
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5924

State of Washington 62nd Legislature 2011 1st Special Session

By Senate Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senator Zarelli)

READ FIRST TIME 04/28/11.

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 ten percent of tuition and fees, as defined in
18 RCW 28B.15.020. The state board for community and technical colleges
19 shall determine the annual rate for tuition and fees charged to and
20 collected from students participating in the running start program.
21 The governing boards of the state universities, the regional
22 universities, and The Evergreen State College shall determine the
23 annual rate for tuition and fees charged to and collected from students
24 participating in the running start program. The institution of higher
25 education shall prorate the mandatory fees based on credit load.

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

34 (3) The institutions of higher education must make available
35 tuition and fee waivers for low-income running start students. Each
36 institution must establish a written policy for the determination of
37 low-income students before offering the fee waiver. A student shall be
38 considered low income and eligible for a fee waiver upon proof that the

1 student is currently qualified to receive free or reduced-price lunch.
2 Acceptable documentation of low-income status may also include, but is
3 not limited to, documentation that a student has been deemed eligible
4 for free or reduced-price lunches in the last five years, or other
5 criteria established in the institution's policy. Use of tuition and
6 fee waivers for qualified low-income running start students shall not
7 be included in determining total state tuition waiver authority at each
8 participating institution of higher education as defined in RCW
9 28B.15.910.

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

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

1 running start enrollment levels and impacts. The state board for
2 community and technical colleges shall report the assessment of
3 alternatives to the governor and to the appropriate fiscal and policy
4 committees of the legislature by September 1, 2010.

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

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

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

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

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|----|-----------------------------------|------------|
| 27 | (a) University of Washington | 21 percent |
| 28 | (b) Washington State University | 20 percent |
| 29 | (c) Eastern Washington University | 11 percent |
| 30 | (d) Central Washington University | 10 percent |
| 31 | (e) Western Washington University | 10 percent |
| 32 | (f) The Evergreen State College | 10 percent |
| 33 | (g) Community colleges as a whole | 35 percent |

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

- 1 (a) RCW 28B.15.014;
- 2 (b) RCW 28B.15.100;
- 3 (c) RCW 28B.15.225;
- 4 (d) RCW 28B.15.380;
- 5 (e) RCW 28B.15.520;
- 6 (f) RCW 28B.15.526;
- 7 (g) RCW 28B.15.527;
- 8 (h) RCW 28B.15.543;
- 9 (i) RCW 28B.15.545;
- 10 (j) RCW 28B.15.555;
- 11 (k) RCW 28B.15.556;
- 12 (l) RCW 28B.15.615;
- 13 (m) RCW 28B.15.621 (2) and (4);
- 14 (n) RCW 28B.15.730;
- 15 (o) RCW 28B.15.740;
- 16 (p) RCW 28B.15.750;
- 17 (q) RCW 28B.15.756;
- 18 (r) RCW 28B.50.259; and
- 19 (s) RCW 28B.70.050.

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

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

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

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

37 (5) The institutions of higher education will participate in
38 outreach activities to increase the number of veterans who receive

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

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