

HB 1123 - DIGEST

Creates the Washington promise program to make the first two years of college affordable and accessible to low-income and moderate-income residents by offering a tuition waiver for eligible students enrolled in an associate degree or certificate program offered by the community and technical colleges.

Requires the office of student financial assistance to:
(1) In consultation with the state board for community and technical colleges, establish a Washington promise pilot program in up to five cities or counties within certain parameters;

(2) Administer the Washington promise program for resident students seeking an associate's degree or certificate from a community or technical college; and

(3) In collaboration with the state board, conduct a study on the effectiveness of the Washington promise program.

Requires the pilot program to provide tuition free access to community and technical colleges within the participating city or county for students who have recently earned a high school diploma or the equivalent.

Repeals chapter 28B.119 RCW (the Washington promise scholarship program).

Makes an appropriation from the general fund to the office of student financial assistance for the purposes of section 3 of this act.