

---

SENATE BILL 6131

---

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By Senators McCoy, Hunt, Kuderer, Saldaña, Chase, and Hasegawa

Read first time 01/09/18. Referred to Committee on Higher Education & Workforce Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to a waiver of tuition for state residents who  
2 are members of a federally recognized Indian tribe; amending RCW  
3 28B.15.910; and adding a new section to chapter 28B.15 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.15  
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 Subject to the limitations in RCW 28B.15.910, the governing  
8 boards of the state universities, the regional universities, The  
9 Evergreen State College, and the community and technical colleges  
10 shall waive fifty percent of the tuition and services and activities  
11 fees for students who meet all of the following criteria:

- 12 (1) A member of a federally recognized Indian tribe; and  
13 (2) Domiciled within the state for a minimum of one year as  
14 provided in RCW 28B.15.012(2) (a) or (b).

15 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28B.15.910 and 2015 c 55 s 224 are each amended to  
16 read as follows:

- 17 (1) For the purpose of providing state general fund support to  
18 public institutions of higher education, except for revenue waived  
19 under programs listed in subsections (3) and (4) of this section, and  
20 unless otherwise expressly provided in the omnibus state

1 appropriations act, the total amount of operating fees revenue  
2 waived, exempted, or reduced by a state university, a regional  
3 university, The Evergreen State College, or the community and  
4 technical colleges as a whole, shall not exceed the percentage of  
5 total gross authorized operating fees revenue in this subsection. As  
6 used in this section, "gross authorized operating fees revenue" means  
7 the estimated gross operating fees revenue as estimated under RCW  
8 82.33.020 or as revised by the office of financial management, before  
9 granting any waivers. This limitation applies to all tuition waiver  
10 programs established before or after July 1, 1992.

- 11 (a) University of Washington. . . . . 21 percent
- 12 (b) Washington State University. . . . . 20 percent
- 13 (c) Eastern Washington University. . . . . 11 percent
- 14 (d) Central Washington University. . . . . 10 percent
- 15 (e) Western Washington University. . . . . 10 percent
- 16 (f) The Evergreen State College. . . . . 10 percent
- 17 (g) Community and technical colleges as a whole. . . . 35 percent

18 (2) The limitations in subsection (1) of this section apply to  
19 waivers, exemptions, or reductions in operating fees contained in the  
20 following:

- 21 (a) RCW 28B.15.014;
- 22 (b) RCW 28B.15.100;
- 23 (c) RCW 28B.15.225;
- 24 (d) RCW 28B.15.380;
- 25 (e) RCW 28B.15.520;
- 26 (f) RCW 28B.15.526;
- 27 (g) RCW 28B.15.527;
- 28 (h) RCW 28B.15.555;
- 29 (i) RCW 28B.15.556;
- 30 (j) RCW 28B.15.615;
- 31 (k) RCW 28B.15.621 (2) and (4);
- 32 (l) RCW 28B.15.730;
- 33 (m) RCW 28B.15.740;
- 34 (n) RCW 28B.15.750;
- 35 (o) RCW 28B.15.756;
- 36 (p) RCW 28B.50.259; (~~and~~)
- 37 (q) RCW 28B.70.050; and
- 38 (r) Section 1 of this act.

1 (3) The limitations in subsection (1) of this section do not  
2 apply to waivers, exemptions, or reductions in services and  
3 activities fees contained in the following:

- 4 (a) RCW 28B.15.522;
- 5 (b) RCW 28B.15.540;
- 6 (c) RCW 28B.15.558; and
- 7 (d) RCW 28B.15.621(3).

8 (4) The total amount of operating fees revenue waived, exempted,  
9 or reduced by institutions of higher education participating in the  
10 western interstate commission for higher education western  
11 undergraduate exchange program under RCW 28B.15.544 shall not exceed  
12 the percentage of total gross authorized operating fees revenue in  
13 this subsection.

- 14 (a) Washington State University. . . . . 1 percent
- 15 (b) Eastern Washington University. . . . . 3 percent
- 16 (c) Central Washington University. . . . . 3 percent

17 (5) The institutions of higher education will participate in  
18 outreach activities to increase the number of veterans who receive  
19 tuition waivers. Colleges and universities shall revise the  
20 application for admissions so that all applicants shall have the  
21 opportunity to advise the institution that they are veterans who need  
22 assistance. If a person indicates on the application for admissions  
23 that the person is a veteran who is in need of assistance, then the  
24 institution of higher education shall ask the person whether they  
25 have any funds disbursed in accordance with the Montgomery GI Bill  
26 available to them. Each institution shall encourage veterans to  
27 utilize funds available to them in accordance with the Montgomery GI  
28 Bill prior to providing the veteran a tuition waiver.

--- END ---