

---

SENATE BILL 5411

---

State of Washington                      60th Legislature                      2007 Regular Session

By Senators Delvin, Shin, Kilmer and Kohl-Welles

Read first time 01/18/2007. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1            AN ACT Relating to awarding the state need grant; and amending RCW  
2 28B.92.060.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 28B.92.060 and 2005 c 93 s 3 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6            In awarding need grants, the board shall proceed substantially as  
7 follows: PROVIDED, That nothing contained herein shall be construed to  
8 prevent the board, in the exercise of its sound discretion, from  
9 following another procedure when the best interest of the program so  
10 dictates:

11            (1) The board shall annually select the financial aid award  
12 recipients from among Washington residents applying for student  
13 financial aid who have been ranked according to:

14            (a) Financial need as determined by the amount of the family  
15 contribution; and

16            (b) Other considerations, such as whether the student is a former  
17 foster youth.

18            (2) The financial need of the highest ranked students shall be met  
19 by grants depending upon the evaluation of financial need until the

1 total allocation has been disbursed. Funds from grants which are  
2 declined, forfeited or otherwise unused shall be reawarded until  
3 disbursed, except that eligible former foster youth shall be assured  
4 receipt of a grant.

5 (3) A student shall be eligible to receive a state need grant for  
6 up to five years, or the credit or clock hour equivalent of five years,  
7 or up to one hundred twenty-five percent of the published length of  
8 time of the student's program. A student may not start a new associate  
9 degree program as a state need grant recipient until at least five  
10 years have elapsed since earning an associate degree as a need grant  
11 recipient, except that a student may earn two associate degrees  
12 concurrently. Qualifications for renewal will include maintaining  
13 satisfactory academic progress toward completion of an eligible program  
14 as determined by the board. Should the recipient terminate his or her  
15 enrollment for any reason during the academic year, the unused portion  
16 of the grant shall be returned to the state educational grant fund by  
17 the institution according to the institution's own policy for issuing  
18 refunds, except as provided in RCW 28B.92.070.

19 ~~(4) ((In computing financial need, the board shall determine a~~  
20 ~~maximum student expense budget allowance, not to exceed an amount equal~~  
21 ~~to the total maximum student expense budget at the public institutions~~  
22 ~~plus the current average state appropriation per student for operating~~  
23 ~~expense in the public institutions.~~

24 (5)) The state need grant award for an individual student shall be  
25 the base grant, appropriate for the educational sector attended, and a  
26 dependent care allowance, if applicable, adjusted for the student's  
27 family income and rate of enrollment.

28 (5) The maximum base grant for students shall:

29 (a) Be established based on the representative average resident  
30 tuition, service, and activity fees charged within each public sector  
31 of higher education. The average is to be determined annually by the  
32 higher education coordinating board. The amount of the base grant may  
33 be less than the actual average if the higher education coordinating  
34 board finds it necessary to be able to serve the expected number of  
35 eligible students;

36 (b) Not exceed the actual tuition and fees charged to the eligible  
37 student; and

1 (c) Be the same for students attending private four-year  
2 institutions of higher education and students attending the public  
3 four-year research universities. The base grant for students attending  
4 private vocational institutions shall be the same as students attending  
5 the public community and technical colleges.

6 (6)(a) For full-time students, the amount of the state need grant  
7 shall be as follows:

8 (i) Students with family incomes less than or equal to fifty  
9 percent of the state's median family income shall receive the maximum  
10 award;

11 (ii) Students whose incomes are greater than fifty percent, but  
12 less than or equal to sixty-five percent, of the state's median family  
13 income shall receive seventy-five percent of the maximum award;

14 (iii) Students whose incomes are greater than sixty-five percent,  
15 but less than or equal to seventy-five percent, of the state's median  
16 family income shall receive fifty percent of the maximum award;

17 (iv) Students whose incomes are greater than seventy-five percent,  
18 but less than or equal to eighty-five percent, of the state's median  
19 family income shall receive twenty-five percent of the maximum award;  
20 and

21 (v) Each eligible grant recipient must receive the maximum grant  
22 award for which he or she is eligible, unless the award would exceed  
23 the student's overall need or the institution's approved gift equity  
24 packaging policy.

25 (b) Students attending less than full time shall have their grants  
26 prorated based on attendance.

27 (7) As used in this section, "former foster youth" means a person  
28 who is at least eighteen years of age, but not more than twenty-four  
29 years of age, who was a dependent of the department of social and  
30 health services at the time he or she attained the age of eighteen.

--- END ---