
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5764

State of Washington

67th Legislature

2022 Regular Session

By Senate Higher Education & Workforce Development (originally sponsored by Senators Randall, Sheldon, Conway, Das, Hasegawa, Keiser, Kuderer, Lias, Nguyen, Nobles, Saldaña, Wellman, C. Wilson, and J. Wilson)

READ FIRST TIME 01/26/22.

1 AN ACT Relating to apprenticeships and higher education; amending
2 RCW 28B.92.030; adding a new chapter to Title 28B RCW; and providing
3 an expiration date.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28B.92.030 and 2019 c 406 s 21 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (~~As used in this chapter:~~) The definitions in this section
8 apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires
9 otherwise.

10 (1) "Council" means the student achievement council.

11 (2) "Financial aid" means either loans, grants, or both, to
12 students who demonstrate financial need enrolled or accepted for
13 enrollment as a student at institutions of higher education.

14 (3) "Financial need" means a demonstrated financial inability to
15 bear the total cost of education as directed in rule by the office.

16 (4) "Institution" or "institutions of higher education" means:

17 (a) Any public university, college, community college, or
18 technical college operated by the state of Washington or any
19 political subdivision thereof; or

20 (b) Any other university, college, school, or institute in the
21 state of Washington offering instruction beyond the high school level

1 that is a member institution of an accrediting association recognized
2 by rule of the council for the purposes of this section and that
3 agrees to and complies with program rules adopted pursuant to RCW
4 28B.92.150. However, any institution, branch, extension or facility
5 operating within the state of Washington that is affiliated with an
6 institution operating in another state must be:

7 (i) A separately accredited member institution of any such
8 accrediting association;

9 (ii) A branch of a member institution of an accrediting
10 association recognized by rule of the council for purposes of this
11 section, that is eligible for federal student financial aid
12 assistance and has operated as a nonprofit college or university
13 delivering on-site classroom instruction for a minimum of twenty
14 consecutive years within the state of Washington, and has an annual
15 enrollment of at least seven hundred full-time equivalent students;

16 (iii) A nonprofit institution recognized by the state of
17 Washington as provided in RCW 28B.77.240; or

18 (iv) An approved apprenticeship program under chapter 49.04 RCW.

19 (5) "Maximum Washington college grant":

20 (a) For students attending two or four-year institutions of
21 higher education as defined in RCW 28B.10.016, is tuition and
22 estimated fees for fifteen quarter credit hours or the equivalent, as
23 determined by the office, including operating fees, building fees,
24 and services and activities fees.

25 (b) For students attending private four-year not-for-profit
26 institutions of higher education in Washington, in the 2019-20
27 academic year, is nine thousand seven hundred thirty-nine dollars and
28 may increase each year afterwards by no more than the tuition growth
29 factor.

30 (c) For students attending two-year private not-for-profit
31 institutions of higher education in Washington, in the 2019-20
32 academic year, is three thousand six hundred ninety-four dollars and
33 may increase each year afterwards by no more than the tuition growth
34 factor.

35 (d) For students attending four-year private for-profit
36 institutions of higher education in Washington, in the 2019-20
37 academic year, is eight thousand five hundred seventeen dollars and
38 may increase each year afterwards by no more than the tuition growth
39 factor.

1 (e) For students attending two-year private for-profit
2 institutions of higher education in Washington, in the 2019-20
3 academic year, is two thousand eight hundred twenty-three dollars and
4 may increase each year afterwards by no more than the tuition growth
5 factor.

6 (f) For students attending Western Governors University-
7 Washington, as established in RCW 28B.77.240, in the 2019-20 academic
8 year, is five thousand six hundred nineteen dollars and may increase
9 each year afterwards by no more than the tuition growth factor.

10 (g) For students attending approved apprenticeship programs,
11 beginning in the 2022-23 academic year, is ((tuition and fees, as
12 determined by the office, in addition to required program supplies
13 and equipment)) the same amount as the maximum Washington college
14 grant for students attending two-year institutions of higher
15 education as defined in (a) of this subsection to be used for tuition
16 and fees, program supplies and equipment, and other costs that
17 facilitate educational endeavors.

18 (6) "Office" means the office of student financial assistance.

19 (7) "Tuition growth factor" means an increase of no more than the
20 average annual percentage growth rate of the median hourly wage for
21 Washington for the previous fourteen years as the wage is determined
22 by the federal bureau of labor statistics.

23 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. (1) It is the intent of the legislature to
24 remove barriers for students enrolled in a state registered
25 apprenticeship program under chapter 49.04 RCW to access the
26 Washington college grant.

27 (2) It is the goal of the legislature that students enrolled in
28 state registered apprenticeship programs and receiving related
29 supplemental instruction at a community and technical college have
30 access to the Washington college grant through the financial aid
31 office at their college. The Washington student achievement council
32 shall verify access to the Washington college grant for students
33 enrolled in state registered apprenticeship programs receiving their
34 related supplemental instruction other than at a community and
35 technical college.

36 (3) The state board for community and technical colleges must
37 fully implement this goal by the beginning of the 2025-26 academic
38 year.

1 (4) As part of the implementation process, the state board for
2 community and technical colleges must collaborate with the office of
3 student financial assistance, as defined in RCW 28B.92.030, to create
4 a student information technology interface to simplify the
5 application, verification of registration, eligibility, and award to
6 students.

7 (5) The state board for community and technical colleges and the
8 office of student financial assistance must establish data-sharing
9 agreements with other state agencies to verify student data.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The student achievement council shall
11 contract with the William D. Ruckelshaus Center to do the following:

12 (a) Evaluate paths to credentials for apprentices, including
13 recommendations on the requirements and benefits of expanding the
14 multioccupational trades degree, and exploration of other credentials
15 that will support transfer to baccalaureate degrees or other advanced
16 credentials for apprentices. This evaluation may include options for
17 instructional modality and analysis of the opportunities and
18 limitations for incorporating general education course requirements
19 into degree pathways for apprentices. The evaluation may also include
20 reviewing credit articulation within the college system, prior
21 learning assessments, and competency-based models, as applicable;

22 (b) Examine national best practices in delivery and award of
23 educational credentials to apprentices. This exploration may include
24 assessment of the governance structures and operational models for
25 delivery of apprenticeship degree pathways, including operational
26 considerations and costs associated with those models, and make
27 recommendations on the model or models best suited for implementation
28 in Washington with consideration on sustainably funding and growing
29 state registered apprenticeships in the future;

30 (c) Research apprentices' demand for degrees, for individuals in,
31 or who have completed, a state registered apprenticeship program;

32 (d) Review the current funding model for apprentices within the
33 community and technical college system, with consideration on the use
34 of state funds for apprenticeships. The center must consult with the
35 Washington state apprenticeship council established under chapter
36 49.04 RCW, the state board for community and technical colleges, and
37 any other relevant or impacted parties as needed to provide
38 recommendations to the legislature on a sustainable funding model for
39 related supplemental instruction and credit for apprentices through

1 the community and technical college system to ensure it fully covers
2 institutional and apprenticeship program costs of related
3 supplemental instruction. This funding model review may include
4 institutional costs of developing, administering, delivering,
5 hosting, instructing, and contracting. These recommendations must be
6 included in the annual report established in subsection (2) of this
7 section;

8 (e) Consult with the state board for community and technical
9 colleges, an organization representing the presidents of the public
10 four-year institutions of higher education, the office of the
11 superintendent of public instruction, the joint transfer council of
12 Washington, the department of labor and industries, the Washington
13 state labor council, the Washington building trades council, the
14 student achievement council, the independent colleges of Washington,
15 private career colleges, an accrediting body, career connect, and
16 other stakeholders with interests and expertise in apprenticeship
17 training and higher education mobility;

18 (f) Identify and remove barriers for apprentices to access the
19 Washington college grant program, established under RCW 28B.92.200,
20 and all other student services and support programs and resources.

21 (2) The student achievement council shall report annually by
22 December 1st, beginning in 2023, in compliance with RCW 43.01.036,
23 the William D. Ruckelshaus Center's progress, findings, and
24 recommendations to the appropriate higher education committees of the
25 legislature on the evaluations in subsection (1) of this section. The
26 annual report in 2026 shall provide viable policy options for degree
27 pathways for individuals who complete state registered apprenticeship
28 programs.

29 (3) The apprenticeship council, in consultation with the state
30 board for community and technical colleges, the student achievement
31 council, an organization representing the presidents of the public
32 four-year institutions of higher education, and any other relevant or
33 impacted parties as needed, shall explore whether the state should
34 establish an institution, or centralized program, for apprentices to
35 receive related supplemental instruction for credit towards a degree.
36 A report on their findings, with a recommendation, must be included
37 in the December 1, 2023, annual report established in subsection (2)
38 of this section.

39 (4) This section expires July 1, 2028.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** All institutions of higher education, as
2 defined in RCW 28B.10.016, must establish credit or course
3 equivalencies for active state apprenticeship programs, registered
4 during or before July 1, 2022, by the 2028-29 school year. For all
5 state registered apprenticeship programs approved after July 1, 2022,
6 all institutions of higher education, as defined in RCW 28B.10.016,
7 must establish credit or course equivalencies within six years of the
8 program's registration. While establishing course or course
9 equivalencies, institutions of higher education must consult with
10 their faculty representatives. Credit or course equivalencies are at
11 the sole discretion of each institution of higher education and must
12 be determined in consultation with their faculty representatives.
13 Credit or course equivalencies established by institutions of higher
14 education are not intended to impact the possible revision of
15 previously approved related supplemental instruction in a state
16 registered apprenticeship program.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Sections 2 through 4 of this act
18 constitute a new chapter in Title 28B RCW.

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