-level credit-bearing courses once they are admitted.

NOTE: All of Washington's public higher education institutions accept Smarter Balanced scores as an indicator of college readiness.

How can I use my Smarter Balanced scores?

- Use scores to help you choose which English and math courses to take in 12th grade to prepare you for life after high school.
- Apply to and meet admissions requirements of the college or university of your choice. If you are accepted, and that school has agreed to accept Smarter Balanced scores, a score of 3 or 4 will allow you to avoid further placement testing and costly remedial classes. You may enter directly into entry-level credit-bearing courses if you enroll the year you graduate from high school.

Contact individual colleges or universities to find out their process for receiving the scores.

What if I don't get a 3 or 4?

You do not need to receive a score of 3 or 4 to graduate from high school or get into college. But lower scores may indicate that there are certain skills and knowledge you need to work on before leaving high school.

Work with your teachers and counselors to identify gaps and make a plan for boosting your skills before arriving at college.

"Bridge-to-College" courses are 12th-grade English and math courses designed for students who score a 2 on the Smarter Balanced high school tests.

Students who earn a "B" or better in Bridge courses are eligible for entry-level credit-bearing coursework in community and technical colleges.

Learn
more!

Smarter Balanced

www.k12.wa.us/smarter

Learn
more!

Ready. Set. Grad.

www.readysetgrad.org

Learn
more!

College Course Placement

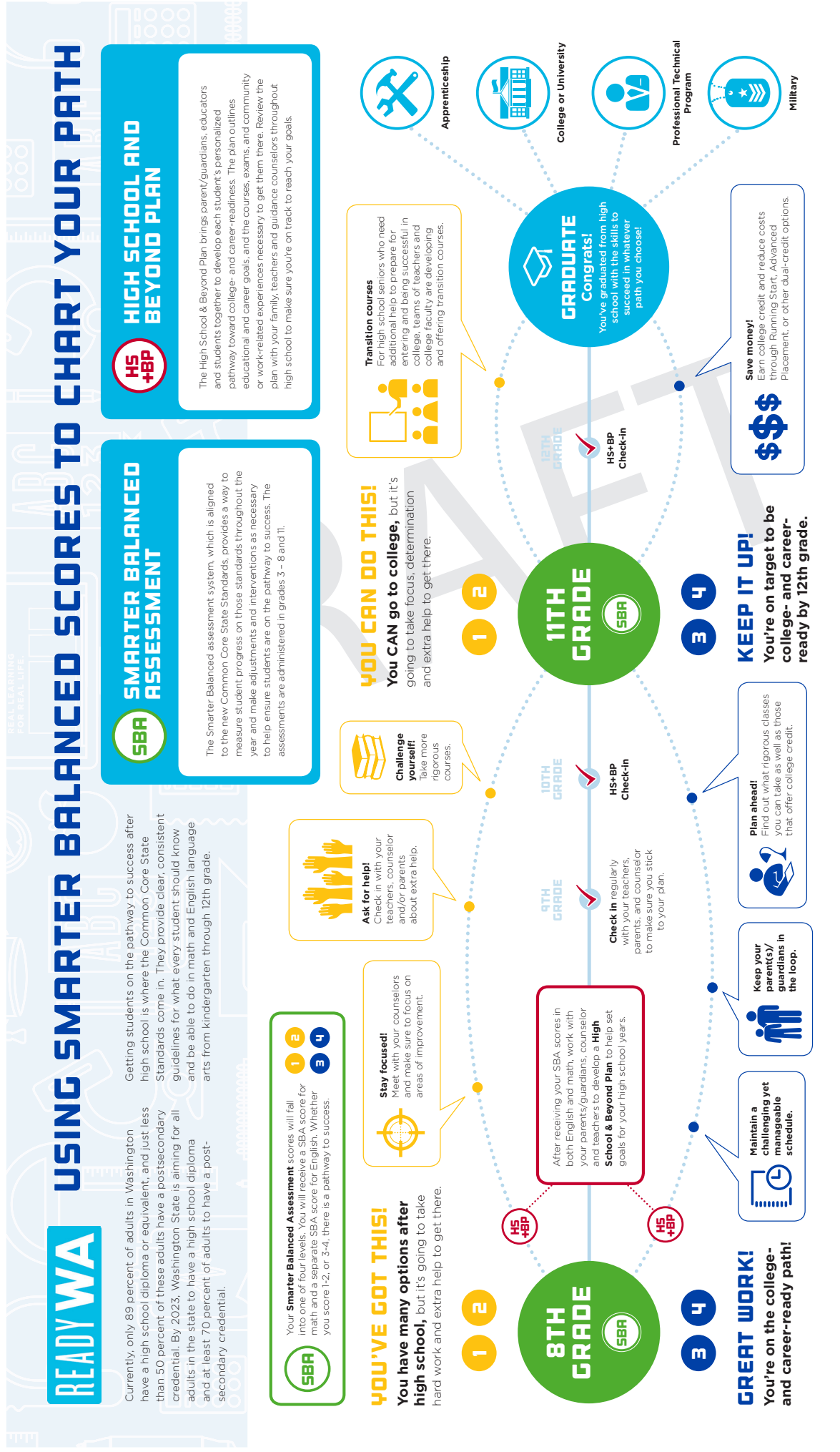
bit.ly/SB-HigherEd
www.wsac.wa.gov/college-readiness

Learn
more!

Bridge-to-College Courses

bit.ly/BridgeToCollege

To see a **video** that explains this graphic and how students can use Smarter Balanced scores and High School & Beyond Plan to chart their path to success after high school, visit <http://bit.ly/SB-scores>.



Funding for this work is provided as part of the Improving Student Learning at Scale grant opportunity: www.wsac.wa.gov/isis-group

Ready, Set, Grad. Interactive college planning website: www.readysetgrad.org

Graduation Requirements: www.sbe.wa.gov/graduation.php

Ready Washington: www.readywa.org

RESOURCES