
SENATE BILL 6260

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By Senators Ranker, Liias, Kuderer, Hasegawa, Hunt, Keiser, and Darneille

Read first time 01/11/18. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to costs for low-income running start students;
2 and amending RCW 28A.600.310 and 28A.600.380.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.600.310 and 2015 c 202 s 4 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1)(a) Eleventh and twelfth grade students or students who have
7 not 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.

11 (b) The course sections and programs offered as running start
12 courses must also be open for registration to matriculated students
13 at the participating institution of higher education and may not be a
14 course consisting solely of high school students offered at a high
15 school campus.

16 (c) A student receiving home-based instruction enrolling in a
17 public high school for the sole purpose of participating in courses
18 or programs offered by institutions of higher education shall not be
19 counted by the school district in any required state or federal
20 accountability reporting if the student's parents or guardians filed
21 a declaration of intent to provide home-based instruction and the

1 student received home-based instruction during the school year before
2 the school year in which the student intends to participate in
3 courses or programs offered by the institution of higher education.
4 Students receiving home-based instruction under chapter 28A.200 RCW
5 and students attending private schools approved under chapter 28A.195
6 RCW shall not be required to meet the student learning goals, obtain
7 a certificate of academic achievement or a certificate of individual
8 achievement to graduate from high school, or to master the essential
9 academic learning requirements. However, students are eligible to
10 enroll in courses or programs in participating universities only if
11 the board of directors of the student's school district has decided
12 to participate in the program. Participating institutions of higher
13 education, in consultation with school districts, may establish
14 admission standards for these students. If the institution of higher
15 education accepts a secondary school pupil for enrollment under this
16 section, the institution of higher education shall send written
17 notice to the pupil and the pupil's school district within ten days
18 of acceptance. The notice shall indicate the course and hours of
19 enrollment for that pupil.

20 (2)(a) In lieu of tuition and fees, as defined in RCW 28B.15.020
21 and 28B.15.041:

22 (i) Running start students shall pay to the community or
23 technical college all other mandatory fees as established by each
24 community or technical college and, in addition, the state board for
25 community and technical colleges may authorize a fee of up to ten
26 percent of tuition and fees as defined in RCW 28B.15.020 and
27 28B.15.041; and

28 (ii) All other institutions of higher education operating a
29 running start program may charge running start students a fee of up
30 to ten percent of tuition and fees as defined in RCW 28B.15.020 and
31 28B.15.041 in addition to technology fees.

32 (b) The fees charged under this subsection (2) shall be prorated
33 based on credit load.

34 (c) Students may pay fees under this subsection with advanced
35 college tuition payment program tuition units at a rate set by the
36 advanced college tuition payment program governing body under chapter
37 28B.95 RCW.

38 (3)(a) The institutions of higher education must make available
39 fee waivers for low-income running start students. Each institution
40 must establish a written policy for the determination of low-income

1 students before offering the fee waiver. A student shall be
2 considered low income and eligible for a fee waiver upon proof that
3 the student is currently qualified to receive free or reduced-price
4 lunch. Acceptable documentation of low-income status may also
5 include, but is not limited to, documentation that a student has been
6 deemed eligible for free or reduced-price lunches in the last five
7 years, or other criteria established in the institution's policy.

8 (b)(i) The institutions of higher education shall cover for low-
9 income running start students the costs of:

10 (A) Textbooks; and

11 (B) Transportation to and from the institution of higher
12 education.

13 (ii) The institutions of higher education shall develop their own
14 programs for providing for the costs of textbooks and transportation
15 for low-income running start students, including, but not limited to,
16 fee waivers, grants, or reimbursements.

17 (iii) Funding for the costs of textbooks and transportation for
18 low-income running start students shall come from the funds received
19 by the institutions of higher education from school districts under
20 this section.

21 (c) Institutions of higher education, in collaboration with
22 relevant student associations, shall aim to have students who can
23 benefit from fee waivers take advantage of these waivers.
24 Institutions shall make every effort to communicate to students and
25 their families the benefits of the waivers and provide assistance to
26 students and their families on how to apply. Information about
27 waivers shall, to the greatest extent possible, be incorporated into
28 financial aid counseling, admission information, and individual
29 billing statements. Institutions also shall, to the greatest extent
30 possible, use all means of communication, including but not limited
31 to web sites, online catalogues, admission and registration forms,
32 mass email messaging, social media, and outside marketing to ensure
33 that information about waivers is visible, compelling, and reaches
34 the maximum number of students and families that can benefit.

35 (4) The pupil's school district shall transmit to the institution
36 of higher education an amount per each full-time equivalent college
37 student at statewide uniform rates for vocational and nonvocational
38 students. The superintendent of public instruction shall separately
39 calculate and allocate moneys appropriated for basic education under
40 RCW 28A.150.260 to school districts for purposes of making such

1 payments and for granting school districts seven percent thereof to
2 offset program related costs. The calculations and allocations shall
3 be based upon the estimated statewide annual average per full-time
4 equivalent high school student allocations under RCW 28A.150.260,
5 excluding small high school enhancements, and applicable rules
6 adopted under chapter 34.05 RCW. The superintendent of public
7 instruction, participating institutions of higher education, and the
8 state board for community and technical colleges shall consult on the
9 calculation and distribution of the funds. The funds received by the
10 institution of higher education from the school district shall not be
11 deemed tuition or operating fees and may be retained by the
12 institution of higher education. A student enrolled under this
13 subsection shall be counted for the purpose of meeting enrollment
14 targets in accordance with terms and conditions specified in the
15 omnibus appropriations act.

16 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.600.380 and 1994 c 205 s 9 are each amended to
17 read as follows:

18 (1) Transportation to and from the institution of higher
19 education is not the responsibility of the school district.

20 (2) The institution of higher education is responsible for the
21 costs of transportation for low-income running start students to and
22 from the institution, as provided in RCW 28A.600.310.

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