
SENATE BILL 5318

State of Washington 64th Legislature 2015 Regular Session

By Senators Parlette, Bailey, and Kohl-Welles

Read first time 01/19/15. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating the wildlife college student loan
2 program; adding a new chapter to Title 28B RCW; and providing an
3 expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The definitions in this section apply
6 throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires
7 otherwise.

8 (1) "Eligible student" means a resident student as defined in RCW
9 28B.15.012(2), who is registered and enrolled in a wildlife science
10 or related science program as a major course of study at an
11 institution of higher education, is making satisfactory progress
12 defined by the institution, and has declared intention to work in the
13 wildlife sciences industry.

14 (2) "Institution of higher education" has the same definition as
15 "institution" in RCW 28B.92.030.

16 (3) "Participant" means an eligible student who has received a
17 wildlife college student loan.

18 (4) "Program" means the wildlife college student loan program.

19 (5) "Student loan" means a loan that is approved by the student
20 achievement council and awarded to an eligible student.

1 (6) "Wildlife science or related science program" means a major
2 course of study in wildlife or related sciences offered at any
3 institution of higher education in the state of Washington.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The wildlife college student loan
5 program is established.

6 (2) The student achievement council may make awards to the extent
7 funds have been appropriated for the purpose of this chapter, to
8 match an equal public or private grant or donation.

9 (3) The maximum annual state contribution for the program shall
10 not exceed one hundred thousand dollars unless specifically
11 authorized in the omnibus appropriations act.

12 (4) The program shall be administered by the student achievement
13 council. In administering the program, the student achievement
14 council has the following powers and duties:

15 (a) To screen and select eligible students to receive a wildlife
16 college student loan award;

17 (b) To issue student loan awards to the extent funds are
18 available;

19 (c) To issue low-interest student loans;

20 (d) To establish an annual load limit equal to the cost of
21 attendance minus any other financial aid received;

22 (e) To define the terms of repayment, including applicable
23 interest rates, fees, and deferments;

24 (f) To collect and manage repayments from students who do not
25 meet their obligations under this chapter;

26 (g) To solicit and accept grants and donations from public and
27 private sources for the program;

28 (h) To monitor and ensure compliance with the matching
29 requirements specified in section 4 of this act; and

30 (i) To adopt rules necessary to implement this chapter.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The student achievement council may award
32 wildlife college student loan awards to eligible students from the
33 funds available in the wildlife college student loan match account
34 for this program. The amount of the student loan awarded an
35 individual may not exceed tuition and fees for the program of study.

36 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The wildlife college student loan
37 match account is created in the custody of the state treasurer as a

1 nonappropriated account to be used solely and exclusively for the
2 program. The purpose of the account is to provide matching funds for
3 the program.

4 (2) The student achievement council shall deposit into the
5 account all moneys received for the program. The account shall be
6 self-sustaining and consist of all moneys received for the program.
7 Revenues shall consist of appropriations by the legislature into the
8 account, any private or public gifts, grants, or donations received
9 by the student achievement council for this purpose, and participant
10 repayments, including principal and interest. The maximum annual
11 state funds contribution for the program shall not exceed one hundred
12 thousand dollars unless specifically authorized in the omnibus
13 appropriations act.

14 (3) Expenditures from the account may be used solely for student
15 loans to participants in the program and costs associated with
16 program administration by the student achievement council. No
17 expenditures from the account may be made without matching private
18 contributions to the program. Expenditures, in the form of matching
19 funds, may not exceed one hundred thousand dollars annually.

20 (4) Only the executive director of the student achievement
21 council or the executive director's designee may authorize
22 expenditures from the wildlife college student loan match account.
23 Authorization must be made as soon as practicable following receipt
24 of proof of private matching contributions as required under
25 subsection (3) of this section.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This chapter expires June 30, 2025.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Sections 1 through 5 of this act
28 constitute a new chapter in Title 28B RCW.

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