
HOUSE BILL 2241

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Representatives Hudgins, Walsh, Orwall, Pettigrew, Moscoso, Reykdal, Walkinshaw, Ortiz-Self, Santos, Bergquist, Stanford, Appleton, and Gregerson

Read first time 04/23/15. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to aligning eligibility for the college bound
2 scholarship program with the state need grant program; and reenacting
3 and amending RCW 28B.118.010.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28B.118.010 and 2012 c 229 s 402 and 2012 c 163 s 8
6 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

7 The office of student financial assistance shall design the
8 Washington college bound scholarship program in accordance with this
9 section and in alignment with the state need grant program in chapter
10 28B.92 RCW unless otherwise provided in this section.

11 (1) "Eligible students" are those students who:

12 (a) Qualify for free or reduced-price lunches. If a student
13 qualifies in the seventh grade, the student remains eligible even if
14 the student does not receive free or reduced-price lunches
15 thereafter; or

16 (b) Are dependent pursuant to chapter 13.34 RCW and:

17 (i) In grade seven through twelve; or

18 (ii) Are between the ages of eighteen and twenty-one and have not
19 graduated from high school.

20 (2) Eligible students shall be notified of their eligibility for
21 the Washington college bound scholarship program beginning in their

1 seventh grade year. Students shall also be notified of the
2 requirements for award of the scholarship.

3 (3)(a) To be eligible for a Washington college bound scholarship,
4 a student eligible under subsection (1)(a) of this section must sign
5 a pledge during seventh or eighth grade that includes a commitment to
6 graduate from high school with at least a C average and with no
7 felony convictions. The pledge must be witnessed by a parent or
8 guardian and forwarded to the office of student financial assistance
9 by mail or electronically, as indicated on the pledge form.

10 (b) A student eligible under subsection (1)(b) of this section
11 shall be automatically enrolled, with no action necessary by the
12 student or the student's family, and the enrollment form must be
13 forwarded by the department of social and health services to the
14 *higher education coordinating board or its successor by mail or
15 electronically, as indicated on the form.

16 (4)(a) Scholarships shall be awarded to eligible students
17 graduating from public high schools, approved private high schools
18 under chapter 28A.195 RCW, or who received home-based instruction
19 under chapter 28A.200 RCW.

20 (b) To receive the Washington college bound scholarship, a
21 student must graduate with at least a "C" average from a public high
22 school or an approved private high school under chapter 28A.195 RCW
23 in Washington or have received home-based instruction under chapter
24 28A.200 RCW, must have no felony convictions, and must be a resident
25 student as defined in RCW 28B.15.012(2) (a) through (~~(d)~~) (e).

26 (5) A student's family income will be assessed upon graduation
27 before awarding the scholarship.

28 (6) If at graduation from high school the student's family income
29 does not exceed sixty-five percent of the state median family income,
30 scholarship award amounts shall be as provided in this section.

31 (a) For students attending two or four-year institutions of
32 higher education as defined in RCW 28B.10.016, the value of the award
33 shall be (i) the difference between the student's tuition and
34 required fees, less the value of any state-funded grant, scholarship,
35 or waiver assistance the student receives; (ii) plus five hundred
36 dollars for books and materials.

37 (b) For students attending private four-year institutions of
38 higher education in Washington, the award amount shall be the
39 representative average of awards granted to students in public
40 research universities in Washington.

1 (c) For students attending private vocational schools in
2 Washington, the award amount shall be the representative average of
3 awards granted to students in public community and technical colleges
4 in Washington.

5 (7) Recipients may receive no more than four full-time years'
6 worth of scholarship awards.

7 (8) Institutions of higher education shall award the student all
8 need-based and merit-based financial aid for which the student would
9 otherwise qualify. The Washington college bound scholarship is
10 intended to replace unmet need, loans, and, at the student's option,
11 work-study award before any other grants or scholarships are reduced.

12 (9) The first scholarships shall be awarded to students
13 graduating in 2012.

14 (10) The state of Washington retains legal ownership of tuition
15 units awarded as scholarships under this chapter until the tuition
16 units are redeemed. These tuition units shall remain separately held
17 from any tuition units owned under chapter 28B.95 RCW by a Washington
18 college bound scholarship recipient.

19 (11) The scholarship award must be used within five years of
20 receipt. Any unused scholarship tuition units revert to the
21 Washington college bound scholarship account.

22 (12) Should the recipient terminate his or her enrollment for any
23 reason during the academic year, the unused portion of the
24 scholarship tuition units shall revert to the Washington college
25 bound scholarship account.

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