
HOUSE BILL 2119

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Representatives Wallace, Carlyle, Sullivan, Morrell, Quall, Santos,
and Ormsby

Read first time 02/10/09. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to expanding dual credit opportunities; amending
2 RCW 28A.225.290, 28A.600.160, 28A.600.300, and 28A.600.310; adding new
3 sections to chapter 28A.600 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that the economy
6 of the state of Washington requires a well-prepared workforce. To meet
7 the need, more Washington students need to be prepared for
8 postsecondary education and training. Further, the personal enrichment
9 and success of Washington citizens increasingly relies on their ability
10 to use the state's postsecondary education and training system. To
11 accomplish those ends, the legislature desires to increase the number
12 of students who begin earning college credits while still in high
13 school.

14 (2) The legislature further finds that dual credit programs
15 introduce students to college-level work, provide a jump start on
16 getting a college degree, and, perhaps most important, show students
17 that they can succeed in college. Dual credit programs also provide
18 another avenue of student financial aid, since many programs are
19 offered for little or no cost to students.

1 (3) The legislature also finds that students must be provided a
2 choice when selecting a dual credit program that is right for them.
3 Options should be available for the student who wants to learn on a
4 college campus and the student who wants to stay at the high school and
5 take college-level courses. Options must also be available for the
6 hands-on learner who seeks to complete an apprenticeship program.

7 (4) The legislature intends to blur the line between high school
8 and college by articulating a vision to dramatically increase
9 participation in dual credit programs. It is for this reason that the
10 legislature should call on all education stakeholders to come together
11 to coordinate resources, track outcomes, and improve program
12 availability.

13 (5) The legislature further intends to provide high schools,
14 colleges, and universities with a set of tools for growing and
15 coordinating dual credit programs. Institutions should be given some
16 flexibility in determining the best methods to secure long-term, ample
17 financial support for these programs, while students should be given
18 some help in offsetting instructional costs.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.600
20 RCW to read as follows:

21 The office of the superintendent of public instruction, in
22 collaboration with the state board for community and technical
23 colleges, the workforce training and education coordinating board, and
24 the public baccalaureate institutions, shall report by September 1,
25 2010, and annually thereafter to the education and higher education
26 committees of the legislature regarding participation in dual credit
27 programs. The report shall include:

28 (1) Data about student participation rates and academic performance
29 including but not limited to running start, college in the high school,
30 tech prep, international baccalaureate, advanced placement, and running
31 start for the trades;

32 (2) Data on the total unduplicated head count of students enrolled
33 in at least one dual credit program course; and

34 (3) The percentage of students who enrolled in at least one dual
35 credit program as percent of all students enrolled in grades nine
36 through twelve.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.600
2 RCW to read as follows:

3 (1) The superintendent of public instruction, the state board for
4 community and technical colleges, and the public baccalaureate
5 institutions shall jointly develop and each adopt rules governing the
6 college in the high school program. The rules shall be written to
7 encourage the maximum use of the program and may not narrow or limit
8 the enrollment options.

9 (2) College in the high school programs shall each be governed by
10 a local contract between the district and the institution of higher
11 education, in compliance with the guidelines adopted by the
12 superintendent of public instruction, the state board for community and
13 technical colleges, and the public baccalaureate institutions.

14 (3) The college in the high school program must include the
15 provisions in this subsection.

16 (a) The high school and institution of higher education together
17 shall define the criteria for student eligibility. The institution of
18 higher education may charge tuition fees to participating students.

19 (b) School districts shall report no student for more than one
20 full-time equivalent including college in the high school courses.

21 (c) The funds received by the institution of higher education may
22 not be deemed tuition or operating fees and may be retained by the
23 institution of higher education.

24 (d) Enrollment information on persons registered under this section
25 must be maintained by the institution of higher education separately
26 from other enrollment information and may not be included in official
27 enrollment reports, nor may such persons be considered in any
28 enrollment statistics that would affect higher education budgetary
29 determinations.

30 (e) A school district must grant high school credit to a student
31 enrolled in a program course if the student successfully completes the
32 course. If no comparable course is offered by the school district, the
33 school district superintendent shall determine how many credits to
34 award for the course. The determination shall be made in writing
35 before the student enrolls in the course. The credits shall be applied
36 toward graduation requirements and subject area requirements. Evidence
37 of successful completion of each program course shall be included in
38 the student's secondary school records and transcript.

1 (f) An institution of higher education must grant college credit to
2 a student enrolled in a program course if the student successfully
3 completes the course. The college credit shall be applied toward
4 general education requirements or major requirements. If no comparable
5 course is offered by the college, the institution of higher education
6 at which the teacher of the program course is employed shall determine
7 how many credits to award for the course and whether the course
8 fulfills general education or major requirements. Evidence of
9 successful completion of each program course must be included in the
10 student's college transcript.

11 (g) Eleventh and twelfth grade students or students who have not
12 yet received a high school diploma or its equivalent and are eligible
13 to be in the eleventh or twelfth grades may participate in the college
14 in the high school program.

15 (h) Participating school districts must provide general information
16 about the college in the high school program to all students in grades
17 ten, eleven, and twelve and to the parents and guardians of those
18 students.

19 (i) Full-time and part-time faculty at institutions of higher
20 education, including adjunct faculty, are eligible to teach program
21 courses.

22 (4) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this
23 section.

24 (a) "Institution of higher education" has the meaning in RCW
25 28B.10.016 and also includes a public tribal college located in
26 Washington and accredited by the Northwest commission on colleges and
27 universities or another accrediting association recognized by the
28 United States department of education.

29 (b) "Program course" means a college course offered in a high
30 school under the college in the high school program.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.600
32 RCW to read as follows:

33 The superintendent of public instruction shall develop advising
34 guidelines to assure that students and parents understand that college
35 credits earned in high school dual credit programs may impact
36 eligibility for financial aid.

1 **Sec. 5.** RCW 28A.225.290 and 1990 1st ex.s. c 9 s 207 are each
2 amended to read as follows:

3 (1) The superintendent of public instruction shall prepare and
4 annually distribute an information booklet outlining parents' and
5 guardians' enrollment options for their children.

6 (2) Before the 1991-92 school year, the booklet shall be
7 distributed to all school districts by the office of the superintendent
8 of public instruction. School districts shall have a copy of the
9 information booklet available for public inspection at each school in
10 the district, at the district office, and in public libraries.

11 (3) The booklet shall include:

12 (a) Information about enrollment options and program opportunities,
13 including but not limited to programs in RCW 28A.225.220, 28A.185.040,
14 28A.225.200 through 28A.225.215, 28A.225.230 through 28A.225.250,
15 (~~28A.175.090~~) 28A.340.010 through 28A.340.070 (small high school
16 cooperative projects), and 28A.335.160.

17 (b) Information about the running start (~~((community college or~~
18 ~~vocational technical institute))~~ choice program under RCW 28A.600.300
19 through (~~28A.600.395~~) 28A.600.400; and

20 (c) Information about the seventh and eighth grade choice program
21 under RCW 28A.230.090.

22 **Sec. 6.** RCW 28A.600.160 and 1998 c 225 s 2 are each amended to
23 read as follows:

24 Any middle school, junior high school, or high school using
25 educational pathways shall ensure that all participating students will
26 continue to have access to the courses and instruction necessary to
27 meet admission requirements at baccalaureate institutions. Students
28 shall be allowed to enter the educational pathway of their choice.
29 Before accepting a student into an educational pathway, the school
30 shall inform the student's parent of the pathway chosen, the
31 opportunities available to the student through the pathway, and the
32 career objectives the student will have exposure to while pursuing the
33 pathway. Parents and students dissatisfied with the opportunities
34 available through the selected educational pathway shall be provided
35 with the opportunity to transfer the student to any other pathway
36 provided in the school. Schools may not develop educational pathways
37 that retain students in high school beyond the date they are eligible

1 to graduate, and may not require students who transfer between pathways
2 to complete pathway requirements beyond the date the student is
3 eligible to graduate. Educational pathways may include, but are not
4 limited to, programs such as work-based learning, school-to-work
5 transition, tech prep, vocational-technical education, running start,
6 college in the high school, and preparation for technical college,
7 community college, or university education.

8 **Sec. 7.** RCW 28A.600.300 and 2005 c 207 s 5 are each amended to
9 read as follows:

10 (1) The program established in this section through RCW 28A.600.400
11 shall be known as the running start program.

12 (2) For the purposes of RCW 28A.600.310 through 28A.600.400,
13 "participating institution of higher education" or "institution of
14 higher education" means:

15 ~~((1))~~ (a) A community or technical college as defined in RCW
16 28B.50.030;

17 ~~((2))~~ (b) A public tribal college located in Washington and
18 accredited by the northwest commission on colleges and universities or
19 another accrediting association recognized by the United States
20 department of education; and

21 ~~((3))~~ (c) Central Washington University, Eastern Washington
22 University, Washington State University, and The Evergreen State
23 College, if the institution's governing board decides to participate in
24 the program in RCW 28A.600.310 through 28A.600.400.

25 **Sec. 8.** RCW 28A.600.310 and 2005 c 125 s 1 are each amended to
26 read as follows:

27 (1) Eleventh and twelfth grade students or students who have not
28 yet received the credits required for the award of a high school
29 diploma and are eligible to be in the eleventh or twelfth grades may
30 apply to a participating institution of higher education to enroll in
31 courses or programs offered by the institution of higher education. A
32 student receiving home-based instruction enrolling in a public high
33 school for the sole purpose of participating in courses or programs
34 offered by institutions of higher education shall not be counted by the
35 school district in any required state or federal accountability
36 reporting if the student's parents or guardians filed a declaration of

1 intent to provide home-based instruction and the student received home-
2 based instruction during the school year before the school year in
3 which the student intends to participate in courses or programs offered
4 by the institution of higher education. Students receiving home-based
5 instruction under chapter 28A.200 RCW and students attending private
6 schools approved under chapter 28A.195 RCW shall not be required to
7 meet the student learning goals, obtain a certificate of academic
8 achievement or a certificate of individual achievement to graduate from
9 high school, or to master the essential academic learning requirements.
10 However, students are eligible to enroll in courses or programs in
11 participating universities only if the board of directors of the
12 student's school district has decided to participate in the program.
13 Participating institutions of higher education, in consultation with
14 school districts, may establish admission standards for these students.
15 If the institution of higher education accepts a secondary school pupil
16 for enrollment under this section, the institution of higher education
17 shall send written notice to the pupil and the pupil's school district
18 within ten days of acceptance. The notice shall indicate the course
19 and hours of enrollment for that pupil.

20 (2) In lieu of tuition and fees, as defined in RCW 28B.15.020 and
21 28B.15.041, running start students shall pay to the institution of
22 higher education all other mandatory fees as established by each
23 institution of higher education. The institution of higher education
24 shall prorate the mandatory fees based on credit load.

25 (3) The institution of higher education must make available fee
26 waivers for low-income students. Each institution must establish a
27 written policy for the determination of low-income students before
28 offering the fee waiver. Acceptable may include, but is not limited
29 to, documentation that a student has been deemed eligible for free or
30 reduced-price lunches in the last five years, or other criteria
31 established in the institution's policy.

32 (4) The pupil's school district shall transmit to the institution
33 of higher education an amount per each full-time equivalent college
34 student at statewide uniform rates for vocational and nonvocational
35 students. The superintendent of public instruction shall separately
36 calculate and allocate moneys appropriated for basic education under
37 RCW 28A.150.260 to school districts for purposes of making such
38 payments and for granting school districts seven percent thereof to

1 offset program related costs. The calculations and allocations shall
2 be based upon the estimated statewide annual average per full-time
3 equivalent high school student allocations under RCW 28A.150.260,
4 excluding small high school enhancements, and applicable rules adopted
5 under chapter 34.05 RCW. The superintendent of public instruction, the
6 higher education coordinating board, and the state board for community
7 and technical colleges shall consult on the calculation and
8 distribution of the funds. (~~The institution of higher education shall~~
9 ~~not require the pupil to pay any other fees.~~) The funds received by
10 the institution of higher education from the school district shall not
11 be deemed tuition or operating fees and may be retained by the
12 institution of higher education. A student enrolled under this
13 subsection shall (~~not~~) be counted for the purpose of determining
14 (~~any~~) enrollment (~~restrictions~~) targets imposed by the state on the
15 institution of higher education, however, enrollments under this
16 section shall not be counted for purposes of funding under chapter
17 28B.10 RCW and shall not displace any students currently enrolled.

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