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SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1512

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State of Washington

65th Legislature

2017 Regular Session

**By** House Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Bergquist, Stambaugh, McBride, Gregerson, Slatter, Frame, Macri, Peterson, Hudgins, Pollet, Orwall, Doglio, Appleton, Fitzgibbon, Goodman, Farrell, and Stanford)

READ FIRST TIME 02/24/17.

1 AN ACT Relating to expanding college bound scholarship  
2 eligibility; amending RCW 28B.118.010, 28B.118.040, and 28B.118.090;  
3 and creating a new section.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28B.118.010 and 2015 3rd sp.s. c 36 s 8 are each  
6 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.

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

16 (ii) Beginning in the 2017-18 academic year, if a student  
17 qualifies for free or reduced-price lunches in the ninth grade and  
18 was previously ineligible during the seventh or eighth grade while he  
19 or she was a student in Washington, the student is eligible for the  
20 college bound scholarship program; or

1 (iii) Beginning in the 2018-19 academic year, if a student  
2 qualifies for free or reduced-price lunches in the tenth grade and  
3 was previously ineligible during the seventh or eighth grade while he  
4 or she was a student in Washington, the student is eligible for the  
5 college bound scholarship program; or

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

7 (i) In grade seven through twelve; or

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

10 (2) Eligible students shall be notified of their eligibility for  
11 the Washington college bound scholarship program (~~(beginning)~~) in  
12 their seventh, eighth, ninth, and tenth grade years. Students shall  
13 also be notified of the requirements for award of the scholarship.

14 (3)(a) To be eligible for a Washington college bound scholarship,  
15 a student eligible under subsection (1)(a)(i) of this section must  
16 sign a pledge during seventh or eighth grade (~~(that includes)~~) or a  
17 student eligible under subsection (1)(a)(ii) or (1)(a)(iii) of this  
18 section must sign a pledge during ninth or tenth grade. The pledge  
19 must include a commitment to graduate from high school with at least  
20 a C average and with no felony convictions. The pledge must be  
21 witnessed by a parent or guardian and forwarded to the office of  
22 student financial assistance by mail or electronically, as indicated  
23 on the pledge form.

24 (b) A student eligible under subsection (1)(b) of this section  
25 shall be automatically enrolled, with no action necessary by the  
26 student or the student's family, and the enrollment form must be  
27 forwarded by the department of social and health services to the  
28 (~~(higher education coordinating board or its successor)~~) student  
29 achievement council by mail or electronically, as indicated on the  
30 form.

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

35 (b)(i) To receive the Washington college bound scholarship, a  
36 student must graduate with at least a "C" average from a public high  
37 school or an approved private high school under chapter 28A.195 RCW  
38 in Washington or have received home-based instruction under chapter  
39 28A.200 RCW, must have no felony convictions, and must be a resident  
40 student as defined in RCW 28B.15.012(2) (a) through (d).

1 (ii) For a student who does not meet the "C" average requirement,  
2 and who completes fewer than two quarters in the running start  
3 program, under chapter 28A.600 RCW, the student's first quarter of  
4 running start course grades must be excluded from the student's  
5 overall grade point average for purposes of determining their  
6 eligibility to receive the scholarship.

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

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

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

19 (b) For students attending private four-year institutions of  
20 higher education in Washington, the award amount shall be the  
21 representative average of awards granted to students in public  
22 research universities in Washington or the representative average of  
23 awards granted to students in public research universities in  
24 Washington in the 2014-15 academic year, whichever is greater.

25 (c) For students attending private vocational schools in  
26 Washington, the award amount shall be the representative average of  
27 awards granted to students in public community and technical colleges  
28 in Washington or the representative average of awards granted to  
29 students in public community and technical colleges in Washington in  
30 the 2014-15 academic year, whichever is greater.

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

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

38 (9) The first scholarships shall be awarded to students  
39 graduating in 2012.

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

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

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

13 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28B.118.040 and 2015 c 244 s 4 are each amended to  
14 read as follows:

15 The office of student financial assistance shall:

16 (1) With the assistance of the office of the superintendent of  
17 public instruction, implement and administer the Washington college  
18 bound scholarship program;

19 (2) Develop and distribute, to all schools with students enrolled  
20 in grades seven (~~(or eight)~~) through ten, a pledge form that can be  
21 completed and returned electronically or by mail by the student or  
22 the school to the office of student financial assistance;

23 (3) Develop and implement a student application, selection, and  
24 notification process for scholarships, which includes working with  
25 other state agencies, law enforcement, or the court system to verify  
26 that eligible students do not have felony convictions;

27 (4) Annually in March, with the assistance of the office of the  
28 superintendent of public instruction, distribute to tenth grade  
29 college bound scholarship students and their families: (a)  
30 Notification that, to qualify for the scholarship, a student's family  
31 income may not exceed (~~(sixty-five)~~) seventy percent of the state  
32 median family income at graduation from high school; (b) the current  
33 year's value for (~~(sixty-five)~~) seventy percent of the state median  
34 family income; and (c) a statement that a student should consult  
35 their school counselor if their family makes, or is projected to  
36 make, more than this value before the student graduates;

37 (5) Develop comprehensive social media outreach with grade-level  
38 specific information designed to keep students on track to graduate  
39 and leverage current tools such as the high school and beyond plan

1 required by the state board of education and the ready set grad web  
2 site maintained by the student achievement council;

3 (6) Track scholarship recipients to ensure continued eligibility  
4 and determine student compliance for awarding of scholarships;

5 (7) Within existing resources, collaborate with college access  
6 providers and K-12, postsecondary, and youth-serving organizations to  
7 map and coordinate mentoring and advising resources across the state;

8 (8) Subject to appropriation, deposit funds into the state  
9 educational trust fund;

10 (9) Purchase tuition units under the advanced college tuition  
11 payment program in chapter 28B.95 RCW to be owned and held in trust  
12 by the (~~board~~) student achievement council, for the purpose of  
13 scholarship awards as provided for in this section; and

14 (10) Distribute scholarship funds, in the form of tuition units  
15 purchased under the advanced college tuition payment program in  
16 chapter 28B.95 RCW or through direct payments from the state  
17 educational trust fund, to institutions of higher education on behalf  
18 of scholarship recipients identified by the office, as long as  
19 recipients maintain satisfactory academic progress.

20 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28B.118.090 and 2015 c 244 s 6 are each amended to  
21 read as follows:

22 (1) Beginning January 1, 2015, and at a minimum every year  
23 thereafter, the student achievement council and all institutions of  
24 higher education eligible to participate in the college bound  
25 scholarship program shall ensure data needed to analyze and evaluate  
26 the effectiveness of the college bound scholarship program is  
27 promptly transmitted to the education data center created in RCW  
28 43.41.400 so that it is available and easily accessible. The data to  
29 be reported should include but not be limited to:

30 (a) The number of students who sign up for the college bound  
31 scholarship program in seventh or eighth grade, or in ninth or tenth  
32 grade;

33 (b) The number of college bound scholarship students who graduate  
34 from high school;

35 (c) The number of college bound scholarship students who enroll  
36 in postsecondary education;

37 (d) Persistence and completion rates of college bound scholarship  
38 recipients disaggregated by institutions of higher education;

39 (e) College bound scholarship recipient grade point averages;

1 (f) The number of college bound scholarship recipients who did  
2 not remain eligible and reasons for ineligibility;  
3 (g) College bound scholarship program costs; and  
4 (h) Impacts to the state need grant program.  
5 (2) Beginning May 12, 2015, and at a minimum every December 1st  
6 thereafter, the student achievement council shall submit student unit  
7 record data for the college bound scholarship program applicants and  
8 recipients to the education data center.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** If specific funding for the purposes of  
10 this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not  
11 provided by June 30, 2017, in the omnibus appropriations act, this  
12 act is null and void.

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