
SENATE BILL 5764

State of Washington

67th Legislature

2022 Regular Session

By Senators Randall, Sheldon, Conway, Das, Hasegawa, Keiser, Kuderer, Liiias, Nguyen, Nobles, Saldaña, Wellman, C. Wilson, and J. Wilson

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1 AN ACT Relating to apprenticeships and higher education; amending
2 RCW 28B.92.030 and 49.04.150; adding a new chapter to Title 28B RCW;
3 creating a new section; and providing an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes the
6 institutional costs of community and technical colleges to deliver,
7 host, and contract related supplemental instruction for state
8 registered apprenticeships. It is the intent of the legislature to
9 provide dedicated funding support for full-time equivalent student
10 apprenticeship enrollments at the community and technical colleges
11 and that it be phased in over five fiscal years, beginning in fiscal
12 year 2023. If specific funding for dedicated support in this section
13 is not provided in the 2021-2023 supplemental omnibus operating
14 appropriations act, the five-year phase-in of dedicated support
15 proposed must be delayed until such time as specific funding is
16 provided.

17 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28B.92.030 and 2019 c 406 s 21 are each amended to
18 read as follows:

1 (~~As used in this chapter:~~) The definitions in this section
2 apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires
3 otherwise.

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

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

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

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

11 (a) Any public university, college, community college, or
12 technical college operated by the state of Washington or any
13 political subdivision thereof; or

14 (b) Any other university, college, school, or institute in the
15 state of Washington offering instruction beyond the high school level
16 that is a member institution of an accrediting association recognized
17 by rule of the council for the purposes of this section and that
18 agrees to and complies with program rules adopted pursuant to RCW
19 28B.92.150. However, any institution, branch, extension or facility
20 operating within the state of Washington that is affiliated with an
21 institution operating in another state must be:

22 (i) A separately accredited member institution of any such
23 accrediting association;

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

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

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

34 (5) "Maximum Washington college grant":

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

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

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

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

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

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

25 (g) For students attending approved apprenticeship programs,
26 beginning in the 2022-23 academic year, is ((tuition and fees, as
27 determined by the office, in addition to required program supplies
28 and equipment)) the same amount as the maximum Washington college
29 grant for students attending two-year institutions of higher
30 education as defined in (a) of this subsection to be used for tuition
31 and fees, program supplies and equipment, and other costs that
32 facilitate educational endeavors.

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

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

38 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. (1) It is the intent of the legislature to
39 remove barriers for students enrolled in a registered apprenticeship

1 program under chapter 49.04 RCW to access the Washington college
2 grant.

3 (2) It is the goal of the legislature that students enrolled in
4 registered apprenticeship programs and receiving related supplemental
5 instruction at a community and technical college have access to the
6 Washington college grant through the financial aid office at their
7 college. The Washington student achievement council shall verify
8 access to the Washington college grant for students receiving their
9 related supplemental instruction not at a community and technical
10 college.

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

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

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

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The state board for community and
24 technical colleges shall:

25 (a) Evaluate paths to credentials for apprentices, including
26 recommendations on the requirements and benefits of expanding the
27 multioccupational trades degree, and exploration of other credentials
28 that will support transfer to baccalaureate degrees or other advanced
29 credentials for apprentices. This evaluation may include options for
30 instructional modality and analysis of the opportunities and
31 limitations for incorporating general education course requirements
32 into degree pathways for apprentices;

33 (b) Examine national best practices in delivery and award of
34 educational credentials to apprentices. This exploration may include
35 assessment of the governance structures and operational models for
36 delivery of apprenticeship degree pathways, including operational
37 considerations and costs associated with those models, and make
38 recommendations on the model or models best suited for implementation
39 in Washington;

1 (c) Research apprentices' demand for degrees, including at which
2 stage in their career a person may seek credentials from their
3 apprenticeship towards a degree;

4 (d) Assist the work group established in subsection (4) of this
5 section;

6 (e) Review the current funding model for apprentices within the
7 community and technical college system. The board must consult with
8 the department of labor and industries, the Washington state labor
9 council, and the Washington building trades council to provide
10 recommendations to the legislature on a sustainable funding model for
11 related supplemental instruction and credit for apprentices through
12 the community and technical college system to ensure it fully covers
13 institutional costs of delivering, hosting, and contracting. These
14 recommendations must be included in the annual report established in
15 subsection (2) of this section;

16 (f) Identify and remove barriers for apprentices to access the
17 college grant, established under RCW 28B.92.200;

18 (g) Consult with an organization representing the presidents of
19 the public four-year institutions of higher education, the office of
20 the superintendent of public instruction, the joint transfer council
21 of Washington, the department of labor and industries, the Washington
22 state labor council, the Washington building trades council, the
23 student achievement council, the independent colleges of Washington,
24 private career colleges, an accrediting body, career connect, and
25 other stakeholders with interests and expertise in apprenticeship
26 training and higher education mobility.

27 (2) The state board for community and technical colleges shall
28 report annually by December 1st, beginning in 2023, in compliance
29 with RCW 43.01.036, its progress, findings, and recommendations to
30 the appropriate higher education committees of the legislature in
31 creating degree pathways for apprentices required in subsection (1)
32 of this section.

33 (3) The apprenticeship council, in consultation with the state
34 board for community and technical colleges, the student achievement
35 council, and an organization representing the presidents of the
36 public four-year institutions of higher education, shall explore
37 whether the state should establish an institution, or centralized
38 program, for apprentices to receive related supplemental instruction
39 for credit towards a degree. A report on their findings, with a

1 recommendation, must be included in the December 1, 2023, annual
2 report established in subsection (2) of this section.

3 (4) The state board for community and technical colleges shall
4 convene a work group with the apprenticeship council, or their
5 delegate, and a national accrediting body to study and develop a plan
6 for establishing either credit or course equivalencies, or both, for
7 all related supplemental instruction coursework.

8 (5) This section expires July 1, 2028.

9 **Sec. 5.** RCW 49.04.150 and 2003 c 128 s 2 are each amended to
10 read as follows:

11 (1) An apprenticeship committee may recommend to its community or
12 technical college partner or partners that an associate degree
13 pathway be developed for the committee's program.

14 (2) In consultation with the state board for community and
15 technical colleges, the apprenticeship committee and the college or
16 colleges involved with the program shall consider the extent
17 apprentices in the program are likely to pursue an associate degree
18 and the extent a pathway could reduce redundancy of course
19 requirements between the apprenticeship and a degree.

20 (3) If the apprenticeship committee and the college or colleges
21 involved with the program determine that a pathway would be
22 beneficial for apprentices and assist them in obtaining an associate
23 degree, the apprenticeship committee may request that a pathway be
24 established as provided in RCW 28B.50.890.

25 (4) (a) For active state apprenticeship programs registered during
26 or before July 1, 2022, the credit or course equivalencies must be
27 established by the 2028-29 school year. All programs applying for
28 approval as a state registered apprenticeship program by the
29 apprenticeship council after the 2022-23 school year, must have
30 credit or course equivalencies established before being approved. The
31 apprenticeship council may establish an exemption from this
32 requirement when either all reasonable efforts to help establish
33 course or course equivalencies have been exhausted or when practical.

34 (b) In the course of assisting apprenticeship programs establish
35 credit or course equivalencies for approved related supplemental
36 instruction coursework, the apprenticeship council or their delegate
37 may consult with community and technical college faculty
38 representatives, the state board for community and technical
39 colleges, an organization representing the presidents of the public

1 four-year institutions of higher education, and the joint transfer
2 council of Washington. The apprenticeship council shall share its
3 progress with the state board for community and technical colleges
4 annually for the purpose of the reporting requirement established in
5 section 4 of this act.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Sections 3 and 4 of this act constitute a
7 new chapter in Title 28B RCW.

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