
SENATE BILL 5706

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Senators Randall, Wellman, Kuderer, Nguyen, and Wilson, C.

Read first time 01/29/19. Referred to Committee on Higher Education & Workforce Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to accreditation standards for college in the
2 high school programs; and adding a new section to chapter 28B.10 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.10
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 (1) To establish a uniform standard by which concurrent
7 enrollment programs and professional development activities may be
8 measured, any college or university offering concurrent enrollment
9 program courses at a public high school, or college in the high
10 school programs under RCW 28A.600.290, must receive accreditation by
11 a national accrediting body for concurrent enrollment by the 2027-28
12 school year.

13 (2) Any college or university engaged in concurrent enrollment
14 program courses at a public high school, or college in the high
15 school programs under RCW 28A.600.290, during or before the 2019-20
16 academic year that are not accredited by a national accrediting body
17 for concurrent enrollment must continue to undergo the annual state
18 authorization review by the college in the high school standards
19 report review committee under WAC 392-725-150 and must obtain
20 approval from the review committee until the program is accredited by
21 a national accrediting body for concurrent enrollment.

1 (3) After the 2027-28 school year, any college or university with
2 concurrent enrollment program courses in place at a public high
3 school, or college in the high school programs under RCW 28A.600.290,
4 during or before the 2019-20 academic year that have not been
5 accredited in accordance with subsection (1) of this section or do
6 not have an application pending further action by the accrediting
7 body under subsection (1) of this section may not offer a concurrent
8 enrollment program course at a public high school or college in the
9 high school program under RCW 28A.600.290.

10 (4) New college and university concurrent enrollment program
11 courses that are implemented after the 2019-20 academic year have
12 seven years from the beginning of the first term of classes to submit
13 an application for accreditation for review by a national accrediting
14 body for concurrent enrollment to comply with this section.

15 (5) All colleges and universities are encouraged to provide
16 institutional resources to support the transition to accreditation,
17 including professional development, engage with national associations
18 focused on concurrent enrollment accreditation, and collaboration
19 with the state board for community and technical colleges or an
20 organization that represents the public, four-year universities, and
21 colleges.

22 (6) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this
23 section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

24 (a) "Concurrent enrollment program" means a partnership between
25 K-12 schools and postsecondary education institutions through which
26 credit-bearing college courses offered by public or private
27 institutions of higher education and taught by appropriately
28 qualified high school teachers are taken in high school by high
29 school students who have not yet received the credits required for
30 the award of a high school diploma, and for which earned credits are
31 recorded on a college or university transcript. "Concurrent
32 enrollment program" does not include the running start program.

33 (b) "Public high school" means a high school that is a public
34 school as defined in RCW 28A.150.010.

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