
HOUSE BILL 1587

State of Washington

56th Legislature

1999 Regular Session

By Representatives Hatfield, Radcliff, D. Schmidt, Doumit, Quall, Poulsen, Conway, Cooper, Haigh, Eickmeyer and Kessler

Read first time 01/29/1999. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to the Washington state scholars program; amending
2 RCW 28A.600.110 and 28B.80.245; adding a new section to chapter 28B.80
3 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that approximately
6 thirty-five percent of the recipients of the Washington scholars award
7 under RCW 28A.600.100 through 28A.600.150 choose to enroll in an out-
8 of-state college and therefore do not use the grants that would have
9 been available to them under RCW 28B.80.245 had they chosen to attend
10 a college or university in the state of Washington. It is the intent
11 of the legislature to identify the amount of money associated with the
12 unused grants and to make that amount available for graduate and
13 professional school grants to assist former recipients of Washington
14 scholars awards who choose to enroll in a graduate or professional
15 school in the state of Washington. The grants should be awarded
16 annually and students who have received a Washington scholars award in
17 one of the previous six years would be eligible to compete for the
18 graduate school grants.

1 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.600.110 and 1994 c 234 s 4 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 There is established by the legislature of the state of Washington
4 the Washington state scholars program. The purposes of this program
5 annually are to:

6 (1) Provide for the selection of three seniors residing in each
7 legislative district in the state graduating from high schools who have
8 distinguished themselves academically among their peers(~~(-)~~);

9 (2) Maximize public awareness of the academic achievement,
10 leadership ability, and community contribution of Washington state
11 public and private high school seniors through appropriate recognition
12 ceremonies and events at both the local and state level(~~(-)~~);

13 (3) Provide a listing of the Washington scholars to all Washington
14 state public and private colleges and universities to facilitate
15 communication regarding academic programs and scholarship
16 availability(~~(-)~~);

17 (4) Make available a state level mechanism for utilization of
18 private funds for scholarship awards to outstanding high school
19 seniors(~~(-)~~);

20 (5) Provide, on written request and with student permission, a
21 listing of the Washington scholars to private scholarship selection
22 committees for notification of scholarship availability(~~(-)~~);

23 (6) Permit a waiver of tuition and services and activities fees as
24 provided for in RCW 28B.15.543 and grants under RCW 28B.80.245(~~(-)~~);
25 and

26 (7) Provide for competitively awarded grants for graduate and
27 professional studies to the extent that the grants for undergraduate
28 studies provided under RCW 28B.80.245 are not used and if moneys are
29 available.

30 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28B.80.245 and 1995 1st sp.s. c 5 s 3 are each amended
31 to read as follows:

32 (1) Recipients of the Washington scholars award under RCW
33 28A.600.100 through 28A.600.150 who choose to attend an independent
34 college or university in this state, as defined in subsection (~~(+4)~~)
35 (6) of this section, and recipients of the award named after June 30,
36 1994, who choose to attend a public college or university in the state
37 may receive grants under this section if moneys are available. The
38 higher education coordinating board shall distribute grants to eligible

1 students under this section from moneys appropriated to the Washington
2 scholars awards account created in section 4 of this act for this
3 purpose. The individual grants shall not exceed, on a yearly basis,
4 the yearly, full-time, resident, undergraduate tuition and service and
5 activities fees in effect at the state-funded research universities.
6 Grants to recipients attending an independent institution shall be
7 contingent upon the institution matching on at least a dollar-for-
8 dollar basis, either with actual money or by a waiver of fees, the
9 amount of the grant received by the student from the state. The higher
10 education coordinating board shall establish procedures, by rule, to
11 disburse the awards as direct grants to the students.

12 (2) To qualify for the grant, recipients shall enter the in-state
13 college or university within three years of high school graduation and
14 maintain a minimum grade point average at the college or university
15 equivalent to 3.30. Students shall be eligible to receive a maximum of
16 twelve quarters or eight semesters of grants for undergraduate study
17 and may transfer among in-state public and independent colleges and
18 universities during that period and continue to receive the grant as
19 provided under RCW 28B.80.246. If the student's cumulative grade point
20 average falls below 3.30 during the first three quarters or two
21 semesters, that student may petition the higher education coordinating
22 board which shall have the authority to establish a probationary period
23 until such time as the student's grade point average meets required
24 standards.

25 (3) No grant shall be awarded to any student who is pursuing a
26 degree in theology.

27 (4) The higher education coordinating board shall establish
28 policies and procedures to award grants annually for graduate and
29 professional studies to former Washington scholars awards recipients
30 who enroll in graduate or professional schools in the state of
31 Washington. The grants shall be awarded on a competitive basis.
32 Students who have received a Washington scholars award in one of the
33 previous six years are eligible to compete for the graduate and
34 professional studies grants.

35 (5) The higher education coordinating board shall distribute grants
36 annually to eligible students under this section to the extent funds
37 are available in the Washington scholars awards account. The
38 individual grants shall not exceed, on a yearly basis, the yearly,
39 full-time resident, graduate student tuition and services and

1 activities fees in effect at the state-funded research universities.
2 Grants to recipients attending an independent institution of higher
3 education shall be contingent upon the institution matching on at least
4 a dollar-for-dollar basis, either with actual money or by a waiver of
5 fees, the amount of the grant received by the student from the state.
6 The higher education coordinating board shall establish procedures, by
7 rule, to disburse the awards as direct grants to the students.

8 (6) As used in this section, "independent college or university"
9 means a private, nonprofit educational institution, the main campus of
10 which is permanently situated in the state, open to residents of the
11 state, providing programs of education beyond the high school level
12 leading at least to the baccalaureate degree, and accredited by the
13 northwest association of schools and colleges as of June 9, 1988, and
14 other institutions as may be developed that are approved by the higher
15 education coordinating board as meeting equivalent standards as those
16 institutions accredited under this section.

17 ~~((5))~~ (7) As used in this section, "public college or university"
18 means an institution of higher education as defined in RCW 28B.10.016.

19 NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. A new section is added to chapter 28B.80 RCW
20 to read as follows:

21 (1) Any funds appropriated by the legislature for the Washington
22 state scholars program established under RCW 28A.600.110 shall be
23 placed in the account created by this section.

24 (2) The Washington scholars awards account is created in the
25 custody of the state treasurer. Only the higher education coordinating
26 board, or its designee, may authorize expenditures from the account.
27 The account is subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW,
28 but no appropriation is required for expenditures.

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