
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1439

State of Washington 64th Legislature 2015 Regular Session

By House Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Sawyer, Zeiger, Reykdal, Gregerson, Manweller, and Tarleton)

READ FIRST TIME 02/27/15.

1 AN ACT Relating to an online alternative credit model at Central
2 Washington University; adding a new section to chapter 28B.35 RCW;
3 and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.35
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) An online alternative credit model that awards degrees is
8 established. This model is intended to position the state to meet
9 baccalaureate degree production goals and to serve nontraditional
10 students who may already hold some postsecondary academic credits or
11 life experience that can count towards a degree.

12 (2) Students targeted for enrollment in this model are those who
13 are early learning providers, to help expand professional degree
14 holders in the field.

15 (3) Students encouraged but not specifically targeted for
16 enrollment in this model include:

17 (a) Veterans returning to civilian life with education,
18 knowledge, and skills acquired during military service;

19 (b) Students transferring from another college or university;

20 (c) High school students who are college bound;

1 (d) Students who come to a university or college with academic
2 credits earned through dual credit programs such as running start,
3 international baccalaureate, AP, college in the high school, and
4 other programs;

5 (e) Individuals who have completed education and training
6 programs provided by an employer;

7 (f) Individuals who have acquired knowledge and work experience
8 on the job or through an internship; and

9 (g) Individuals who have acquired some postsecondary academic
10 credit, but whose commitments to work or family prohibit degree
11 completion in a traditional baccalaureate setting.

12 (4) Central Washington University shall host the online
13 alternative credit model. In order to develop the model the
14 university shall:

15 (a) Communicate with community and business leaders to identify
16 and deliver needed programs;

17 (b) Develop and launch curricula and programs in response to the
18 needs of business and students;

19 (c) Evaluate and offer credit for student learning already
20 acquired outside of academic settings;

21 (d) Develop a delivery model that provides flexibility for
22 working students in place of a traditional instructional model and
23 pace;

24 (e) Coordinate with other K-20 education providers; and

25 (f) Identify strategies to enhance baccalaureate aspirations in
26 underserved communities.

27 (5) Central Washington University shall consult with the
28 department of early learning for the purposes of targeting students
29 who are early learning providers in subsection (2) of this section
30 and developing programs in subsection (4) of this section.

31 (6) Central Washington University shall develop and launch a
32 bachelor of arts in early childhood education using the online
33 alternative credit model.

34 (7) Central Washington University shall report annually by
35 December 1st to the higher education committees of the legislature on
36 the progress in implementing the model and recommendations for
37 improvement or expansion.

38 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** If specific funding for the purposes of
39 this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not

1 provided by June 30, 2015, in the omnibus appropriations act, this
2 act is null and void.

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