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HOUSE BILL 2495

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State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By Representatives Santos, Harris, Muri, and Slatter; by request of Superintendent of Public Instruction

Read first time 01/10/18. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to updating application requirements for the  
2 academic acceleration incentive program; and amending RCW 28A.320.195  
3 and 28A.320.196.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.320.195 and 2013 c 184 s 2 are each amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (1) Each school district board of directors is encouraged to  
8 adopt an academic acceleration policy for high school students as  
9 provided under this section.

10 (2) Under an academic acceleration policy:

11 (a) The district automatically enrolls any student who meets the  
12 state standard on the high school statewide student assessment in the  
13 next most rigorous level of advanced courses offered by the high  
14 school. Students who successfully complete such an advanced course  
15 are then enrolled in the next most rigorous level of advanced course,  
16 with the objective that students will eventually be automatically  
17 enrolled in courses that offer the opportunity to earn dual credit  
18 for high school and college.

19 (b) The subject matter of the advanced courses in which the  
20 student is automatically enrolled depends on the content area or  
21 areas of the statewide student assessment where the student has met

1 the state standard. Students who meet the state standard on (~~both~~  
2 ~~end-of-course~~) the tenth grade mathematics assessment(s) are  
3 considered to have met the state standard for high school mathematics  
4 and may be eligible for advanced courses in mathematics, science, or  
5 computer science. Students who meet the state standard in both  
6 reading and writing are eligible for enrollment in advanced courses  
7 in English, social studies, humanities, and other related subjects.

8 (c) The district must notify students and parents or guardians  
9 regarding the academic acceleration policy and the advanced courses  
10 available to students.

11 (d) The district must provide a parent or guardian with an  
12 opportunity to opt out of the academic acceleration policy and enroll  
13 a student in an alternative course.

14 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.320.196 and 2015 c 202 s 2 are each amended to  
15 read as follows:

16 (1) Subject to funds appropriated specifically for this purpose,  
17 the academic acceleration incentive program is established as  
18 provided in this section. The intent of the legislature is that the  
19 funds awarded under the program be used to (~~support~~) increase  
20 equitable access to dual credit opportunities, such as supporting  
21 teacher training, curriculum, technology, examination fees, textbook  
22 fees, and other costs associated with offering dual credit courses to  
23 high school students, including transportation for running start  
24 students to and from the institution of higher education as defined  
25 in RCW 28A.600.300.

26 (2) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall  
27 allocate half of the funds appropriated for the purposes of this  
28 section on a competitive basis to provide one-time grants, renewable  
29 for one additional year, for high schools to expand the availability  
30 of dual credit courses. (~~To be eligible for a grant, a school~~  
31 ~~district must have adopted an academic acceleration policy as~~  
32 ~~provided under RCW 28A.320.195.~~) In making grant awards, the office  
33 of the superintendent of public instruction must give priority to  
34 grants for high schools with a high proportion of low-income  
35 students, high schools identified as having high disproportionality  
36 in their dual credit enrollment data, and high schools seeking to  
37 develop new capacity for dual credit courses rather than proposing  
38 marginal expansion of current capacity.

1 (3) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall  
2 allocate half of the funds appropriated for the purposes of this  
3 section to school districts as an incentive award for each student  
4 who earned dual high school and college credit, as described under  
5 subsection (4) of this section, for courses offered by the district's  
6 high schools during the previous school year. School districts must  
7 distribute the award to the high schools that generated the funds, to  
8 be used in ways that increase equitable access to dual credit. The  
9 award amount for low-income students eligible to participate in the  
10 federal free and reduced-price meals program who earn dual credits  
11 must be set at one hundred twenty-five percent of the base award for  
12 other students. A student who earns more than one dual credit in the  
13 same school year counts only once for the purposes of the incentive  
14 award.

15 (4) For the purposes of this section, the following students are  
16 considered to have earned dual high school and college credit in a  
17 course offered by a high school:

18 (a) Students who achieve a score of three or higher on an AP  
19 examination;

20 (b) Students who achieve a score of four or higher on an  
21 examination of the international baccalaureate diploma (~~programme~~)  
22 program;

23 (c) Students who successfully complete a Cambridge advanced  
24 international certificate of education examination;

25 (d) Students who successfully complete a course through the  
26 college in the high school program under RCW 28A.600.290 and are  
27 awarded college credit by the partnering institution of higher  
28 education; and

29 (e) Students who satisfy the dual enrollment and class  
30 performance requirements to earn college credit through a (~~tech~~  
31 ~~prep~~) career and technical education dual credit course.

32 (5) If a high school provides access to online courses for  
33 students to earn dual high school and college credit at no cost to  
34 the student, such a course is considered to be offered by the high  
35 school.

36 (6) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall  
37 report to the education policy committees and the fiscal committees  
38 of the legislature, by January 1st of each year, information about  
39 the demographics of the students earning dual credits in the schools

- 1 receiving grants under this section for the prior school year.
- 2 Demographic data shall be disaggregated pursuant to RCW 28A.300.042.

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