
SENATE BILL 5001

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2005 Regular Session

By Senators Honeyford, Benton, Schmidt and Johnson

Read first time 01/10/2005. Referred to Committee on Early Learning, K-12 & Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to participation in the border county higher
2 education project by promise scholarship recipients; and amending RCW
3 28B.119.010.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28B.119.010 and 2004 c 275 s 60 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

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

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

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

16 (i) Beginning with the graduating class of 2002, students
17 graduating from public and approved private high schools under chapter
18 28A.195 RCW must be in the top fifteen percent of their graduating

1 class, as identified by each respective high school at the completion
2 of the first term of the student's senior year; or

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

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

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

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

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

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

37 (6) The scholarships may be used for undergraduate coursework at

1 Oregon institutions of higher education that are part of the border
2 county higher education opportunity project in RCW 28B.76.685 when:

3 (a) Those institutions offer programs not available at accredited
4 institutions of higher education in Washington state; or

5 (b) The student resides with a parent or guardian in Washington
6 state intending to commute from the parent's or guardian's residence,
7 the commute distance to a Washington institution of higher education
8 exceeds the distance to a participating Oregon border county
9 institution of higher education, and the commute distance to a
10 Washington institution of higher education is so far as to render
11 commuting impractical.

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

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

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

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

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