

---

SENATE BILL 5864

---

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2003 Regular Session

By Senators Shin, Carlson, McAuliffe, Schmidt, Keiser, Johnson, Kohl-Welles, Stevens, Mulliken, Regala, Thibaudeau, Jacobsen, Parlette, Rasmussen and B. Sheldon

Read first time 02/17/2003. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to promise scholarship eligibility; and amending  
2 RCW 28B.119.010.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28B.119.010 and 2002 c 204 s 2 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 The higher education coordinating board shall design the Washington  
7 promise scholarship program based on the following parameters:

8 (1) Scholarships shall be awarded to students graduating from  
9 public and approved private high schools under chapter 28A.195 RCW  
10 ~~((and))~~, students participating in home-based instruction as provided  
11 in chapter 28A.200 RCW, and persons twenty-one years of age or younger  
12 receiving a GED certificate, who meet both an academic and a financial  
13 eligibility criteria.

14 (a) Academic eligibility criteria shall be defined as follows:

15 (i) Beginning with the graduating class of 2002, students  
16 graduating from public and approved private high schools under chapter  
17 28A.195 RCW must be in the top fifteen percent of their graduating  
18 class, as identified by each respective high school at the completion  
19 of the first term of the student's senior year; or

1 (ii) Students graduating from public high schools, approved private  
2 high schools under chapter 28A.195 RCW, (~~and~~) students participating  
3 in home-based instruction as provided in chapter 28A.200 RCW, and  
4 persons twenty-one years of age or younger receiving a GED certificate,  
5 must equal or exceed a cumulative scholastic assessment test I score of  
6 twelve hundred on their first attempt or must equal or exceed a  
7 composite American college test score of twenty-seven on their first  
8 attempt.

9 (b) To meet the financial eligibility criteria, a student's family  
10 income shall not exceed one hundred thirty-five percent of the state  
11 median family income adjusted for family size, as determined by the  
12 higher education coordinating board for each graduating class.  
13 Students not meeting the eligibility requirements for the first year of  
14 scholarship benefits may reapply for the second year of benefits, but  
15 must still meet the income standard set by the board for the student's  
16 graduating class.

17 (2) Promise scholarships are not intended to supplant any grant,  
18 scholarship, or tax program related to postsecondary education. If the  
19 board finds that promise scholarships supplant or reduce any grant,  
20 scholarship, or tax program for categories of students, then the board  
21 shall adjust the financial eligibility criteria or the amount of  
22 scholarship to the level necessary to avoid supplanting.

23 (3) Within available funds, each qualifying student shall receive  
24 two consecutive annual awards, the value of each not to exceed the  
25 full-time annual resident tuition rates charged by Washington's  
26 community colleges. The higher education coordinating board shall  
27 award scholarships to as many students as possible from among those  
28 qualifying under this section.

29 (4) By October 15th of each year, the board shall determine the  
30 award amount of the scholarships, after taking into consideration the  
31 availability of funds.

32 (5) The scholarships may only be used for undergraduate coursework  
33 at accredited institutions of higher education in the state of  
34 Washington.

35 (6) The scholarships may be used for undergraduate coursework at  
36 Oregon institutions of higher education that are part of the border  
37 county higher education opportunity project in RCW 28B.80.806 when

1 those institutions offer programs not available at accredited  
2 institutions of higher education in Washington state.

3 (7) The scholarships may be used for college-related expenses,  
4 including but not limited to, tuition, room and board, books, and  
5 materials.

6 (8) The scholarships may not be awarded to any student who is  
7 pursuing a degree in theology.

8 (9) The higher education coordinating board may establish  
9 satisfactory progress standards for the continued receipt of the  
10 promise scholarship.

11 (10) The higher education coordinating board shall establish the  
12 time frame within which the student must use the scholarship.

--- END ---