



## AFS-GPS Hosted Student High School Graduation Information

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### Can My Student graduate?

The simple answer is **NO**. The Washington State Board of Education has no official policy on exchange student graduations. However, most school districts will only offer a certificate of completion and not a graduation certificate. The main reason for the non-graduated status is that in Washington students are required to achieve a specific number of credits prior to graduation. An AFS student cannot earn that number of credits in one year. Other U.S. students that may move into a Washington school from another state's school would be bringing a transcript with transferable credits with them; therefore they would be permitted to graduate after attending just one year of school in Washington State.

### What if you need credits for school at home?

In the state of Washington, official transcripts are signed by the principal or vice principal (not counselors). If required by the students home country, the documents are sent to the Secretary of State for authentication, called an apostille. Contact the Washington State Secretary of State office as they handle the apostilles and take all the mystery out of the process. Their phone number is 360-753-7121.

**AFS will not guarantee graduation**, or even a certificate of completion. See Host Family Hand Book Page 34 for additional information.