
SENATE BILL 6655

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2010 Regular Session

By Senators McDermott and Tom

Read first time 01/20/10. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to the running start program; and amending RCW
2 28A.600.310, 28A.600.370, and 28B.15.910.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.600.310 and 2009 c 450 s 8 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1)(a) Eleventh and twelfth grade students or students who have not
7 yet received the credits required for the award of a high school
8 diploma and are eligible to be in the eleventh or twelfth grades may
9 apply to a participating institution of higher education to enroll in
10 courses or programs offered by the institution of higher education. A
11 student receiving home-based instruction enrolling in a public high
12 school for the sole purpose of participating in courses or programs
13 offered by institutions of higher education shall not be counted by the
14 school district in any required state or federal accountability
15 reporting if the student's parents or guardians filed a declaration of
16 intent to provide home-based instruction and the student received home-
17 based instruction during the school year before the school year in
18 which the student intends to participate in courses or programs offered
19 by the institution of higher education. Students receiving home-based

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

16 (b) Running start students shall pay to the institution of higher
17 education a maximum of thirty-three percent of tuition and fees, as
18 defined in RCW 28B.15.020 and 28B.15.041. The state board for
19 community and technical colleges shall determine the annual rate for
20 tuition and fees charged to and collected from students participating
21 in the running start program. The governing boards of the state
22 universities, the regional universities, and The Evergreen State
23 College shall determine the annual rate for tuition and fees charged to
24 and collected from students participating in the running start program.
25 The institution of higher education shall prorate the mandatory fees
26 based on credit load.

27 ~~(2) ((In lieu of tuition and fees, as defined in RCW 28B.15.020 and~~
28 ~~28B.15.041, running start students shall pay to the community or~~
29 ~~technical college all other mandatory fees as established by each~~
30 ~~community or technical college; and all other institutions of higher~~
31 ~~education operating a running start program may charge technology fees.~~
32 ~~The fees charged shall be prorated based on credit load.~~

33 ~~(3))~~ The institutions of higher education must make available fee
34 waivers for low-income running start students. Each institution must
35 establish a written policy for the determination of low-income students
36 before offering the fee waiver. A student shall be considered low
37 income and eligible for a fee waiver upon proof that the student is
38 currently qualified to receive free or reduced-price lunch. Acceptable

1 documentation of low-income status may also include, but is not limited
2 to, documentation that a student has been deemed eligible for free or
3 reduced-price lunches in the last five years, or other criteria
4 established in the institution's policy. Use of tuition and fee
5 waivers for qualified low-income running start students shall not be
6 included in determining total state tuition waiver authority at each
7 participating institution of higher education as defined in RCW
8 28.15.910.

9 ((+4)) (3) The pupil's school district shall transmit to the
10 institution of higher education an amount per each full-time equivalent
11 college student at statewide uniform rates for vocational and
12 nonvocational students. The superintendent of public instruction shall
13 separately calculate and allocate moneys appropriated for basic
14 education under RCW 28A.150.260 to school districts for purposes of
15 making such payments and for granting school districts seven percent
16 thereof to offset program related costs. The calculations and
17 allocations shall be based upon the estimated statewide annual average
18 per full-time equivalent high school student allocations under RCW
19 28A.150.260, excluding small high school enhancements, and applicable
20 rules adopted under chapter 34.05 RCW. The superintendent of public
21 instruction, the higher education coordinating board, and the state
22 board for community and technical colleges shall consult on the
23 calculation and distribution of the funds. The funds received by the
24 institution of higher education from the school district shall not be
25 deemed tuition or operating fees and may be retained by the institution
26 of higher education. A student enrolled under this subsection shall be
27 counted for the purpose of meeting enrollment targets in accordance
28 with terms and conditions specified in the omnibus appropriations act.

29 ((+5)) (4) The state board for community and technical colleges,
30 in collaboration with the other institutions of higher education that
31 participate in the running start program and the office of the
32 superintendent of public instruction, shall identify, assess, and
33 report on alternatives for providing ongoing and adequate financial
34 support for the program. Such alternatives shall include but are not
35 limited to student tuition, increased support from local school
36 districts, and reallocation of existing state financial support among
37 the community and technical college system to account for differential
38 running start enrollment levels and impacts. The state board for

1 community and technical colleges shall report the assessment of
2 alternatives to the governor and to the appropriate fiscal and policy
3 committees of the legislature by September 1, 2010.

4 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.600.370 and 1994 c 205 s 8 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 Any state institution of higher education may award postsecondary
7 credit for college level academic and vocational courses successfully
8 completed by a student while in high school and taken at an institution
9 of higher education. (~~The state institution of higher education shall
10 not charge a fee for the award of the credits.~~)

11 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28B.15.910 and 2008 c 188 s 3 are each amended to read
12 as follows:

13 (1) For the purpose of providing state general fund support to
14 public institutions of higher education, except for revenue waived
15 under programs listed in subsections (3) and (4) of this section, and
16 unless otherwise expressly provided in the omnibus state appropriations
17 act, the total amount of operating fees revenue waived, exempted, or
18 reduced by a state university, a regional university, The Evergreen
19 State College, or the community colleges as a whole, shall not exceed
20 the percentage of total gross authorized operating fees revenue in this
21 subsection. As used in this section, "gross authorized operating fees
22 revenue" means the estimated gross operating fees revenue as estimated
23 under RCW 82.33.020 or as revised by the office of financial
24 management, before granting any waivers. This limitation applies to
25 all tuition waiver programs established before or after July 1, 1992.

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|----|-----------------------------------|------------|
| 26 | (a) University of Washington | 21 percent |
| 27 | (b) Washington State University | 20 percent |
| 28 | (c) Eastern Washington University | 11 percent |
| 29 | (d) Central Washington University | 10 percent |
| 30 | (e) Western Washington University | 10 percent |
| 31 | (f) The Evergreen State College | 10 percent |
| 32 | (g) Community colleges as a whole | 35 percent |

33 (2) The limitations in subsection (1) of this section apply to
34 waivers, exemptions, or reductions in operating fees contained in the
35 following:

- 36 (a) RCW 28B.15.014;

- 1 (b) RCW 28B.15.100;
- 2 (c) RCW 28B.15.225;
- 3 (d) RCW 28B.15.380;
- 4 (e) RCW 28B.15.520;
- 5 (f) RCW 28B.15.526;
- 6 (g) RCW 28B.15.527;
- 7 (h) RCW 28B.15.543;
- 8 (i) RCW 28B.15.545;
- 9 (j) RCW 28B.15.555;
- 10 (k) RCW 28B.15.556;
- 11 (l) RCW 28B.15.615;
- 12 (m) RCW 28B.15.621 (2) and (4);
- 13 (n) RCW 28B.15.730;
- 14 (o) RCW 28B.15.740;
- 15 (p) RCW 28B.15.750;
- 16 (q) RCW 28B.15.756;
- 17 (r) RCW 28B.50.259; and
- 18 (s) RCW 28B.70.050.

19 (3) The limitations in subsection (1) of this section do not apply
20 to waivers, exemptions, or reductions in services and activities fees
21 contained in the following:

- 22 (a) RCW 28A.600.310;
- 23 (b) RCW 28B.15.522;
- 24 (~~(b)~~) (c) RCW 28B.15.540;
- 25 (~~(c)~~) (d) RCW 28B.15.558; and
- 26 (~~(d)~~) (e) RCW 28B.15.621(3).

27 (4) The total amount of operating fees revenue waived, exempted, or
28 reduced by institutions of higher education participating in the
29 western interstate commission for higher education western
30 undergraduate exchange program under RCW 28B.15.544 shall not exceed
31 the percentage of total gross authorized operating fees revenue in this
32 subsection.

- 33 (a) Washington State University 1 percent
- 34 (b) Eastern Washington University 3 percent
- 35 (c) Central Washington University 3 percent

36 (5) The institutions of higher education will participate in
37 outreach activities to increase the number of veterans who receive
38 tuition waivers. Colleges and universities shall revise the

1 application for admissions so that all applicants shall have the
2 opportunity to advise the institution that they are veterans who need
3 assistance. If a person indicates on the application for admissions
4 that the person is a veteran who is in need of assistance, then the
5 institution of higher education shall ask the person whether they have
6 any funds disbursed in accordance with the Montgomery GI Bill available
7 to them. Each institution shall encourage veterans to utilize funds
8 available to them in accordance with the Montgomery GI Bill prior to
9 providing the veteran a tuition waiver.

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