
SENATE BILL 5295

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Senators Kohl-Welles, Bailey, Liias, Becker, Frockt, Miloscia, and Chase

Read first time 01/19/15. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to the dashboard for four-year institutions of
2 higher education; amending RCW 28B.77.090; and creating a new
3 section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the data
6 available on the statewide public four-year dashboard displayed by
7 the office of financial management is useful to prospective students
8 and their families when making decisions about which institutions of
9 higher education to apply to and ultimately attend. Therefore, the
10 legislature intends for the four-year institutions of higher
11 education and the office of financial management to provide data
12 about branch campuses in addition to main campuses in order to better
13 serve the public.

14 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28B.77.090 and 2013 c 23 s 60 are each amended to
15 read as follows:

16 (1) An accountability monitoring and reporting system is
17 established as part of a continuing effort to make meaningful and
18 substantial progress towards the achievement of long-term performance
19 goals in higher education.

1 (2) To provide consistent, easily understood data among the
2 public four-year institutions of higher education within Washington
3 and in other states, the following data must be reported to the
4 education data center annually by December 1st, and at a minimum
5 include data recommended by a national organization representing
6 state chief executives. The education data center in consultation
7 with the council may change the data requirements to be consistent
8 with best practices across the country. This data must, to the
9 maximum extent possible, be disaggregated by race and ethnicity,
10 gender, state and county of origin, age, and socioeconomic status,
11 and include the following for the four-year institutions of higher
12 education:

13 (a) Bachelor's degrees awarded;

14 (b) Graduate and professional degrees awarded;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

39 (k) Program participation and degree completion rates in bachelor
40 and advanced degree programs in the sciences, which includes

1 agriculture and natural resources, biology and biomedical sciences,
2 computer and information sciences, engineering and engineering
3 technologies, health professions and clinical sciences, mathematics
4 and statistics, and physical sciences and science technologies,
5 including participation and degree completion rates for students from
6 traditionally underrepresented populations;

7 (l) Annual enrollment: Annual unduplicated number of students
8 enrolled over a twelve-month period at institutions of higher
9 education including by student level;

10 (m) Annual first-time enrollment: Total first-time students
11 enrolled in a four-year institution of higher education;

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

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

20 (p) Student debt load: Median three-year distribution of debt
21 load, excluding private loans or debts incurred before coming to the
22 institution;

23 (q) Data related to enrollment, completion rates, participation
24 rates, and debt load shall be disaggregated for students in the
25 following income brackets to the maximum extent possible:

26 (i) Up to seventy percent of the median family income;

27 (ii) Between seventy-one percent and one hundred twenty-five
28 percent of the median family income; and

29 (iii) Above one hundred twenty-five percent of the median family
30 income; and

31 (r) Yearly percentage increases in the average cost of
32 undergraduate instruction.

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

36 (4)(a) In conjunction with the office of financial management,
37 all four-year institutions of higher education including branch
38 campuses established under chapter 28B.45 RCW, must display the data
39 described in subsection (2) of this section in a uniform dashboard
40 format on the office of financial management's web site no later than

1 December 1, 2011, (~~and~~) for main campuses and December 1, 2015, for
2 branch campuses. The web site must be updated thereafter annually by
3 December 1st. To the maximum extent possible, the information must be
4 viewable by race and ethnicity, gender, state and county of origin,
5 age, and socioeconomic status. The information may be tailored to
6 meet the needs of various target audiences such as students,
7 researchers, and the general public. The data displayed for a branch
8 campus under this section shall not be considered separately from the
9 main campus for the purpose of performance goals in higher education.

10 (b) When data suppression is necessary to protect student
11 privacy, the education data center shall avoid redacting data to the
12 maximum extent possible, using alternatives such as combining data
13 groupings or using the percentage of students in place of the
14 specific number of students.

15 (5) The council shall use performance data from the education
16 data center for the purposes of strategic planning, to report on
17 progress toward achieving statewide goals, and to develop priorities
18 proposed in the ten-year plan for higher education.

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