

**2SHB 1236 - H AMD 628**

By Representative Ortiz-Self

ADOPTED 02/10/2016

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 "Sec. 1. RCW 28B.118.010 and 2015 3rd sp.s. c 36 s 8 are each  
4 amended to read as follows:

5 The office of student financial assistance shall design the  
6 Washington college bound scholarship program in accordance with this  
7 section and in alignment with the state need grant program in chapter  
8 28B.92 RCW unless otherwise provided in this section.

9 (1) "Eligible students" are those students who:

10 (a) Qualify for free or reduced-price lunches. If a student  
11 qualifies in the seventh grade, the student remains eligible even if  
12 the student does not receive free or reduced-price lunches  
13 thereafter; or

14 (b) Are dependent pursuant to chapter 13.34 RCW and:

15 (i) In grade seven through twelve; or

16 (ii) Are between the ages of eighteen and twenty-one and have not  
17 graduated from high school.

18 (2) Eligible students and the students' parents or guardians  
19 shall be notified of (~~their~~) the student's eligibility for the  
20 Washington college bound scholarship program beginning in (~~their~~)  
21 the student's seventh grade year. Students and the students' parents  
22 or guardians shall also be notified of the requirements for award of  
23 the scholarship.

24 (3)(a) To be eligible for a Washington college bound scholarship,  
25 a student eligible under subsection (1)(a) of this section must sign  
26 a pledge during seventh or eighth grade that includes a commitment to  
27 graduate from high school with at least a C average and with no  
28 felony convictions. The pledge must be witnessed by a parent or  
29 guardian and forwarded to the office of student financial assistance  
30 by mail or electronically, as indicated on the pledge form.

31 (b)(i) Beginning in the 2016-17 academic year, the office of  
32 student financial assistance shall make multiple attempts to secure

1 the signature of the student's parent or guardian for the purpose of  
2 witnessing the pledge.

3 (ii) If the signature of the student's parent or guardian is not  
4 obtained, the office of student financial assistance may partner with  
5 the school counselor or administrator to secure the parent's or  
6 guardian's signature to witness the pledge. The school counselor or  
7 administrator shall make multiple attempts via all phone numbers,  
8 email addresses, and mailing addresses on record to secure the  
9 parent's or guardian's signature.

10 (iii) If a parent's or guardian's signature is still not  
11 obtained, the school counselor or administrator shall indicate to the  
12 office of student financial assistance the nature of the unsuccessful  
13 efforts to contact the student's parent or guardian and the reasons  
14 the signature is not available. Then the school counselor or  
15 administrator may witness the pledge unless the parent or guardian  
16 has indicated that he or she does not wish for the student to  
17 participate in the program.

18 (c) A student eligible under subsection (1)(b) of this section  
19 shall be automatically enrolled, with no action necessary by the  
20 student or the student's family, and the enrollment form must be  
21 forwarded by the department of social and health services to the  
22 ((higher education coordinating board or its successor)) office of  
23 student financial assistance by mail or electronically, as indicated  
24 on the form.

25 (4)(a) Scholarships shall be awarded to eligible students  
26 graduating from public high schools, approved private high schools  
27 under chapter 28A.195 RCW, or who received home-based instruction  
28 under chapter 28A.200 RCW.

29 (b)(i) To receive the Washington college bound scholarship, a  
30 student must graduate with at least a "C" average from a public high  
31 school or an approved private high school under chapter 28A.195 RCW  
32 in Washington or have received home-based instruction under chapter  
33 28A.200 RCW, must have no felony convictions, and must be a resident  
34 student as defined in RCW 28B.15.012(2) (a) through (d).

35 (ii) For a student who does not meet the "C" average requirement,  
36 and who completes fewer than two quarters in the running start  
37 program, under chapter 28A.600 RCW, the student's first quarter of  
38 running start course grades must be excluded from the student's  
39 overall grade point average for purposes of determining their  
40 eligibility to receive the scholarship.

1 (5) A student's family income will be assessed upon graduation  
2 before awarding the scholarship.

3 (6) If at graduation from high school the student's family income  
4 does not exceed sixty-five percent of the state median family income,  
5 scholarship award amounts shall be as provided in this section.

6 (a) For students attending two or four-year institutions of  
7 higher education as defined in RCW 28B.10.016, the value of the award  
8 shall be (i) the difference between the student's tuition and  
9 required fees, less the value of any state-funded grant, scholarship,  
10 or waiver assistance the student receives; (ii) plus five hundred  
11 dollars for books and materials.

12 (b) For students attending private four-year institutions of  
13 higher education in Washington, the award amount shall be the  
14 representative average of awards granted to students in public  
15 research universities in Washington or the representative average of  
16 awards granted to students in public research universities in  
17 Washington in the 2014-15 academic year, whichever is greater.

18 (c) For students attending private vocational schools in  
19 Washington, the award amount shall be the representative average of  
20 awards granted to students in public community and technical colleges  
21 in Washington or the representative average of awards granted to  
22 students in public community and technical colleges in Washington in  
23 the 2014-15 academic year, whichever is greater.

24 (7) Recipients may receive no more than four full-time years'  
25 worth of scholarship awards.

26 (8) Institutions of higher education shall award the student all  
27 need-based and merit-based financial aid for which the student would  
28 otherwise qualify. The Washington college bound scholarship is  
29 intended to replace unmet need, loans, and, at the student's option,  
30 work-study award before any other grants or scholarships are reduced.

31 (9) The first scholarships shall be awarded to students  
32 graduating in 2012.

33 (10) The state of Washington retains legal ownership of tuition  
34 units awarded as scholarships under this chapter until the tuition  
35 units are redeemed. These tuition units shall remain separately held  
36 from any tuition units owned under chapter 28B.95 RCW by a Washington  
37 college bound scholarship recipient.

38 (11) The scholarship award must be used within five years of  
39 receipt. Any unused scholarship tuition units revert to the  
40 Washington college bound scholarship account.

1 (12) Should the recipient terminate his or her enrollment for any  
2 reason during the academic year, the unused portion of the  
3 scholarship tuition units shall revert to the Washington college  
4 bound scholarship account.

5 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28B.118.040 and 2015 c 244 s 4 are each amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 The office of student financial assistance shall:

8 (1) With the assistance of the office of the superintendent of  
9 public instruction, implement and administer the Washington college  
10 bound scholarship program;

11 (2) Develop and distribute, to all schools with students enrolled  
12 in grade seven or eight, a pledge form that can be completed and  
13 returned electronically or by mail by the student or the school to  
14 the office of student financial assistance;

15 (3) Develop and implement a student application, selection, and  
16 notification process for scholarships, which includes working with  
17 other state agencies, law enforcement, or the court system to verify  
18 that eligible students do not have felony convictions;

19 (4) Annually in March, with the assistance of the office of the  
20 superintendent of public instruction, distribute to tenth grade  
21 college bound scholarship students and their families: (a)  
22 Notification that, to qualify for the scholarship, a student's family  
23 income may not exceed sixty-five percent of the state median family  
24 income at graduation from high school; (b) the current year's value  
25 for sixty-five percent of the state median family income; and (c) a  
26 statement that a student should consult their school counselor if  
27 their family makes, or is projected to make, more than this value  
28 before the student graduates;

29 (5) Develop comprehensive social media outreach with grade-level  
30 specific information designed to keep students on track to graduate  
31 and leverage current tools such as the high school and beyond plan  
32 required by the state board of education and the ready set grad web  
33 site maintained by the student achievement council;

34 (6) Track scholarship recipients to ensure continued eligibility  
35 and determine student compliance for awarding of scholarships;

36 (7) Within existing resources, collaborate with college access  
37 providers and K-12, postsecondary, and youth-serving organizations to  
38 map and coordinate mentoring and advising resources across the state;

1           (8) Subject to appropriation, deposit funds into the state  
2 educational trust fund;

3           (9) Purchase tuition units under the advanced college tuition  
4 payment program in chapter 28B.95 RCW to be owned and held in trust  
5 by the ((board)) office of student financial assistance, for the  
6 purpose of scholarship awards as provided for in this section; and

7           (10) Distribute scholarship funds, in the form of tuition units  
8 purchased under the advanced college tuition payment program in  
9 chapter 28B.95 RCW or through direct payments from the state  
10 educational trust fund, to institutions of higher education on behalf  
11 of scholarship recipients identified by the office, as long as  
12 recipients maintain satisfactory academic progress."

13           Correct the title.

EFFECT: Makes a technical correction to reflect the correct  
underlying statutes, which were amended in the 2015 legislative  
session and third special session.

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