

**HB 1355-S2 - DIGEST**

(DIGEST AS ENACTED)

Creates the opportunity internship program to provide incentives for opportunity internship consortia to use existing resources to build educational and employment pipelines to high-demand occupations in targeted industries for low-income high school students.

Requires the higher education coordinating board to work with institutions of higher education to assure that the institutions are aware of the eligibility of opportunity internship graduates for an award under chapter 28B.92 RCW (state student financial aid program).

Requires the workforce training and education coordinating board to:

- (1) In consultation with the Washington state apprenticeship and training council, select those consortia that demonstrate the strongest commitment and readiness to implement a high quality opportunity internship program for low-income high school students;

- (2) Place a priority on consortia with demonstrated experience working with similar populations of students and demonstrated capacity to assist a large number of students through the progression of internship or preapprenticeship, high school graduation, postsecondary education, and retention in a high-demand occupation;

- (3) Place a priority on programs that emphasize secondary career and technical education and nonbaccalaureate postsecondary education;

- (4) Enter into a contract with each consortium selected to participate in the program;

- (5) Seek federal funds that may be used to support the opportunity internship program; and

- (6) Conduct an outcome evaluation of opportunity internship programs.