
HOUSE BILL 2258

State of Washington 58th Legislature 2003 Regular Session

By Representatives Sommers and Fromhold

Read first time 04/16/2003. Referred to Committee on Appropriations.

1 AN ACT Relating to alternative route teacher certification; and
2 amending RCW 28A.660.020, 28A.660.030, and 28A.660.050.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.660.020 and 2001 c 158 s 3 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) Each district or consortia of school districts applying for
7 (~~state funds through this~~) the alternative route certification
8 program shall submit a proposal to the Washington professional educator
9 standards board specifying:

10 (a) The route or routes the partnership program intends to offer
11 and a detailed description of how the routes will be structured and
12 operated by the partnership;

13 (b) The number of candidates that will be enrolled per route;

14 (c) An identification, indication of commitment, and description of
15 the role of approved teacher preparation programs that are partnering
16 with the district or consortia of districts;

17 (d) An assurance of district provision of adequate training for
18 mentor teachers either through participation in a state mentor training

1 academy or district-provided training that meets state-established
2 mentor-training standards specific to the mentoring of alternative
3 route candidates;

4 (e) An assurance that significant time will be provided for mentor
5 teachers to spend with the alternative route teacher candidates
6 throughout the internship. Partnerships must provide each candidate
7 with intensive classroom mentoring until such time as the candidate
8 demonstrates the competency necessary to manage the classroom with less
9 intensive supervision and guidance from a mentor;

10 (f) A description of the rigorous screening process for applicants
11 to alternative route programs, including entry requirements specific to
12 each route, as provided in RCW 28A.660.040; and

13 (g) The design and use of a teacher development plan for each
14 candidate. The plan shall specify the alternative route coursework and
15 training required of each candidate and shall be developed by comparing
16 the candidate's prior experience and coursework with the state's new
17 performance-based standards for residency certification and adjusting
18 any requirements accordingly. The plan may include the following
19 components:

20 (i) A minimum of one-half of a school year, and an additional
21 significant amount of time if necessary, of intensive mentorship,
22 starting with full-time mentoring and progressing to increasingly less
23 intensive monitoring and assistance as the intern demonstrates the
24 skills necessary to take over the classroom with less intensive
25 support. For route one and two candidates, before the supervision is
26 diminished, the mentor of the teacher candidate at the school and the
27 supervisor of the teacher candidate from the higher education teacher
28 preparation program must both agree that the teacher candidate is ready
29 to manage the classroom with less intensive supervision. For route
30 three candidates, the mentor of the teacher candidate shall make the
31 decision;

32 (ii) Identification of performance indicators based on the
33 knowledge and skills standards required for residency certification by
34 the state board of education;

35 (iii) Identification of benchmarks that will indicate when the
36 standard is met for all performance indicators;

37 (iv) A description of strategies for assessing candidate
38 performance on the benchmarks;

1 (v) Identification of one or more tools to be used to assess a
2 candidate's performance once the candidate has been in the classroom
3 for about one-half of a school year; and

4 (vi) A description of the criteria that would result in residency
5 certification after about one-half of a school year but before the end
6 of the program.

7 (2) (~~Districts may apply for program funds to pay stipends to both~~
8 ~~mentor teachers and interns during their mentored internship. For both~~
9 ~~intern stipends and accompanying mentor stipends, the per intern~~
10 ~~district request for funds may not exceed the amount designated by the~~
11 ~~BA+0 cell on the statewide teacher salary allocation schedule. This~~
12 ~~amount shall be prorated for internships and mentorships that last less~~
13 ~~than a full school year. Interns in the program for a full year shall~~
14 ~~be provided a stipend of at least eighty percent of the amount~~
15 ~~generated by the BA+0 cell on the statewide teacher salary allocation~~
16 ~~schedule. This amount shall be prorated for internships that last less~~
17 ~~than a full school year)) To the extent funds are appropriated for this
18 purpose, districts may apply for program funds to pay stipends to
19 trained mentor teachers of interns during the mentored internship. The
20 per intern amount of mentor stipend shall not exceed five hundred
21 dollars.~~

22 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.660.030 and 2001 c 158 s 4 are each amended to
23 read as follows:

24 (1) The professional educator standards board, with support from
25 the office of the superintendent of public instruction, shall select
26 school districts and consortia of school districts to receive
27 partnership grants from funds appropriated by the legislature for this
28 purpose. Factors to be considered in selecting proposals include, but
29 are not limited to:

30 (a) The degree to which the district, or consortia of districts in
31 partnership, are currently experiencing teacher shortages;

32 (b) The degree to which the proposal addresses criteria specified
33 in RCW 28A.660.020 and is in keeping with specifications of program
34 routes in RCW 28A.660.040;

35 (c) The cost-effectiveness of the proposed program; and

36 (d) Any demonstrated district and in-kind contributions to the
37 program.

1 (2) Selection of proposals shall also take into consideration the
2 need to ensure an adequate number of candidates for each type of route
3 in order to evaluate their success.

4 (3) Funds appropriated for the partnership grant program in this
5 chapter shall be administered by the office of the superintendent of
6 public instruction.

7 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.660.050 and 2001 c 158 s 6 are each amended to
8 read as follows:

9 The alternative route conditional scholarship program is created
10 under the following guidelines:

11 (1) The program shall be administered by the higher education
12 coordinating board. In administering the program, the higher education
13 coordinating board has the following powers and duties:

14 (a) To adopt necessary rules and develop guidelines to administer
15 the program;

16 (b) To collect and manage repayments from participants who do not
17 meet their service obligations; and

18 (c) To accept grants and donations from public and private sources
19 for the program.

20 (2) Participation in the alternative route conditional scholarship
21 program is limited to (~~classified staff in routes one and two~~)
22 interns of the partnership grant programs under RCW 28A.660.040. (~~The~~
23 ~~Washington professional educator standards board shall select~~
24 ~~classified staff to receive conditional scholarships.~~)

25 (3) In order to receive conditional scholarship awards, recipients
26 shall be accepted and maintain enrollment in alternative certification
27 routes through the partnership grant program, as provided in RCW
28 28A.660.040. Recipients must continue to make satisfactory progress
29 towards completion of the alternative route certification program and
30 receipt of a residency teaching certificate.

31 (4) For the purpose of this chapter, a conditional scholarship is
32 a loan that is forgiven in whole or in part in exchange for service as
33 a certificated teacher employed in a Washington state K-12 public
34 school. The state shall forgive one year of loan obligation for every
35 two years a recipient teaches in a public school. Recipients that fail
36 to continue a course of study leading to residency teacher

1 certification or cease to teach in a public school in the state of
2 Washington in their endorsement area are required to repay the
3 remaining loan principal with interest.

4 (5) Recipients who fail to fulfill the required teaching obligation
5 are required to repay the remaining loan principal with interest and
6 any other applicable fees. The higher education coordinating board
7 shall adopt rules to define the terms for repayment, including
8 applicable interest rates, fees, and deferments.

9 (6) To the extent funds are appropriated for this specific purpose,
10 the annual amount of the scholarship is the annual cost of tuition for
11 the alternative route certification program in which the recipient is
12 enrolled, not to exceed (~~four~~) eight thousand dollars. The board may
13 adjust the annual award by the average rate of resident undergraduate
14 tuition and fee increases at the state universities as defined in RCW
15 28B.10.016.

16 (7) The higher education coordinating board may deposit all
17 appropriations, collections, and any other funds received for the
18 program in this chapter in the student loan account authorized in RCW
19 28B.102.060.

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