

**Washington State School Directors' Association (WSSDA)**  
**Educational Acronyms and Terminology**  
 Updated March 2021

Acronym	Description	Category 1	Category 2
<b>AAA</b>	American Arbitration Association; national association for dispute resolution	Organization	
<b>AASA</b>	American Association of School Administrators; national organization for school administrators	Organization	
<b>ACT</b>	Originally American College Testing; college-readiness assessment	Learning	
<b>ADA</b>	Americans with Disabilities Act	Law	
<b>ADD</b>	Attention Deficit Disorder	Learning	
<b>ADHD</b>	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder	Learning	
<b>Administrators</b>	School district leadership, includes deans, principals, vice-principal, directors, asst. superintendents, superintendents	Organization	
<b>AESD</b>	Association of Educational Service Districts; the is the statewide association comprised of leadership from each of Washington's nine Educational Service Districts.	Organization	
<b>AFT</b>	American Federation of Teachers; national teachers union	Organization	
<b>AG</b>	Attorney General	Organization	
<b>AGO</b>	Attorney General's Opinion	Leg/Law	
<b>ALE</b>	Alternative Learning Experience, as in learning outside a classroom	Learning	
<b>Allocation</b>	An source of funding determined by the state based on FTE (student enrollemnt) that is distributed to districts	Fund	
<b>AMOs</b>	Annual Measurable Objectives: unique yearly targets in reading and mathematics in WA's Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Flexibility Request	Learning	
<b>AP</b>	Advanced Placement	Learning	
<b>ASBO</b>	Association of School Business Officials; national organization for school business managers	Organization	
<b>ASCD</b>	Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development; national organizations	Organization	
<b>Asynchronous Learning</b>	Forms of education, instruction, and learning that do not occur in the same place or at the same time.		
<b>AWB</b>	Association of Washington Businesses	Organization	
<b>AWSP</b>	Association of Washington School Principals; state organization of school principals	Organization	
<b>AYP</b>	Adequate Yearly Progress; formerly an individual states measure of yearly progress toward achieving state acedemic standards, required under the 2002 federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)	Learning	
<b>Basic Ed or Basic Education</b>	Learning goals established in state statute that guide teaching and learning in Washington State. Providing an ample and equitable program of basic education is the "paramount duty" of the state as outlined in the state's constitution. RCW 28A.150.210 defines basic education learning goals. Often used to define legislative funding parameters.	Leg/Law	
<b>BCA</b>	Building Condition Assessment, part of the SCAP process		
<b>BEA</b>	Basic Education Act; state law (RCW 28A.150.210) that defines the state of Washington's program of and vision for basic education	Leg/Law	
<b>BIA</b>	Bureau of Indian Affairs	Organization	
<b>Biennium</b>	a period of two years usually used for budgets	Funding	
<b>Bond</b>	a method used by a public school district to finance the purchase of land or buildings or pay for school construction costs (like getting a loan for a project). Bond measures are placed on the ballot by district school boards to be approved or defeated by the voting public and must be paid back by the local taxpayers. Bonds require a supermajority (2/3) of the vote to pass.	Funding	
<b>C4K</b>	Computer for Kids, where computers come through the state's surplus equipment program		
<b>CAA</b>	Certificate of Academic Achievement; graduation requirement earned by passing statewide assessments	Learning	
<b>CBA</b>	Classroom Based Assessment; testes developed and administered by teachers	Learning	
<b>CBA</b>	Collective Bargaining Agreement		
<b>CCSS</b>	Common Core State Standards; student learning standards in English language arts and mathematics. Adopted in 2011 as Washington State's learning standards in those subjects for grades K-12	Learning	

**Washington State School Directors' Association (WSSDA)**  
**Educational Acronyms and Terminology**  
**Updated March 2021**

Acronym	Description	Category 1	Category 2
<b>CCSSO</b>	Council of Chief State School Officers; national organization for heads of state departments of education.	Organization	
<b>CEDARS</b>	Comprehensive Education Data and Research System; academic assessment	Learning	
<b>CIA</b>	Certificate of Individual Achievement; alternative to the certificate of academic achievement for students with severe learning disabilities	Learning	
<b>CAS</b>	Certificated Administrative Staff (CAS) are school/district administrators who may not hold a teaching certificate but have another certificate or credential associated with their position	Leadership	Teaching
<b>CIS</b>	Certificated Instructional Staff (CIS) are staff who hold a teaching certification	Teaching	
<b>CLS</b>	Classified Staff (CLS) are staff without a teaching certificate; include para-professionals, secretaries, bus drivers, maintenance and food staff	Teaching	
<b>COE</b>	Collection of Evidence	Learning	
<b>Cohort</b>	Students who are educated at the same period of time, such as a grade level or class of students		
<b>CCSS</b>	Common Core State Standards are Washington State's Learning Standards for students in mathematics and English language arts for grades K-12. The standards represent the knowledge and skill necessary for students to be ready for careers and college by the time they graduate high school.	Learning	
<b>COP</b>	Council of Presidents; voluntary association of the six presidents of the four-year public colleges and universities in Washington	Organization	
<b>COSA</b>	Council of School Attorneys	Organization	
<b>CSCF</b>	Common School Construction Fund	Funding	
<b>CTB</b>	Community Truancy Boards; required for all school districts starting in the 2017-18 school year per HB 2449 (the 2016 updated state Becca Law)	Governance	
<b>CTC</b>	Community and Technical College(s); secondary school classes that prepare students for occupations and the world of work	Learning	
<b>CTE</b>	Career and Technical Education	Learning	
<b>CUBE</b>	Council of Urban Boards of Education	Organization	
<b>DCYF</b>	Department of Children, Youth and Families, a state agency that is the lead agency for state-funded services that support children and families to build resilience and health, and to improve educational outcomes. DCYF oversees Head Start, ECEAP, and Early Achievers among many other programs statewide.		
<b>DECA</b>	Distributive Education Clubs of America	Organization	
<b>DEI</b>	Diversity, Equity and Inclusion		
<b>DEL</b>	Department of Early Learning; the former name of the Department of Children, Youth and Families.	Organization	
<b>DIBELS</b>	Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills; a test that measures reading fluency at the elementary level	Learning	
<b>DNR</b>	Department of Natural Resources; state agency responsible for school trust lands	Organization	
<b>DOE</b>	Department of Education, usually used to reference the federal department	Organization	
<b>Dual credit</b>	Courses in which high school students have the opportunity to earn both high school and college credits simultaneously.	Learning	
<b>DSHS</b>	Department of Social and Health Services; state agency responsible for public health, public assistance, and vocational rehabilitation	Organization	
<b>EALRs</b>	Essential Academic Learning Requirements; the term used with the inception of the BEA in 1993 to represent what every student should know and be able to do by the time they graduate high school. This term has evolved and can be used interchangeably with "Washington State Learning Standards"	Learning	
<b>ECS</b>	Education Commission of the States; partnership of states for mutual assistance in solving education problems	Organization	
<b>ECEAP</b>	Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program	Organization	
<b>ED</b>	U.S. Department of Education; federal agency (cabinet level)	Organization	
<b>EDS</b>	Education System Administration is a centralized suite of web-based applications regarding educational data. It is used by many groups and organizations for a variety of purposes related to education in the State of Washington		
<b>EEOC</b>	Equal Employee Opportunity Commission; federal regulatory body, especially deals with employment discrimination claims	Organization	

**Washington State School Directors' Association (WSSDA)**  
**Educational Acronyms and Terminology**  
 Updated March 2021

Acronym	Description	Category 1	Category 2
<b>EERA</b>	Educational Employee Relations Act; state teachers collective bargaining statute	Leg/Law	
<b>ELA</b>	English Language Arts	Organization	
<b>EL or ELL</b>	English Learners or English Language Learners; students who are limited in their ability to communicate fluently or learn effectively in English, who often come from non-English-speaking homes and backgrounds, and who typically require specialized or modified instruction in both the English language and in their academic courses.	Learning	
<b>ELPA 21</b>	English Language Proficiency Assessment Consortia; a group of states designing and developing an assessment system for English language learners. The system is based on the new English Language Proficiency Standards and addresses the language demands needed to reach college and career readiness. Washington is a member of ELPA 21.	Learning	
<b>ELPA</b>	English Language Proficiency Assessment	Learning	
<b>EOC</b>	End of Course Exams; classroom tests administered at the end of math, science, and language arts courses	Learning	
<b>EOGOAC</b>	Educational Opportunity Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee; recommends policies and strategies to state educational agencies to close achievement gaps	Leg/Law	
<b>E-rate</b>	A federal program that lowers the cost of Internet access, and telecom and network data services for schools and libraries		
<b>ERDC</b>	Education Research Data Center; this center is housed at the state's Office of Financial Management and is the state's hub for P-20 information and data, especially information about post-secondary attainment for Washington's high school graduates	Learning	
<b>ERIC</b>	Education Resource Information Center, computerized system to develop, store, retrieve information in all areas and levels of education	Organization	
<b>ERNN</b>	Employee Relations and Negotiations Network; provides member school districts with services related to bargaining and employee relations	Organization	
<b>ERS - delete</b>	Educational Research Service; a nonprofit agency which offers current research and management information to subscribers (for Western NC only)	Organization	
<b>ESA</b>	Education Staff Associate, as in a librarian or counselor		
<b>ESD</b>	Education Service District; nine regional ESDs provide a variety of services to school districts in Washington.	Organization	
<b>ESEA</b>	Elementary and Secondary Education Act; federal law enacted in 1965 that establishes assessments and accountability requirements for public schools and provides funds to states for specific programs. The ESEA has been reauthorized many times throughout the years. In 2001 the reauthorized Act was termed the "No Child Left Behind" Act. When ESEA was reauthorized in 2015, the Act was renamed the "Every Student Succeeds Act" or ESSA.	Leg/Law	
<b>ESL</b>	English as a Second Language; programs utilizing students first language to help them better understand english and academics.	Learning	
<b>ESP</b>	Education Support Professional, sometimes referred to as paraeducators		
<b>ESSA</b>	Every Student Succeeds Act; this is the 2015 reauthorization of the 1965 ESEA law. It replaces the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)	Leg/Law	
<b>ETS</b>	Educational Testing Service; nationwide organization that administers various kinds of educational and psychological tests	Learning	
<b>FAPE</b>	Free and Appropriate Public Education, as defined in the Individual with Disabilities Education Act	Leg/Law	
<b>FICA</b>	Federal Insurance Contributions Act; federal program and financing social security	Leg/Law	
<b>FOIA</b>	Freedom of Information Act	Leg/Law	
<b>FRL or FRPL</b>	Free and Reduced Lunch or Free and Reduced Price Lunch; terms used to describe students who qualify for participation in the federal school nutrition program that provides free or reduced price school lunches for students from low-income households	Funding	
<b>FRN</b>	Federal Relations Network; school board members from each congressional district sponsored by the national schools boards associatio for advocacy at the federal level.	Organization	
<b>FTE</b>	Full Time Equivalent; the total number of students or staff members funded by the state, e.g., two half time employees are equal to one FTE.	Funding	
<b>FDK or ADK</b>	Full-Day Kindergarten or All-Day Kindergarten; generally used to refer to state-funded kindergarten that requires a total of 1000 instructional hours and 180 days of instruction. Starting in 2018 every school district will be required to offer FDK to all students.	Learning	
<b>GAO</b>	Government Accountability Office	Organization	
<b>GCS</b>	Global Challenge State(s)	Learning	

**Washington State School Directors' Association (WSSDA)**  
**Educational Acronyms and Terminology**  
 Updated March 2021

Acronym	Description	Category 1	Category 2
<b>GED</b>	General Education Development; high school equivalency testing program and the diploma equivalent	Learning	
<b>GET</b>	Guaranteed Education Tuition; Washington's prepaid college tuition program.	Funding	
<b>GF</b>	General Fund	Funding	
<b>GF-S</b>	General Fund-State; the main account from which state programs, services and operations are funded	Funding	
<b>GLAD</b>	Guided Language Acquisition Design	Learning	
<b>GLEs</b>	Grade Level Expectations	Learning	
<b>GO bonds</b>	General Obligation bonds; municipal bonds secured by the states pledge to use tax revenue to repay bond holders	Funding	
<b>GPA</b>	Grade Point Average	Learning	
<b>HB</b>	House Bill; abbreviation preceding bill originating in the State House of Representatives	Leg/Law	
<b>HiCap</b>	Highly Capable, a component of the state's program of basic education. School districts provide instruction, activities, and services that accelerate learning for young learners identified as Highly Capable.		
<b>HQ</b>	Highly Qualified	Teaching	
<b>HRC</b>	Human Rights Commission	Organization	
<b>HSPE</b>	High School Proficiency Exam; math and language tests requires for high school graduation. Replaced by SBAC assessments.	Learning	
<b>Hybrid classroom</b>	A learning environment which includes a mix of students who are present in the physical classroom and also participants joining the class virtually. Also called hyflex.		
<b>IB</b>	International Baccalaueate	Learning	
<b>IDEA</b>	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; federal law reauthorized in 2004	Leg/Law	
<b>IEP</b>	Individualized educational plans; developed by teachers and parents for each special education student	Learning	
<b>Inclusion</b>	Inclusion in education refers to a model wherein students with special needs spend most or all of their time with non-special needs students.		
<b>Initiative</b>	A law proposed by citizens and placed on the ballot in an election. This process bypasses the state legislature and allows citizens to pass laws	Leg/Law	
<b>Instructional hours</b>	The number of hours districts are required to provide students. Instructional hours include all time in the school day from the beginning of the first period class to the end of the last period class, except for time spent on meals.	Teaching	
<b>IPEDS</b>	Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System	Learning	
<b>ITBS</b>	Iowa Test of Basic Skills; multiple-choice, norm-referenced test of math, reading and language skills	Learning	
<b>ITED</b>	Iowa Tests of Educational Development	Learning	
<b>JLARC</b>	Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee	Leg/Law	
<b>K-12</b>	Kindergarten through Grade 12	Learning	
<b>LAP</b>	Learning Assistance Program; a program to serve eligible students who need academic support for reading, writing, and math, or who need readiness skills to learn these core subjects. Money for the LAP program is provided by the state based on a district's low-income students	Funding	Learning
<b>LEA</b>	Local Effort Assistance; state levy equalization funding	Funding	
<b>LEA</b>	Local Educational Agency; federal term which usually refers to a local school district	Organization	
<b>LEAP</b>	Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program; independent source of information for legislators regarding state revenue and budgets	Leg/Law	
<b>LEP</b>	Limited English Proficient	Learning	
<b>LEV</b>	League of Education Voters	Organization	
<b>Levy</b>	A request by a school district of voters to raise or continue local property taxes for a limited number of years for operations costs or capital improvements such as computers or other equipment; must pass by simple majority	Funding	
<b>LFA</b>	Learning First Alliance; a partnership of major education organization in Washington State	Organization	

**Washington State School Directors' Association (WSSDA)**  
**Educational Acronyms and Terminology**  
**Updated March 2021**

Acronym	Description	Category 1	Category 2
<b>M&amp;O</b>	Maintenance & Operation costs; often funded through levies; sometimes called MSOC (see below)	Funding	
<b>MAP</b>	Measures of Academic Progress assessment from Northwest Evaluation Association	Learning	
<b>Mastery Transcript</b>	Mastery Transcript focuses on measures of proficiency in various categories, beyond mere letter grades.		
<b>McCleary or McCleary v. State</b>	The Washington State Supreme Court case which ruled that the State of Washington is violating the constitutional rights of students by failing to amply fund basic education. The Court ordered the Legislature to make “steady, real, and measurable” progress each year to fully fund K-12 public education by 2018. The court ruled that the legislature satisfied the court order.	Leg/Law	Funding
<b>MSOC</b>	Materials, Supplies and Operating Costs; the cost to a school district or education entity for materials and supplies used in the classroom (e.g.: white boards, pencils, and printer paper) and operating costs like building maintenance and utility bills	Funding	
<b>MSP</b>	Measurements of Student Progress; this is Washington state's required accountability assessment in grades 5, 8, and high school science. The MSP was replaced by the Smarter Balanced Assessments.	Learning	
<b>MTSS</b>	Multi-Tiered Systems of Support; a framework used in schools that addresses the instructional and behavioral needs of every student (MTSS is a system that brings together PBIS and RTI)		
<b>NABE or WABE</b>	National (or Washington) Association of Bilingual Education; the national and state membership associations for ELL and bilingual educators	Organization	
<b>NACBE</b>	National Advisory Council on Bilingual Education	Organization	
<b>NAEP</b>	National Assessment of Educational Progress	Organization	
<b>NAESP</b>	National Association of Elementary School Principals	Organization	
<b>NASBE</b>	National Association of State Boards of Education	Organization	
<b>NASSP</b>	National Association of Secondary School Principals	Organization	
<b>NBCT</b>	National Board Certified Teacher; a voluntary, advanced teaching credential that goes beyond state licensure. National Board Certification has national standards for what accomplished teachers should know and be able to do.	Teaching	
<b>NBPTS</b>	National Board for Professional Teaching Standards	Teaching	
<b>NCES</b>	National Center for Education Statistics	Organization	
<b>NCLB</b>	No Child Left Behind Act; another name for a past version of the elementary and secondary education act, the federal law which establishes assessment and accountability requirements for the nation's public schools and provides funds to local school districts for specific programs. It was replaced by ESSA.	Leg/Law	
<b>NEA</b>	National Education Association; national teachers union	Organization	
<b>NERC</b>	Non-Employee Related Costs; includes curriculum, facilities, and other overhead costs	Funding	
<b>NGSS</b>	Next Generation Science Standards; Washington's student learning standards for science and STEM areas. Adopted in 2013.		
<b>NREA</b>	National Rural Education Association; national organization for rural educators, board members, PTA, etc.	Organization	
<b>NSBA</b>	National School Boards Association; federal advocacy and board leadership organization.	Organization	
<b>NSF</b>	National Science Foundation	Organization	
<b>NSPRA</b>	National School Public Relations Association; national organization for school communications specialists	Organization	
<b>NWEA</b>	Northwest Evaluation Association, provider of MAP test	Organization	
<b>NWREL</b>	Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory	Organization	
<b>OCR</b>	Office of Civil Rights in the Federal Department of Education; addresses student discrimination claims	Organization	
<b>OFM</b>	Office of Financial Management; state agency dealing with budget matters	Organization	
<b>OLPT</b>	Oral Language Proficiency Test	Learning	
<b>OPMA</b>	Open Public Meetings Act; state rules for meeting among public officials	Leg/Law	
<b>OSHA</b>	Occupational Safety and Health Administration; federal agency	Organization	
<b>OSPI or SPI</b>	Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction or Superintendent of Public Instruction; Washington's state department of education	Organization	

**Washington State School Directors' Association (WSSDA)**  
**Educational Acronyms and Terminology**  
 Updated March 2021

Acronym	Description	Category 1	Category 2
<b>P-12</b>	Preschool through twelfth grade	Learning	Funding
<b>P-20</b>	Pre-Kindergarten through "Grade 20" (postsecondary education & training and/or the workforce)	Learning	Funding
<b>PBIS</b>	Positive Behavior Intervention Support	Learning	
<b>PCHEES</b>	Public Centralized Higher Education Enrollment System	Learning	
<b>PDC</b>	Public Disclosure Commission; state agency responsible for financial reporting by public officials	Organization	
<b>PEAB</b>	Professional Education Advisory Board; boards of active professionals that advise each education professional preparation program at colleges and universities in the state	Organization	
<b>PERC</b>	Public Employment Relations Commission; state agency responsible for dealing with labor relations for public employees	Organization	Teaching
<b>PERS</b>	Public Employees' Retirement System; retirement program for state and local government employees in Washington	Organization	Teaching
<b>PESB</b>	Professional Educator Standards Board; develops state policy and administers educator credentialing	Organization	
<b>PFL</b>	Partnership for Learning	Organization	
<b>PLC</b>	Professional Learning Community	Learning	Teaching
<b>PRA</b>	Public Records Act; state law establishing requirements for disclosure of records by public agencies	Leg/Law	
<b>PRR</b>	Public Records Requests	Leg/Law	
<b>ProCert or ProTeach</b>	Professional Certification; an advanced level teaching certificate, issued to holders of a Residency Certification who complete a ProTeach Portfolio	Teaching	
<b>Prototypical school</b>	a school design used in the state funding formula to determine the number of teachers, principals, and other school staff that are needed to provide a basic education. The size and staffing levels in a prototypical school differ for elementary, middle, and high schools. Districts are not required to staff their schools in the same way as the prototypical schools	Learning	Funding
<b>PSAT</b>	Pre-SAT assessment often taken by high school sophomores and juniors	Learning	
<b>PSE</b>	Public School Employees of Washington; classified school employees union	Organization	Teaching
<b>PTA or PTSA</b>	Parent Teacher Association or Parent Teacher Student Association	Organization	
<b>QEC</b>	Quality Education Council; created by the legislature in ESHB 2261. The purpose of the QEC was to develop strategic recommendations for implementation of a new definition of Basic Education and the financing necessary to support it. During the 2016 legislative session, HB 2360 eliminated the QEC	Organization	
<b>RCW</b>	Revised Code of Washington; all state statutes. Title 28A RCW is the education code	Leg/Law	
<b>Residency Certification</b>	The initial license issued by the state for a teacher to be allowed to teach in a school. Teachers in Washington must attempt to earn the Professional Certificate after teaching for three years	Teaching	
<b>RIF</b>	Reduction in Force; employee layoffs	Teaching	Funding
<b>RTI</b>	Response to Intervention	Learning	
<b>RTL</b>	Readiness to Learn	Learning	
<b>Running Start</b>	Running Start is intended to provide students a program option consisting of attendance at certain institutions of higher education and the simultaneous earning of high school and college/university credit.	Learning	Funding
<b>SAT</b>	SAT; standardized test for college entrance (originally called the scholastic aptitude test then the scholastic assessment test, then the SAT reasoning test, and now simply the SAT)	Learning	
<b>SB</b>	Senate Bill	Leg/Law	
<b>SBA or SBAC</b>	Smarter Balanced Assessment; smarter balanced assessment consortium; this is the state's required accountability assessment system for English language arts (ELA) and mathematics for grades 3-8 and high school.	Learning	
<b>SBCTC</b>	State Board for Community and Technical Colleges; manages several programs that partner high schools and higher education partners focused on teacher professional development and college opportunities for students (such as the Bridge to College program; and GearUp); and sets policy for and distributes state funding to Washington's 34 community and technical colleges.	Organization	
<b>SBE</b>	State Board of Education; develops state policy and provides system oversight for public schools	Organization	

**Washington State School Directors' Association (WSSDA)**  
**Educational Acronyms and Terminology**  
 Updated March 2021

Acronym	Description	Category 1	Category 2
<b>SCAP</b>	School Construction Assistance Program; provides state funding to build or modernize permanent school buildings	Funding	
<b>SEA</b>	State Educational Agency. In WA, the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)		
<b>SERS</b>	School Employees Retirement System; latest retirement plan for school employees	Teaching	Funding
<b>SES</b>	Socio-Economic Status	Learning	
<b>SIOP</b>	Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol	Learning	
<b>SIP</b>	School Improvement Plan	Learning	
<b>SIRS</b>	Schools Information and Research Service; state organization providing research results to local districts	Teaching	
<b>SLA</b>	Second Language Acquisition	Learning	
<b>SLAP - delete?</b>	School Law and Policy online subscription service; a computer research tool offered by WSSDA - another name on the website?	Leg/Law	Organization
<b>SLO</b>	Student Learning Objective; generally classroom goals for student learning	Learning	
<b>SLP</b>	Student Learning Plans	Learning	
<b>SMART goal</b>	Goal that is Specific, Measurable, Attainable/Realistic, Related to Student Achievement and Time-bound	Learning	Governance
<b>SNAP</b>	Student Nutrition Accountability Program	Funding	Learning
<b>SPED or SpEd</b>	Special Education; specifically designed instruction, at no cost to the parents, to meet the unique needs of a child with a disability	Teaching	
<b>SPI</b>	Superintendent of Public Instruction	Organization	
<b>SRO</b>	School Resource Officer	Teaching	
<b>SSB</b>	Substitute Senate Bill	Leg/Law	
<b>Staff mix</b>	A part of the state funding formula for schools used to capture the average teaching experience and education level of teachers in a district. Teachers' salaries go up with each year of experience and level of education. Staff mix (a number between 1 and 1.9) is multiplied by a district's base teacher salary to determine the salary amount the state provides for teachers	Funding	Teaching
<b>STARS</b>	Student Transportation Allocation Reporting System	Funding	
<b>STEAM</b>	Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math	Teaching	
<b>STEM</b>	Science, Technology, Engineering and Math	Teaching	
<b>STI</b>	Since Time Immemorial; tribal curriculum developed with native tribes by OSPI	Teaching	
<b>Sunshine Laws</b>	US federal and state laws requiring regulatory authorities' (including school boards') meetings, decisions and records be available to the public	Leg/Law	
<b>Synchronous Learning</b>	Synchronous learning refers to all types of learning in which learner(s) and instructor(s) are in the same place, at the same time, in order for learning to take place.		
<b>TANF</b>	Temporary Assistance to Needy Families	Funding	
<b>TBIP</b>	Transitional Bilingual Instructional Program; a state supported program that funds districts to provide a two-language system of instruction. Students learn language concepts and knowledge in their primary language at the same time they receive instruction in English.	Learning	
<b>TPEP</b>	Teacher and Principal Evaluation Program; "TPEP" is the term used most often when referring to the state's required teacher and principal evaluation system	Teaching	Leg/Law
<b>TRI</b>	Time, Responsibility and Incentive; supplemental teacher compensation used before compensation was redefined post-McCleary	Teaching	Funding
<b>TRS</b>	Teachers Retirement System; retirement program for Educational employees in Washington	Teaching	Funding
<b>TSA</b>	Tax Sheltered Annuity	Funding	
<b>TSE</b>	Traffic Safety Education	Learning	
<b>UDL</b>	Universal Design for Learning, a framework that guides the development of flexible learning environments and learning spaces that can accommodate individual learning differences.		
<b>USED</b>	United States Education Department; the federal department of education	Organization	

**Washington State School Directors' Association (WSSDA)**  
**Educational Acronyms and Terminology**  
 Updated March 2021

Acronym	Description	Category 1	Category 2
<b>WA-AIM</b>	The Washington Access to Instruction & Measurement; an alternate assessment based on alternate achievement standards aligned to the Washington's ELA and mathematics learning standards for students with significant cognitive challenges.		
<b>WAAS</b>	Washington Alternate Assessment System; this alternate assessment for students with significant cognitive challenges was replaced by WA-AIM in the 2014-15 school year.	Learning	
<b>WAC</b>	Washington Administrative Code; state rules and regulations created by state agencies as directed by the Legislature in RCW	Leg/Law	
<b>WACTE</b>	Washington Association for Career and Technical Education	Organization	
<b>WAEOP</b>	Washington Association of Educational Office Personnel	Organization	
<b>WaKIDS</b>	Washington Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills; the state-required process for students entering state-funded FDK programs	Learning	
<b>WASA</b>	Washington Association of School Administrators; the state association that is comprised of school district administrators and superintendent members.	Organization	
<b>WASBO</b>	Washington Association of School Business Officials; the state association comprised of school budget and finance officers	Organization	
<b>WASL</b>	Washington Assessment of Student Learning; Washington's state accountability assessment for federal and state purposes, including graduation; discontinued in 2009	Learning	
<b>WCSA</b>	Washington Council of School Attorneys	Organization	
<b>WEA</b>	Washington Education Association; state teachers union	Organization	
<b>WedNet</b>	Washington Education Network; the K-20 computer backbone in the state, part of many school district web site and e-mail addresses	Organization	
<b>WERA</b>	Washington Educational Research Association	Organization	
<b>WELPA</b>	Washington English Language Proficiency Assessment; the state's placement assessment used to determine initial student eligibility for English language development (ELD) services.	Learning	
<b>WIAA</b>	Washington Interscholastic Activities Association; non-profit policy and rule-making organization for sports programs in public and private secondary schools	Organization	
<b>WISHA</b>	Washington Industrial Safety and Health Act; state statute	Leg/Law	
<b>WLPT</b>	Washington Language Proficiency Test; this state placement assessment was replaced by the WELPA in the 2016-17 school year.	Learning	
<b>WSAC</b>	Washington Student Achievement Council; state agency that provides strategic planning, oversight and advocacy for academic achievement and higher education (formerly the Higher Education Coordinating Board, HECB)	Organization	
<b>WSCA</b>	Washington School Counselor Association	Organization	
<b>WSASCD</b>	Washington State Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development; this is the state affiliate of the national ASCD organization	Organization	
<b>WSFT</b>	Washington State Federation of Teachers; state teachers union	Organization	
<b>WSIPP</b>	Washington State Institution for Public Policy; legislative agency that carries out nonpartisan research	Organization	
<b>WSIPC</b>	Washington School Information Processing Cooperative; the group that many school districts utilize to provide data and report card systems	Organization	
<b>WSPRA</b>	Washington School Public Relations Association; state organization for school communication which conducts research regarding state government	Organization	
<b>WSPTA</b>	Washington State Parent Teacher Association	Organization	
<b>WSSDA</b>	Washington State School Directors' Association; Washington State School Directors Association; state agency that supports school boards with policy development, leadership training, communications, and advocacy.	Organization	
<b>WTECB</b>	Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board	Organization	