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SENATE BILL 5312

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State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Senators Litzow, McAuliffe, Dammeier, Rolfes, Mullet, Billig, Kohl-Welles, Keiser, and Chase; by request of Governor Inslee

Read first time 01/19/15. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating flexibility for the educator  
2 retooling conditional scholarship program; and amending RCW  
3 28A.660.045 and 28A.660.050.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.660.045 and 2007 c 396 s 7 are each amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (1) The educator retooling (~~((to teach mathematics and science))~~)  
8 conditional scholarship program is created. Participation is limited  
9 to current K-12 teachers and individuals having an elementary  
10 education certificate but who are not employed in positions requiring  
11 an elementary education certificate. It is anticipated that  
12 candidates enrolled in this program will complete the requirements  
13 for a mathematics ((~~or~~)), science, special education, bilingual  
14 education, English language learner, computer science education, or  
15 environmental and sustainability education endorsement(~~(, or both,)~~)  
16 in two years or less.

17 (2) Entry requirements for candidates include:

18 (a) Current K-12 teachers shall pursue a middle level mathematics  
19 or science, (~~or~~) secondary mathematics or science, special  
20 education, bilingual education, English language learner, computer

1 science education, or environmental and sustainability education  
2 endorsement.

3 (b) Individuals having an elementary education certificate but  
4 who are not employed in positions requiring an elementary education  
5 certificate shall pursue an endorsement in middle level mathematics  
6 or science (~~only~~), special education, bilingual education, English  
7 language learner, computer science education, or environmental and  
8 sustainability education.

9 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.660.050 and 2012 c 229 s 507 are each amended to  
10 read as follows:

11 Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for these  
12 purposes, the conditional scholarship programs in this chapter are  
13 created under the following guidelines:

14 (1) The programs shall be administered by the student achievement  
15 council. In administering the programs, the council has the following  
16 powers and duties:

17 (a) To adopt necessary rules and develop guidelines to administer  
18 the programs;

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

21 (c) To accept grants and donations from public and private  
22 sources for the programs.

23 (2) Requirements for participation in the conditional scholarship  
24 programs are as provided in this subsection (2).

25 (a) The alternative route conditional scholarship program is  
26 limited to interns of professional educator standards board-approved  
27 alternative routes to teaching programs under RCW 28A.660.040. For  
28 fiscal year 2011, priority must be given to fiscal year 2010  
29 participants in the alternative route partnership program. In order  
30 to receive conditional scholarship awards, recipients shall:

31 (i) Be accepted and maintain enrollment in alternative  
32 certification routes through a professional educator standards board-  
33 approved program;

34 (ii) Continue to make satisfactory progress toward completion of  
35 the alternative route certification program and receipt of a  
36 residency teaching certificate; and

37 (iii) Receive no more than the annual amount of the scholarship,  
38 not to exceed eight thousand dollars, for the cost of tuition, fees,  
39 and educational expenses, including books, supplies, and

1 transportation for the alternative route certification program in  
2 which the recipient is enrolled. The council may adjust the annual  
3 award by the average rate of resident undergraduate tuition and fee  
4 increases at the state universities as defined in RCW 28B.10.016.

5 (b) The pipeline for paraeducators conditional scholarship  
6 program is limited to qualified paraeducators as provided by RCW  
7 28A.660.042. In order to receive conditional scholarship awards,  
8 recipients shall:

9 (i) Be accepted and maintain enrollment at a community and  
10 technical college for no more than two years and attain an associate  
11 of arts degree;

12 (ii) Continue to make satisfactory progress toward completion of  
13 an associate of arts degree. This progress requirement is a condition  
14 for eligibility into a route one program of the alternative routes to  
15 teacher certification program for a mathematics, special education,  
16 or English as a second language endorsement; and

17 (iii) Receive no more than the annual amount of the scholarship,  
18 not to exceed four thousand dollars, for the cost of tuition, fees,  
19 and educational expenses, including books, supplies, and  
20 transportation for the alternative route certification program in  
21 which the recipient is enrolled. The student achievement council may  
22 adjust the annual award by the average rate of tuition and fee  
23 increases at the state community and technical colleges.

24 (c) The educator retooling (~~((to teach mathematics and science))~~)  
25 conditional scholarship program is limited to current K-12 teachers.  
26 In order to receive conditional scholarship awards:

27 (i) Individuals currently employed as teachers shall pursue ((a))  
28 an endorsement in at least one of the following: Middle level  
29 mathematics or science, or secondary mathematics or science  
30 ((endorsement)); special education, bilingual education, English  
31 language learner, computer science education, or environmental and  
32 sustainability education; or

33 (ii) Individuals who are certificated with an elementary  
34 education endorsement shall pursue an endorsement in at least one of  
35 the following: Middle level mathematics or science((, — or both));  
36 special education, bilingual education, English language learner,  
37 computer science education, or environmental and sustainability  
38 education; and

39 (iii) Individuals shall use one of the pathways to endorsement  
40 processes to receive a mathematics or science endorsement, or both,

1 or special education, bilingual education, English language learner  
2 endorsement, computer science education, or environmental and  
3 sustainability education, which shall include passing ((a—mathematics  
4 or—science)) an endorsement test, or ((~~both~~)) tests, plus observation  
5 and completing applicable coursework to attain the proper  
6 endorsement; and

7 (iv) Individuals shall receive no more than the annual amount of  
8 the scholarship, not to exceed three thousand dollars, for the cost  
9 of tuition, test fees, and educational expenses, including books,  
10 supplies, and transportation for the endorsement pathway being  
11 pursued.

12 (3) The Washington professional educator standards board shall  
13 select individuals to receive conditional scholarships. In selecting  
14 recipients, preference shall be given to eligible veterans or  
15 national guard members.

16 (4) For the purpose of this chapter, a conditional scholarship is  
17 a loan that is forgiven in whole or in part in exchange for service  
18 as a certificated teacher employed in a Washington state K-12 public  
19 school. The state shall forgive one year of loan obligation for every  
20 two years a recipient teaches in a public school. Recipients who fail  
21 to continue a course of study leading to residency teacher  
22 certification or cease to teach in a public school in the state of  
23 Washington in their endorsement area are required to repay the  
24 remaining loan principal with interest.

25 (5) Recipients who fail to fulfill the required teaching  
26 obligation are required to repay the remaining loan principal with  
27 interest and any other applicable fees. The student achievement  
28 council shall adopt rules to define the terms for repayment,  
29 including applicable interest rates, fees, and deferments.

30 (6) The student achievement council may deposit all  
31 appropriations, collections, and any other funds received for the  
32 program in this chapter in the future teachers conditional  
33 scholarship account authorized in RCW 28B.102.080.

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