
SENATE BILL 5048

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2023 Regular Session

By Senators Mullet, Rolfes, Billig, Hasegawa, Hawkins, Holy, Lias, Nguyen, Pedersen, Valdez, Wagoner, Warnick, Wellman, and C. Wilson

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1 AN ACT Relating to eliminating college in the high school fees;
2 amending RCW 28A.600.287 and 28B.76.730; adding a new section to
3 chapter 28B.10 RCW; and repealing RCW 28A.600.290.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.10
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) Beginning on September 1, 2023, institutions of higher
8 education must provide enrollment and registration in college in the
9 high school courses in which a student is eligible to receive college
10 credit available at no cost for students in the 10th, 11th, or 12th
11 grade at public high schools.

12 (2) Beginning with the 2023-2025 omnibus operating appropriation
13 act, the legislature must pass an omnibus operating appropriations
14 act that appropriates to the state board of community and technical
15 colleges and each of the public four-year institutions of higher
16 education state funding for college in high school courses
17 administered at public secondary schools.

18 (3) State appropriations for the college in the high school
19 program to the institutions of higher education shall be calculated
20 as follows: The total college in the high school courses administered
21 in the prior academic year, funded at a rate of:

1 (a) \$6,000 per college in the high school course administered by
2 a public four-year institution of higher education; or

3 (b) \$3,000 per college in the high school course administered by
4 a community or technical college.

5 (4) Beginning with fiscal year 2025 the rate per college in the
6 high school course administered must be adjusted annually for
7 inflation as measured by the consumer price index.

8 (5) State appropriations must be based on the total number of
9 college in the high school courses administered by an institution of
10 higher education for the academic year immediately prior to the
11 current fiscal year. The state appropriation is based on course
12 administration data submitted annually by October 15th to the office
13 of financial management and legislative fiscal staff.

14 (6) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this
15 section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

16 (a) "Community or technical college" has the same meaning as
17 provided for under RCW 28B.50.030.

18 (b) "Course" means a class taught under a contract between an
19 institution of higher education and a single high school teacher on
20 an articulated subject in which the student is eligible to receive
21 college credit.

22 (c) "High school" means a public school, as defined in RCW
23 28A.150.010, that serves students in any of grades nine through 12.

24 (d) "Institutions of higher education" has the same meaning as
25 provided for under RCW 28B.10.016.

26 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.600.287 and 2021 c 71 s 1 are each amended to
27 read as follows:

28 (1) College in the high school is a dual credit program located
29 on a high school campus or in a high school environment in which a
30 high school student is able to earn both high school and college
31 credit by completing college level courses with a passing grade. A
32 college in the high school program must meet the accreditation
33 requirements in RCW 28B.10.035 and the requirements in this section.

34 (2) A college in the high school program may include both
35 academic and career and technical education.

36 (3) Ninth, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students, and students who
37 have not yet received a high school diploma or its equivalent and are
38 eligible to be in the ninth, 10th, 11th, or 12th grades, may
39 participate in a college in the high school program.

1 (4) A college in the high school program must be governed by a
2 local contract between an institution of higher education and a
3 school district, charter school, or state-tribal compact school, in
4 compliance with the rules adopted by the superintendent of public
5 instruction under this section. The local contract must include the
6 qualifications for students to enroll in a program course.

7 ~~(5) ((a) An institution of higher education may charge tuition~~
8 ~~fees per credit to each student enrolled in a program course as~~
9 ~~established in this subsection (5)).~~

10 ~~(b) (i) The maximum per college credit tuition fee for a program~~
11 ~~course is \$65 per college credit adjusted for inflation using the~~
12 ~~implicit price deflator for that fiscal year, using fiscal year 2021~~
13 ~~as the base, as compiled by the bureau of labor statistics, United~~
14 ~~States department of labor for the state of Washington.~~

15 ~~(ii) Annually by July 1st, the office of the superintendent of~~
16 ~~public instruction must calculate the maximum per college credit~~
17 ~~tuition fee and post the fee on its website.~~

18 ~~(c) The funds received by an institution of higher education~~
19 ~~under this subsection (5) are not tuition or operating fees and may~~
20 ~~be retained by the institution of higher education.~~

21 ~~(6))~~ Enrollment information on persons registered under this
22 section must be maintained by the institution of higher education
23 separately from other enrollment information and may not be included
24 in official enrollment reports, nor may such persons be considered in
25 any enrollment statistics that would affect higher education
26 budgetary determinations.

27 ~~((7))~~ (6) Each school district, charter school, and state-
28 tribal compact school must award high school credit to a student
29 enrolled in a program course if the student successfully completes
30 the course. If no comparable course is offered by the school
31 district, charter school, or state-tribal compact school, the chief
32 administrator shall determine how many credits to award for the
33 successful completion of the program course. The determination must
34 be made in writing before the student enrolls in the program course.
35 The awarded credit must be applied toward graduation requirements and
36 subject area requirements. Evidence of successful completion of each
37 program course must be included in the student's high school records
38 and transcript.

39 ~~((8))~~ (7) An institution of higher education must award college
40 credit to a student enrolled in a program course if the student

1 successfully completes the course. The awarded college credit must be
2 applied toward general education requirements or degree requirements
3 at the institution of higher education. Evidence of successful
4 completion of each program course must be included in the student's
5 college transcript.

6 ~~((9))~~ (8)(a) A high school that offers a college in the high
7 school program must provide general information about the program to
8 all students in grades eight through 12 and to the parents and
9 guardians of those students.

10 (b) A high school that offers a college in the high school
11 program must include the following information about program courses
12 in the high school catalogue or equivalent:

13 (i) There is no fee for students to enroll in a program course
14 ~~((to earn only high school credit. Fees apply for students who choose
15 to enroll in a program course to earn both high school and college
16 credit;~~

17 ~~(ii) A description and breakdown of the fees charged to students
18 to earn college credit;~~

19 ~~(iii) A description of fee payment and financial assistance
20 options available to students; and~~

21 ~~(iv))~~ for high school credit or for students to enroll in a
22 program course for both high school and college credit; and

23 (ii) A notification that ~~((paying for))~~ enrolling in a program
24 course for college credit automatically starts an official college
25 transcript with the institution of higher education offering the
26 program course regardless of student performance in the program
27 course, and that college credit earned upon successful completion of
28 a program course may count only as elective credit if transferred to
29 another institution of higher education.

30 ~~((10))~~ (9) Full-time and part-time faculty at institutions of
31 higher education, including adjunct faculty, are eligible to teach
32 program courses.

33 ~~((11) Students enrolled in a program course may pay college in
34 the high school fees with advanced college tuition payment program
35 tuition units at a rate set by the advanced college tuition payment
36 program governing body under chapter 28B.95 RCW.~~

37 ~~(12))~~ (10) The superintendent of public instruction shall adopt
38 rules for the administration of this section. The rules must be
39 jointly developed by the superintendent of public instruction, the
40 state board for community and technical colleges, the student

1 achievement council, and the public baccalaureate institutions. The
2 association of Washington school principals must be consulted during
3 the rules development. The rules must outline quality and eligibility
4 standards that are informed by nationally recognized standards or
5 models. In addition, the rules must encourage the maximum use of the
6 program and may not narrow or limit the enrollment options.

7 (13) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this
8 section ((→)), unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

9 (a) "Charter school" means a school established under chapter
10 28A.710 RCW.

11 (b) "High school" means a public school, as defined in RCW
12 28A.150.010, that serves students in any of grades nine through 12.

13 (c) "Institution of higher education" has the same meaning as in
14 RCW 28B.10.016, and also means a public tribal college located in
15 Washington and accredited by the northwest commission on colleges and
16 universities or another accrediting association recognized by the
17 United States department of education.

18 (d) "Program course" means a college course offered in a high
19 school under a college in the high school program.

20 (e) "State-tribal compact school" means a school established
21 under chapter 28A.715 RCW.

22 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28B.76.730 and 2021 c 71 s 6 are each amended to
23 read as follows:

24 (1) The legislature recognizes that dual credit programs reduce
25 both the cost and time of attendance to obtain a postsecondary
26 degree. The legislature intends to reduce barriers and increase
27 access to postsecondary educational opportunities for low-income
28 students by removing the financial barriers for dual enrollment
29 programs for students.

30 (2) The office, in consultation with the institutions of higher
31 education and the office of the superintendent of public instruction,
32 shall create the Washington dual enrollment scholarship pilot
33 program. The office shall administer the Washington dual enrollment
34 scholarship pilot program and may adopt rules as necessary.

35 (3) Eligible students are those who meet the following
36 requirements:

37 (a) Qualify for the free or reduced-price lunch program;

1 (b) Are enrolled in one or more dual credit programs, as defined
2 in RCW 28B.15.821, such as (~~college in the high school and~~) running
3 start; and

4 (c) Have at least a 2.0 grade point average.

5 (4) Subject to availability of amounts appropriated for this
6 specific purpose, beginning with the 2019-20 academic year, the
7 office may award scholarships to eligible students. The scholarship
8 award must be as follows(~~(÷~~

9 ~~(a) For~~) for eligible students enrolled in running start:

10 ~~((i))~~ (a) Mandatory fees, as defined in RCW 28A.600.310(2),
11 prorated based on credit load;

12 ~~((ii))~~ (b) Course fees or laboratory fees as determined
13 appropriate by college or university policies to pay for specified
14 course related costs;

15 ~~((iii))~~ (c) A textbook voucher to be used at the institution of
16 higher education's bookstore where the student is enrolled. For every
17 credit per quarter the student is enrolled, the student shall receive
18 a textbook voucher for ten dollars, up to a maximum of fifteen
19 credits per quarter, or the equivalent, per year; and

20 ~~((iv))~~ (d) Apprenticeship materials as determined appropriate
21 by the college or university to pay for specific course-related
22 material costs, which may include occupation-specific tools, work
23 clothes, rain gear, or boots.

24 ~~((b) An eligible student enrolled in a college in the high
25 school program may receive a scholarship for tuition fees as set
26 forth under RCW 28A.600.287.)~~

27 (5) The Washington dual enrollment scholarship pilot program must
28 apply after the fee waivers for low-income students under RCW
29 28A.600.310 (~~and subsidies under RCW 28A.600.290~~) are provided for.

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** RCW 28A.600.290 (College in the high
31 school program—Funding) and 2021 c 71 s 2, 2015 c 202 s 3, 2012 c 229
32 s 801, & 2009 c 450 s 3 are each repealed.

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