
HOUSE BILL 1661

State of Washington

56th Legislature

1999 Regular Session

By Representatives Edmonds, Carlson, Kenney, Kagi, Esser, Wood, Lantz and Ogden

Read first time 02/02/1999. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to the Washington scholars program; amending RCW
2 28A.600.150 and 28B.80.245; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that approximately
5 thirty-five percent of the recipients of the Washington scholars award
6 under RCW 28A.600.100 through 28A.600.150 choose to enroll in an out-
7 of-state college and therefore do not use the grants that would have
8 been available to them under RCW 28B.80.245 had they chosen to attend
9 a college or university in the state of Washington. It is the intent
10 of the legislature to require high school seniors who are announced as
11 recipients of the Washington scholars award to demonstrate in a timely
12 manner that they will be using any grants they may receive with their
13 awards to enroll in a college or university in Washington state during
14 the fall term of the same year in which they receive the award. Any
15 grants not used by initial recipients should be awarded to alternate
16 recipients who must also demonstrate in a timely manner that they will
17 be using their grants to enroll in a Washington college or university
18 in Washington state during the fall term.

1 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.600.150 and 1985 c 370 s 35 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 (~~Washington scholars annually shall be selected from among the~~
4 ~~students so identified.~~) Each year, three Washington scholars and
5 three Washington scholars-alternates shall be selected from the
6 students nominated under RCW 28A.600.140. The higher education
7 coordinating board shall notify the students so designated, their high
8 school principals, the legislators of their respective districts, and
9 the governor when final selections have been made.

10 The board, in conjunction with the governor's office, shall prepare
11 appropriate certificates to be presented to the Washington scholars
12 (~~recipients~~) and the Washington scholars-alternates. An awards
13 ceremony at an appropriate time and place shall be planned by the board
14 in cooperation with the Washington association of secondary school
15 principals, and with the approval of the governor.

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

18 (1) Recipients of the Washington scholars award or the Washington
19 scholars-alternate award under RCW 28A.600.100 through 28A.600.150 who
20 choose to attend an independent college or university in this state, as
21 defined in subsection (4) of this section, and recipients of the award
22 named after June 30, 1994, who choose to attend a public college or
23 university in the state may receive grants under this section if moneys
24 are available. The higher education coordinating board shall
25 distribute grants to eligible students under this section from moneys
26 appropriated for this purpose. The individual grants shall not exceed,
27 on a yearly basis, the yearly, full-time, resident, undergraduate
28 tuition and service and activities fees in effect at the state-funded
29 research universities. Grants to recipients attending an independent
30 institution shall be contingent upon the institution matching on at
31 least a dollar-for-dollar basis, either with actual money or by a
32 waiver of fees, the amount of the grant received by the student from
33 the state. The higher education coordinating board shall establish
34 procedures, by rule, to disburse the awards as direct grants to the
35 students.

36 (2) (~~To qualify for the grant, recipients shall enter the in-state~~
37 ~~college or university within three years of high school graduation~~
38 ~~and~~) The higher education coordinating board shall establish rules

1 that provide for the annual awarding of grants, if moneys are
2 available, to three Washington scholars per legislative district; and,
3 if not used by an original recipient, to Washington scholars-alternates
4 from the same legislative district.

5 If the recipients of grants fail to demonstrate in a timely manner
6 that they will enroll in a Washington institution of higher education
7 in the fall term of the academic year following the award of the grant
8 or are deemed by the higher education coordinating board to have
9 withdrawn from college during the first academic year following the
10 award, then the grant shall be considered relinquished. The higher
11 education coordinating board may then award any remaining grant amounts
12 to Washington scholars-alternates from the same legislative district if
13 the grants are awarded within one year of the recipient being named a
14 Washington scholars-alternate. Washington scholars-alternates named as
15 recipients of the grant must also demonstrate in a timely manner that
16 they will enroll in a Washington institution of higher education during
17 the next available term, as determined by the higher education
18 coordinating board.

19 To maintain eligibility for the grants, recipients must maintain a
20 minimum grade point average at the college or university equivalent to
21 3.30. Students shall be eligible to receive a maximum of twelve
22 quarters or eight semesters of grants for undergraduate study and may
23 transfer among in-state public and independent colleges and
24 universities during that period and continue to receive the grant as
25 provided under RCW 28B.80.246. If the student's cumulative grade point
26 average falls below 3.30 during the first three quarters or two
27 semesters, that student may petition the higher education coordinating
28 board which shall have the authority to establish a probationary period
29 until such time as the student's grade point average meets required
30 standards.

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

33 (4) As used in this section, "independent college or university"
34 means a private, nonprofit educational institution, the main campus of
35 which is permanently situated in the state, open to residents of the
36 state, providing programs of education beyond the high school level
37 leading at least to the baccalaureate degree, and accredited by the
38 northwest association of schools and colleges as of June 9, 1988, and
39 other institutions as may be developed that are approved by the higher

1 education coordinating board as meeting equivalent standards as those
2 institutions accredited under this section.

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

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