
SENATE BILL 5915

State of Washington 62nd Legislature 2011 Regular Session

By Senators Kilmer, Murray, Zarelli, and Tom

Read first time 04/05/11. Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

1 AN ACT Relating to higher education funding and performance;
2 amending RCW 28B.15.067, 28B.15.068, 28B.76.270, and 28B.76.200; adding
3 new sections to chapter 28B.15 RCW; adding a new section to chapter
4 28B.76 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 28B.10 RCW; adding a new
5 section to chapter 28B.50 RCW; creating a new section; and repealing
6 RCW 28B.10.920, 28B.10.921, and 28B.10.922.

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

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** Washington is successful because of its
9 people whose social and economic well-being depends upon the
10 availability and quality of their education. The legislature finds
11 that, even during these financially challenging times, Washington
12 colleges and universities provide high quality educational experiences
13 for their students and produce graduates well prepared to fuel
14 Washington's economy and society. Postsecondary funding, however, has
15 been cut to the point that the future vitality and production capacity
16 of Washington's institutions of higher education is at risk unless bold
17 actions are taken.

18 The legislature finds that, unlike reductions for other state
19 services that can recover quickly as the economy recovers, budget

1 reductions in higher education have long-lasting adverse effects on
2 Washington citizens, the economy, and society - effects that the state
3 must minimize. For these reasons, the legislature finds that immediate
4 actions must be taken to preserve the excellent quality of education
5 that students receive at Washington's institutions of higher education
6 and the availability of educational opportunities for a broad spectrum
7 of Washington students.

8 The legislature intends to buffer the economic challenges
9 experienced by Washington colleges and universities by permitting them
10 to establish their tuition rates institutionally while holding them
11 accountable for their performance on specific outcomes, including
12 quality and quantity measures. The legislature intends to require
13 continuing achievement of these progressively challenging outcomes to
14 justify continuing institutional autonomy.

15 The legislature further intends that the effects of the tuition
16 increases be mitigated for middle-class and needy students by
17 preserving its commitment to state and institutional funding for need-
18 based financial aid.

19 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28B.15.067 and 2010 c 20 s 7 are each amended to read
20 as follows:

21 (1) Tuition fees shall be established under the provisions of this
22 chapter.

23 (2) Beginning with the 2003-04 academic year and ending with the
24 2012-13 academic year, reductions or increases in full-time tuition
25 fees for resident undergraduates shall be as provided in the omnibus
26 appropriations act. Beginning in the 2013-14 academic year, reductions
27 or increases in full-time tuition fees shall be as provided in the
28 omnibus appropriations act for resident undergraduate students at
29 community and technical colleges. The state board for community and
30 technical colleges may pilot or institute differential tuition models.
31 The board may define scale, scope, and rationale for the models.

32 (3)(a) Beginning with the ((2003-04)) 2013-14 academic year and
33 ((ending with the 2012-13)) through the end of the 2018-19 academic
34 year, the governing boards of the state universities, the regional
35 universities, and The Evergreen State College((, and the state board
36 for community and technical colleges)) may reduce or increase full-time
37 tuition fees for all students ((other than resident undergraduates)),

1 including summer school students and students in other self-supporting
2 degree programs. Percentage increases in full-time tuition fees may
3 exceed the fiscal growth factor. Reductions or increases may be made,
4 and differential tuition rates may be charged, for all or portions of
5 an institution's programs, campuses, courses, or students. This
6 subsection (3)(a) applies to the state board for community and
7 technical colleges for all nonresident students, summer school
8 students, and students in other self-supporting programs.

9 (b) Prior to reducing or increasing tuition for each academic year,
10 the governing boards of the state universities, the regional
11 universities, and The Evergreen State College shall consult with
12 existing student associations or organizations with student
13 undergraduate and graduate representatives regarding the impacts of
14 potential tuition increases. Governing boards shall be required to
15 provide data regarding the percentage of students receiving financial
16 aid, the sources of aid, and the percentage of total costs of
17 attendance paid for by aid.

18 (c) Prior to reducing or increasing tuition for each academic year,
19 each college in the state board for community and technical college
20 system shall consult with existing student associations or
21 organizations with undergraduate student representation regarding the
22 impacts of potential tuition increases. Colleges shall provide data
23 regarding the percentage of students receiving financial aid, the
24 sources of aid, and the percentage of total costs of attendance paid
25 for by aid.

26 (4) (~~Academic year tuition for full-time students at the state's~~
27 ~~institutions of higher education beginning with 2015-16, other than~~
28 ~~summer term, shall be as charged during the 2014-15 academic year~~
29 ~~unless different rates are adopted by the legislature~~) Beginning with
30 the 2019-20 academic year, reductions or increases in full-time tuition
31 fees shall be as provided in the omnibus appropriations act for
32 resident undergraduate students at four-year institutions of higher
33 education.

34 (5) The tuition fees established under this chapter shall not apply
35 to high school students enrolling in participating institutions of
36 higher education under RCW 28A.600.300 through 28A.600.400.

37 (6) The tuition fees established under this chapter shall not apply
38 to eligible students enrolling in a dropout reengagement program

1 through an interlocal agreement between a school district and a
2 community or technical college under RCW 28A.175.100 through
3 28A.175.110.

4 (7) The tuition fees established under this chapter shall not apply
5 to eligible students enrolling in a community or technical college
6 participating in the pilot program under RCW 28B.50.534 for the purpose
7 of obtaining a high school diploma.

8 ~~((8) For the academic years 2003-04 through 2008-09, the
9 University of Washington shall use an amount equivalent to ten percent
10 of all revenues received as a result of law school tuition increases
11 beginning in academic year 2000-01 through academic year 2008-09 to
12 assist needy low and middle income resident law students.~~

13 ~~(9) For the academic years 2003-04 through 2008-09, institutions of
14 higher education shall use an amount equivalent to ten percent of all
15 revenues received as a result of graduate academic school tuition
16 increases beginning in academic year 2003-04 through academic year
17 2008-09 to assist needy low and middle income resident graduate
18 academic students.~~

19 ~~(10) Any tuition increases above seven percent shall fund costs of
20 instruction, library and student services, utilities and maintenance,
21 other costs related to instruction as well as institutional financial
22 aid. Through 2010-11, any funding reductions to instruction, library
23 and student services, utilities and maintenance and other costs related
24 to instruction shall be proportionally less than other program areas
25 including administration.))~~

26 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 28B.15 RCW
27 to read as follows:

28 (1) Beginning in the 2013-14 academic year, each four-year
29 institution of higher education that raises tuition levels beyond
30 levels established in subsection (3) of this section shall provide
31 financial aid for the express purpose of eliminating the effects of
32 tuition increases above those specified in subsection (3)(a) and (b) of
33 this section on students with incomes below one hundred twenty-five
34 percent of the median family income. Financial aid sources and methods
35 may be:

36 (a) Tuition revenue or locally held funds;

1 (b) Tuition waivers created by a four-year institution of higher
2 education for the specific purpose of serving middle class students; or

3 (c) Local financial aid programs.

4 (2) By January 1, 2014, four-year institutions of higher education
5 shall report to the governor and relevant committees of the legislature
6 on the effectiveness of financial aid programs in mitigating tuition
7 increases.

8 (3) Subsection (1) of this section applies when tuition levels are
9 raised above:

10 (a) For the University of Washington, Washington State University,
11 and Western Washington University, eleven percent per year; and

12 (b) For The Evergreen State College, Central Washington University,
13 and Eastern Washington University, nine percent per year.

14 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28B.15.068 and 2009 c 540 s 1 are each amended to read
15 as follows:

16 (1) (~~Beginning with the 2007-08 academic year and ending with the~~
17 ~~2016-17 academic year~~) Except during the 2011-2013 through 2017-2019
18 biennia, tuition fees charged to full-time resident undergraduate
19 students(~~(, except in academic years 2009-10 and 2010-11, may increase~~
20 ~~no greater than seven percent over the previous academic year in any~~
21 ~~institution of higher education. Annual reductions or increases in~~
22 ~~full-time tuition fees for resident undergraduate students)) shall be
23 as provided in the omnibus appropriations act(~~(, within the seven~~
24 ~~percent increase limit established in this section. For academic years~~
25 ~~2009-10 and 2010-11 the omnibus appropriations act may provide tuition~~
26 ~~increases greater than seven percent)). To the extent that state~~
27 appropriations combined with tuition and fee revenues are insufficient
28 to achieve the total per-student funding goals established in
29 subsection (2) of this section, the legislature may revisit state
30 appropriations, authorized enrollment levels, and changes in tuition
31 fees for any given fiscal year.~~

32 (2) The state shall adopt as its goal total per-student funding
33 levels, from state appropriations plus tuition and fees, of at least
34 the sixtieth percentile of total per-student funding at similar public
35 institutions of higher education in the global challenge states. In
36 defining comparable per-student funding levels, the office of financial
37 management shall adjust for regional cost-of-living differences; for

1 differences in program offerings and in the relative mix of lower
2 division, upper division, and graduate students; and for accounting and
3 reporting differences among the comparison institutions. The office of
4 financial management shall develop a funding trajectory for each four-
5 year institution of higher education and for the community and
6 technical college system as a whole that when combined with tuition and
7 fees revenue allows the state to achieve its funding goal for each
8 four-year institution and the community and technical college system as
9 a whole no later than fiscal year 2017. (~~The state shall not reduce~~
10 ~~enrollment levels below fiscal year 2007 budgeted levels in order to~~
11 ~~improve or alter the per student funding amount at any four-year~~
12 ~~institution of higher education or the community and technical college~~
13 ~~system as a whole.~~) The state recognizes that each four-year
14 institution of higher education and the community and technical college
15 system as a whole have different funding requirements to achieve
16 desired performance levels, and that increases to the total per-student
17 funding amount may need to exceed the minimum funding goal.

18 (3) By September 1st of each year beginning in 2008, the office of
19 financial management shall report to the governor, the higher education
20 coordinating board, and appropriate committees of the legislature with
21 updated estimates of the total per-student funding level that
22 represents the sixtieth percentile of funding for comparable
23 institutions of higher education in the global challenge states, and
24 the progress toward that goal that was made for each of the public
25 institutions of higher education.

26 (4) As used in this section, "global challenge states" are the top
27 performing states on the new economy index published by the progressive
28 policy institute as of July 22, 2007. The new economy index ranks
29 states on indicators of their potential to compete in the new economy.
30 At least once every five years, the office of financial management
31 shall determine if changes to the list of global challenge states are
32 appropriate. The office of financial management shall report its
33 findings to the governor and the legislature.

34 (5) (~~During the 2009-10 and the 2010-11 academic years,~~) The
35 institutions of higher education shall include information on their
36 billing statements notifying students of available federal tax credits
37 (~~available through the American opportunity tax credit provided in the~~
38 ~~American recovery and reinvestment act of 2009~~)).

1 **Sec. 5.** RCW 28B.76.270 and 2004 c 275 s 11 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 (1) The board shall establish an accountability monitoring and
4 reporting system as part of a continuing effort to make meaningful and
5 substantial progress towards the achievement of long-term performance
6 goals in higher education.

7 (2) To provide consistent, easily understood data among the public
8 four-year institutions of higher education within Washington and in
9 other states, the following data must be reported annually and at a
10 minimum include data recommended by a national organization
11 representing state chief executives. This data must include the
12 following for the four-year institutions of higher education and the
13 board may change the data requirements to be consistent with best
14 practices across the country:

15 (a) Bachelor's degrees awarded;

16 (b) Graduate and professional degrees awarded;

17 (c) Graduation rates: The number and percentage of students who
18 graduate within four years for bachelor's degrees and within the
19 extended time, which is six years for bachelor's degrees;

20 (d) Transfer rates: The annual number and percentage of students
21 who transfer from a two-year to a four-year institution of higher
22 education;

23 (e) Time and credits to degree: The average length of time in
24 years and average number of credits that graduating students took to
25 earn a bachelor's degree;

26 (f) Enrollment in remedial education: The number and percentage of
27 entering first-time undergraduate students who place into and enroll in
28 remedial mathematics, English, or both;

29 (g) Success beyond remedial education: The number and percentage
30 of entering first-time undergraduate students who complete entry
31 college-level math and English courses within the first two consecutive
32 academic years;

33 (h) Credit accumulation: The number and percentage of first-time
34 undergraduate students completing two quarters or one semester worth of
35 credit during their first academic year;

36 (i) Retention rates: The number and percentage of entering
37 undergraduate students who enroll consecutively from fall-to-spring and
38 fall-to-fall at an institution of higher education;

1 (j) Course completion: The percentage of credit hours completed
2 out of those attempted during an academic year;

3 (k) Program participation and degree completion rates in bachelor
4 and advanced degree programs in the sciences, which includes the health
5 sciences, natural resources, environment, conservation, biology, life
6 sciences, and other applied and interdisciplinary sciences, technology,
7 engineering, and mathematics disciplines, and other high demand and
8 critical state need areas, including participation and degree
9 completion rates for students from traditionally underrepresented
10 populations;

11 (l) Annual unduplicated number of students enrolled over a twelve-
12 month period at institutions of higher education;

13 (m) Annual ratio of undergraduate degrees and certificates of at
14 least one year in expected length awarded per one hundred full-time
15 equivalent undergraduate students at the state level; and

16 (n) Annual ratio of undergraduate degrees and certificates, of at
17 least one year in program length, awarded relative to the state's
18 population age eighteen to twenty-four years old with a high school
19 diploma.

20 (3) Four-year institutions of higher education must count all
21 students when collecting data, not only first-time, full-time freshmen.

22 (4) Based on guidelines prepared by the board, (~~each four-year~~
23 ~~institution and~~) the state board for community and technical colleges
24 shall submit a biennial plan to achieve measurable and specific
25 improvements each academic year on statewide (~~and institution-~~
26 ~~specific~~) performance measures. Plans shall be submitted to the board
27 along with the biennial budget requests from (~~the institutions and~~)
28 the state board for community and technical colleges. Performance
29 measures established for the community and technical colleges shall
30 reflect the role and mission of the colleges.

31 (~~+3~~) (5) The board shall approve biennial performance targets
32 (~~for each four-year institution and~~) for the community and technical
33 college system and shall review actual achievements annually. The
34 state board for community and technical colleges shall set biennial
35 performance targets for each college or district, where appropriate.

36 (~~+4~~) (6) For the community and technical college system, the
37 board shall submit a report on progress towards the statewide goals,

1 with recommendations for the ensuing biennium, to the fiscal and higher
2 education committees of the legislature along with the board's biennial
3 budget recommendations.

4 ~~((+5))~~ (7) For the four-year institutions, the board shall submit
5 a report on progress toward degree completion goals and on comparisons
6 with other states for the measures listed in subsection (2) of this
7 section, with recommendations for the ensuing biennium, to the fiscal
8 and higher education committees of the legislature along with the
9 board's biennial budget recommendation.

10 (8) The board, in collaboration with the four-year institutions and
11 the state board for community and technical colleges, shall
12 periodically review and update the accountability monitoring and
13 reporting system.

14 ~~((+6))~~ (9) The board shall develop measurable indicators and
15 benchmarks for its own performance regarding cost, quantity, quality,
16 and timeliness and including the performance of committees and advisory
17 groups convened under this chapter to accomplish such tasks as
18 improving transfer and articulation, improving articulation with the K-
19 12 education system, measuring educational costs, or developing data
20 protocols. The board shall submit its accountability plan to the
21 legislature concurrently with the biennial report on institution
22 progress.

23 **Sec. 6.** RCW 28B.76.200 and 2007 c 458 s 201 are each amended to
24 read as follows:

25 (1) The board shall develop a statewide strategic master plan for
26 higher education that proposes a vision and identifies measurable goals
27 and priorities for the system of higher education in Washington state
28 for a ten-year time period. The board shall update the statewide
29 strategic master plan every four years. The plan shall address the
30 goals of: (a) Expanding access; (b) using methods of educational
31 delivery that are efficient, cost-effective, and productive to deliver
32 modern educational programs; and (c) using performance measures to
33 gauge the effectiveness of the state's progress towards meeting its
34 higher education goals. The plan shall encompass all sectors of higher
35 education, including the two-year system, workforce training, the four-
36 year institutions, and financial aid. The board shall also specify

1 strategies for expanding access, affordability, quality, efficiency,
2 and accountability among the various institutions of higher education.

3 (2) In developing the statewide strategic master plan for higher
4 education, the board shall collaborate with the four-year institutions
5 of higher education including the council of presidents, the community
6 and technical college system, and, when appropriate, the workforce
7 training and education coordinating board, the superintendent of public
8 instruction, the independent higher education institutions, the
9 business sector, and labor. The board shall identify and utilize
10 models of regional planning and decision making before initiating a
11 statewide planning process. The board shall also seek input from
12 students, faculty organizations, community and business leaders in the
13 state, members of the legislature, and the governor.

14 (3) As a foundation for the statewide strategic master plan for
15 higher education, the board shall review role and mission statements
16 for each of the four-year institutions of higher education and the
17 community and technical college system. The purpose of the review is
18 to ensure institutional roles and missions are aligned with the overall
19 state vision and priorities for higher education.

20 (4) In assessing needs of the state's higher education system, the
21 board should encourage partnerships, embrace innovation, and consider,
22 analyze, and make recommendations concerning the following information:

23 (a) Demographic, social, economic, and technological trends and
24 their impact on service delivery for a twenty-year horizon;

25 (b) The changing ethnic composition of the population and the
26 special needs arising from those trends;

27 (c) Business and industrial needs for a skilled workforce;

28 (d) College attendance, retention, transfer, graduation, and
29 dropout rates;

30 (e) Needs and demands for basic and continuing education and
31 opportunities for lifelong learning by individuals of all age groups;

32 (f) Needs and demands for nontraditional populations including, but
33 not limited to, adult learners; and

34 (g) Needs and demands for access to higher education by placebound
35 students and individuals in heavily populated areas underserved by
36 public institutions.

37 (5) The statewide strategic master plan for higher education shall

1 include, but not be limited to, the following access and educational
2 delivery items:

3 (a) Recommendations based on enrollment forecasts and analysis of
4 data about demand for higher education, and policies and actions to
5 meet the goal of expanding access;

6 (b) State and regional priorities for new or expanded degree
7 programs or off-campus programs, including what models of service
8 delivery may be most cost-effective;

9 (c) Recommended policies or actions to improve the efficiency of
10 student transfer and graduation or completion;

11 (d) State and regional priorities for addressing needs in high-
12 demand fields where enrollment access is limited and employers are
13 experiencing difficulty finding enough qualified graduates to fill job
14 openings;

15 (e) Recommended tuition and fees policies and levels; and

16 (f) Priorities and recommendations including increased transparency
17 on financial aid.

18 (6) The board shall present the vision, goals, priorities, and
19 strategies in the statewide strategic master plan for higher education
20 in a way that provides guidance for institutions, the governor, and the
21 legislature to make further decisions regarding institution-level
22 plans, policies, legislation, and operating and capital funding for
23 higher education. In the statewide strategic master plan for higher
24 education, the board shall recommend specific actions to be taken and
25 identify measurable performance indicators and benchmarks for gauging
26 progress toward achieving the goals and priorities.

27 (7) Every four years by December 15th, beginning December 15, 2007,
28 the board shall submit an update of the ten-year statewide strategic
29 master plan for higher education to the governor and the legislature.
30 The updated plan shall reflect the expectations and policy directions
31 of the legislative higher education and fiscal committees, and shall
32 provide a timely and relevant framework for the development of future
33 budgets and policy proposals. The legislature shall, by concurrent
34 resolution, approve or recommend changes to the updated plan, following
35 public hearings. The board shall submit the final plan, incorporating
36 legislative changes, to the governor and the legislature by June of the
37 year in which the legislature approves the concurrent resolution. The
38 plan shall then become state higher education policy unless legislation

1 is enacted to alter the policies set forth in the plan. The board
2 shall report annually to the governor and the legislature on the
3 progress being made by the institutions of higher education and the
4 state to implement the strategic master plan.

5 (8)(a) The master plan updated in 2011 shall include a plan for
6 achieving the following initial degree completion targets by 2018:

7 (i) Increasing the number of bachelor's degrees earned by
8 Washington's resident students from the 2010 levels by at least six
9 thousand degrees completed or by twenty-seven percent;

10 (ii) Consistent with the priority for increasing the number of
11 enrollments and degrees in the fields of engineering, technology,
12 biotechnology, sciences, computer sciences, and mathematics, at least
13 two thousand of the additional degrees in (a)(i) of this subsection
14 would be awarded in the areas of science, which includes the health
15 sciences, technology, engineering, and mathematics; and

16 (iii) Attaining parity in degree attainment for students from
17 underrepresented groups, which would mean that at least nineteen
18 percent of the degrees awarded would include students who are low
19 income or are the first in their families to attend college.

20 (b) The bachelor degree completion targets in (a)(i) of this
21 subsection shall be updated by the higher education coordinating board
22 by September 1, 2012, and by September 1st every two years thereafter
23 based upon the state's changing population and economic needs. Targets
24 shall be set for five-year periods following the 2018 target.

25 (9) Each four-year institution shall develop an institution-level
26 ten-year strategic plan that implements the vision, goals, priorities,
27 and strategies within the statewide strategic master plan for higher
28 education based on the institution's role and mission. Institutional
29 strategic plans shall encourage partnerships, embrace innovation, and
30 contain measurable performance indicators and benchmarks for gauging
31 progress toward achieving the goals and priorities with attention given
32 to the goals and strategies of increased access and program delivery
33 methods. The board shall review the institution-level plans to ensure
34 the plans are aligned with and implement the statewide strategic master
35 plan for higher education and shall periodically monitor institutions'
36 progress toward achieving the goals and priorities within their plans.

37 ((+9)) (10) The board shall also review the comprehensive master
38 plan prepared by the state board for community and technical colleges

1 for the community and technical college system under RCW 28B.50.090 to
2 ensure the plan is aligned with and implements the statewide strategic
3 master plan for higher education.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.15 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) To ensure institutional quality, promote access, and advance
7 the public mission of public four-year institutions of higher
8 education, the authority to increase or decrease tuition rates shall be
9 considered within the context of performance-based measures and goals
10 for each state university, regional university, and The Evergreen State
11 College. By September 1, 2013, and September 1st every two years
12 thereafter, the state universities, the regional universities, and The
13 Evergreen State College shall each negotiate an institutional
14 performance contract with the higher education coordinating board and
15 the office of financial management that includes expected outcomes that
16 must be achieved by each institution in the following biennium and that
17 includes a method for rewarding performance improvement beyond expected
18 outcomes in accordance with the baccalaureate degree incentive program
19 established in section 8 of this act. At a minimum, an individual
20 institutional performance contract shall include:

- 21 (a) Expected outcomes concerning time and credits to degree;
- 22 (b) Expected outcomes concerning retention and success of students
23 from low-income, diverse, or underrepresented communities;
- 24 (c) Expected outcomes concerning bachelor degree production for
25 resident students;
- 26 (d) Expected outcomes concerning degree production in high demand
27 and critical state need areas;
- 28 (e) Expected outcomes that maintain the proportion of resident
29 undergraduate students to the total student population; and
- 30 (f) Expected outcomes concerning number of students enrolled.

31 (2) If performance contracts are not completed as specified in
32 subsection (1) of this section or if, at the conclusion of a biennium,
33 any state university, regional university, or The Evergreen State
34 College does not achieve the expected outcomes established in the
35 performance contracts, in the following biennium that university's or
36 college's tuition may not, without prior legislative approval, be

1 increased more than the increase specified in section 3(3) (a) and (b)
2 of this act.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.76 RCW
4 to read as follows:

5 The board shall establish a baccalaureate degree incentive program.
6 To the extent funds are available to the board for this purpose, awards
7 shall be made beginning with the 2013-2014 fiscal year. The board, in
8 collaboration with the institutions, the council of presidents, and the
9 education data center, shall design the program to provide awards for
10 four-year institutions of higher education based upon each
11 institution's individual performance improvement on a set of measures.
12 At a minimum, measures must initially include:

- 13 (1) Time and credits to degree;
- 14 (2) Retention and success of students from low-income, diverse, or
15 underrepresented communities;
- 16 (3) Bachelor degree production for resident students; and
- 17 (4) Degree production in high demand and critical state need areas.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.10 RCW
19 to read as follows:

20 (1) A graduate of a community or technical college in this state
21 who has earned a transferrable associate of arts or sciences degree
22 when admitted to a four-year institution of higher education shall have
23 junior standing and shall be deemed to have met the lower division
24 general education requirements of that institution.

25 (2) A student who has earned the equivalent of ninety quarter
26 credit hours and has completed the general education requirements at
27 that four-year institution of higher education in Washington when
28 admitted to another four-year institution of higher education shall
29 have junior standing and shall be deemed to have met the lower division
30 general education requirements of the institution to which the student
31 transfers.

32 (3) The community and technical colleges, jointly with the four-
33 year institutions of higher education, must develop a list of academic
34 courses that are equivalent to one-year's worth of general education
35 credit and that would transfer for that purpose to any other two or
36 four-year institution of higher education. If a student completes one-

1 year's worth of general education credits, that student may be issued
2 a one-year academic completion certificate. This certificate shall be
3 accepted at any transferring two or four-year institution of higher
4 education.

5 (4) Each institution of higher education must develop a minimum of
6 one degree within the arts and sciences disciplines that can be
7 completed within the equivalent of ninety quarter upper division
8 credits by any student who enters an institution of higher education
9 with junior status and lower division general education requirements
10 completed.

11 (5) Each four-year institution of higher education must publish a
12 list of recommended courses for each academic major designed to help
13 students who are planning to transfer design their course of study.

14 (6) The requirement to publish a list of academic courses under
15 this section does not apply if an institution does not require courses
16 or majors to meet specific requirements but generally applies credits
17 earned toward degree requirements.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.50
19 RCW to read as follows:

20 (1)(a) Community and technical colleges must identify and publish
21 in their admissions materials the college level courses that are
22 recognized by all four-year institutions of higher education as
23 transferring to the four-year institutions of higher education.
24 Publication of the list of courses must be easily identified and
25 accessible on the college's web site.

26 (b) If a four-year institution of higher education does not require
27 courses of major for transfer, the community and technical colleges
28 must identify and publish the transfer policy of the institution in
29 their admissions materials and make the transfer policy of the
30 institution easily identifiable on the college's web site.

31 (2) Community and technical colleges must create a list of courses
32 that satisfy the basic requirements, distribution requirements, and
33 approved electives for:

34 (a) A one-year academic completion certificate as provided for
35 under section 9 of this act; and

36 (b) A transferrable associate of arts or sciences degree as
37 provided for under section 9 of this act.

1 (3) To the extent possible, each community and technical college
2 must develop links between the lists in subsections (1) and (2) of this
3 section and its list of courses, and develop methods to encourage
4 students to check the lists in subsections (1) and (2) of this section
5 when the students are registering for courses.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** The following acts or parts of acts are
7 each repealed:

8 (1) RCW 28B.10.920 (Performance agreements--Generally) and 2008 c
9 160 s 2;

10 (2) RCW 28B.10.921 (Performance agreements--Contents) and 2008 c
11 160 s 3; and

12 (3) RCW 28B.10.922 (Performance agreements--State committee--
13 Development of final proposals--Implementation--Updates) and 2008 c 160
14 s 4.

--- END ---