

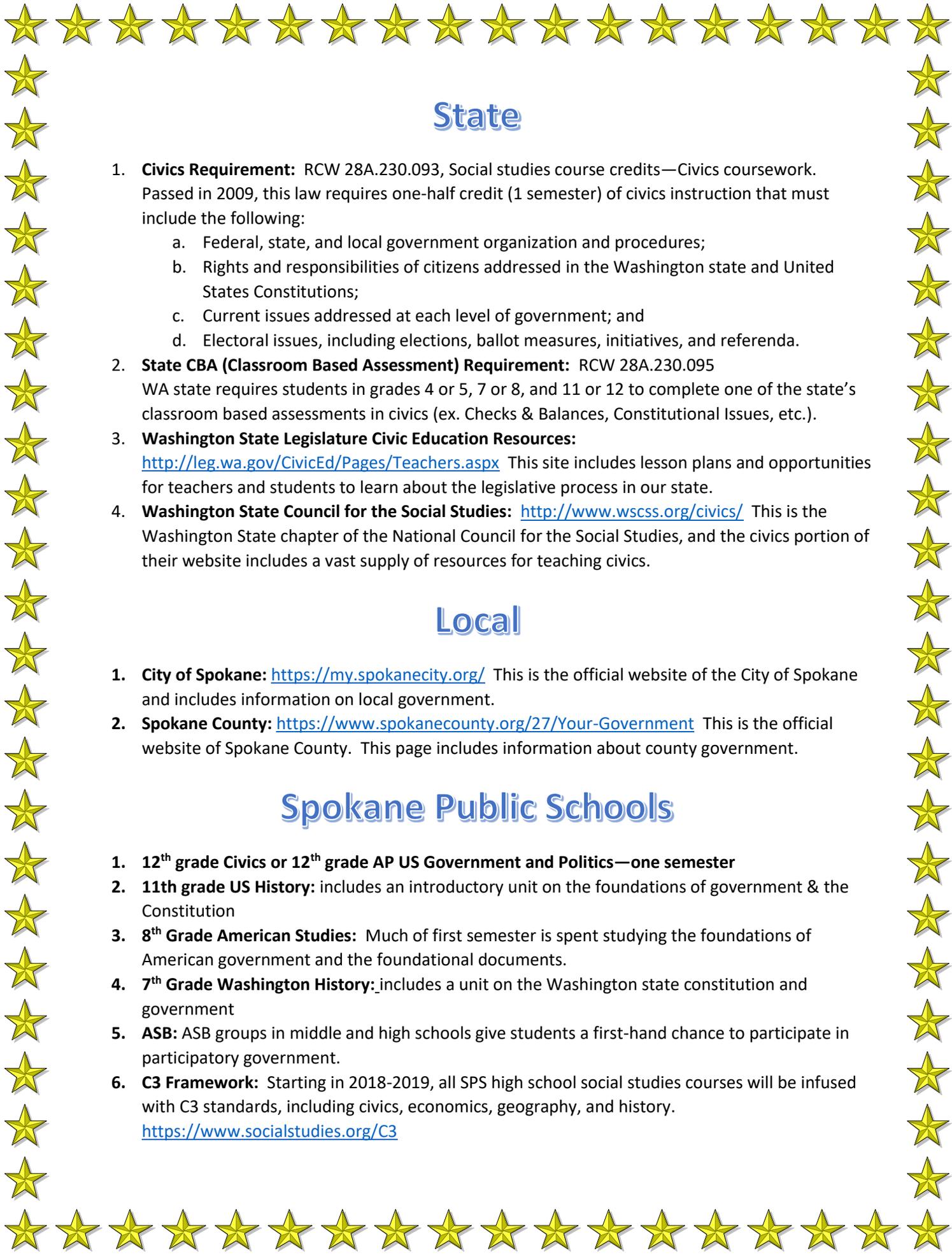


Resources for Civics'

Education

National

1. **iCivics:** <https://www.icivics.org/user> Justice Sandra Day O'Connor established this online civic education resource site. According to O'Connor, "*The practice of democracy is not passed down through the gene pool. It must be taught and learned anew by each generation of citizens.*" iCivics includes lesson plans for teachers and interactive games and activities to teach students about civics topics.
2. **CIRCLE** (Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement): <http://civicyouth.org/> Tufts University operates this organization that is dedicated to engaging young people in local, state, and national politics—particularly at getting young people to vote. Among 18-29 year olds, there are 49 million eligible voters and half do not vote. CIRCLE has founded the 22 X 20 Campaign—hoping to get 22 million new young voters by the 2020 election.
3. **Center for Civic Education:** <http://www.civiced.org/programs/wtp> <http://www.civiced.org/60-second-civics> This organization sponsors many free civic education resources and produces "60-Second Civics." 60-Second Civics is a daily podcast that provides a quick and convenient way for listeners to learn about our nation's government, the Constitution, and our history. The podcast explores themes related to civics and government, the constitutional issues behind the headlines, and the people and ideas that formed our nation's history and government.
4. **National Constitution Center:** <https://constitutioncenter.org/> This website, created by the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia, contains many outstanding resources, including an interactive constitution and many current events articles that deal with Constitutional issues. The mission of the National Constitution Center is "to inspire active citizenship as the only place where people across America and around the world can come together to learn about, debate, and celebrate the greatest vision of human freedom in history, the U.S. Constitution." The website makes this vision possible, even when it is not possible to take a trip to Philadelphia.
5. **American Bar Association, Division for Public Education:** https://www.americanbar.org/groups/public_education/teacher_portal.html This website, produced by the American Bar Association, contains information for teachers, including lesson plans, summer institutes, Supreme Court cases, and other civic education information. It also includes a link to "Insights on Law and Society," a magazine designed to inform educators about issues in civics, government, history, and law. Teachers may subscribe to this magazine for free. The ABA also sponsors programs for students, including the National Civics and Law Academy, a four-day program in which students travel for free to Washington D.C. to meet with politicians and learn first-hand how government works.
6. **Bill of Rights Institute:** <http://www.billofrightsinstitute.org/> This site includes engaging information and simulations for students and lesson plans for teachers that make kids think.



State

1. **Civics Requirement:** RCW 28A.230.093, Social studies course credits—Civics coursework. Passed in 2009, this law requires one-half credit (1 semester) of civics instruction that must include the following:
 - a. Federal, state, and local government organization and procedures;
 - b. Rights and responsibilities of citizens addressed in the Washington state and United States Constitutions;
 - c. Current issues addressed at each level of government; and
 - d. Electoral issues, including elections, ballot measures, initiatives, and referenda.
2. **State CBA (Classroom Based Assessment) Requirement:** RCW 28A.230.095
WA state requires students in grades 4 or 5, 7 or 8, and 11 or 12 to complete one of the state's classroom based assessments in civics (ex. Checks & Balances, Constitutional Issues, etc.).
3. **Washington State Legislature Civic Education Resources:**
<http://leg.wa.gov/CivicEd/Pages/Teachers.aspx> This site includes lesson plans and opportunities for teachers and students to learn about the legislative process in our state.
4. **Washington State Council for the Social Studies:** <http://www.wcss.org/civics/> This is the Washington State chapter of the National Council for the Social Studies, and the civics portion of their website includes a vast supply of resources for teaching civics.

Local

1. **City of Spokane:** <https://my.spokanecity.org/> This is the official website of the City of Spokane and includes information on local government.
2. **Spokane County:** <https://www.spokanecounty.org/27/Your-Government> This is the official website of Spokane County. This page includes information about county government.

Spokane Public Schools

1. **12th grade Civics or 12th grade AP US Government and Politics—one semester**
2. **11th grade US History:** includes an introductory unit on the foundations of government & the Constitution
3. **8th Grade American Studies:** Much of first semester is spent studying the foundations of American government and the foundational documents.
4. **7th Grade Washington History:** includes a unit on the Washington state constitution and government
5. **ASB:** ASB groups in middle and high schools give students a first-hand chance to participate in participatory government.
6. **C3 Framework:** Starting in 2018-2019, all SPS high school social studies courses will be infused with C3 standards, including civics, economics, geography, and history.
<https://www.socialstudies.org/C3>