

---

SENATE BILL 6846

---

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2006 Regular Session

By Senators McAuliffe, Pridemore, Weinstein, Thibaudeau, Kohl-Welles, Berkey and Rasmussen

Read first time 01/26/2006. Referred to Committee on Early Learning, K-12 & Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to a college in the high school program that is  
2 distinct from the running start program; amending RCW 28A.150.275,  
3 28A.225.290, 28A.600.160, and 28A.600.300; adding new sections to  
4 chapter 28A.600 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that:

7 (1) The economy of the state of Washington requires a well-prepared  
8 work force. To meet the need, more Washington students must be  
9 prepared for postsecondary education and training. Further, the  
10 personal enrichment and success of Washington citizens increasingly  
11 relies on their ability to use the state's postsecondary education and  
12 training system. To accomplish those ends, the legislature desires to  
13 increase the number of students who begin earning college credits while  
14 still in high school.

15 (2) Not all Washington high school students realize that they are  
16 capable of college-level work, nor do all students have ready and  
17 affordable access to college-level courses. The legislature finds that  
18 an effective means of increasing the number of students earning college  
19 credit in high school is to bring the college courses to the students.

1 The legislature believes the ability to earn college credit during the  
2 regular high school day and on the high school campus may greatly  
3 expand students' willingness and ability to attempt college-credit-  
4 bearing courses.

5 (3) Many high school students who wish to earn college credits are  
6 unable to participate in the running start program because they live in  
7 areas that do not have local colleges or participating universities;  
8 some students who would like to earn college credits while in high  
9 school do not participate in running start because they do not want to  
10 leave their high school campus in order to do so; and some students who  
11 would like to earn college credits are unable to afford the cost of  
12 books, fees, transportation and other costs not covered by running  
13 start.

14 (4) Some high schools are currently working with colleges and  
15 universities to offer college credit courses on high school campuses to  
16 serve those students. However, since there is no established statewide  
17 program or funding provided, rules governing these programs vary and  
18 high school students pay varying amounts to cover the colleges' and  
19 universities' costs of working with high schools to offer the classes.

20 (5) It is the intent of the legislature to establish the college in  
21 the high school program as a statewide option for high school students.  
22 High schools, colleges, and universities that wish to work together to  
23 offer this option are encouraged to do so.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.600  
25 RCW to read as follows:

26 (1) The superintendent of public instruction, the state board for  
27 community and technical colleges, and the public baccalaureate  
28 institutions shall jointly develop and adopt rules governing the  
29 college in the high school program. The rules shall be written to  
30 encourage the maximum use of the program and shall not narrow or limit  
31 the enrollment options.

32 (2) College in the high school programs shall each be governed by  
33 a local contract in compliance with the guidelines adopted by the  
34 superintendent of public instruction, the state board for community and  
35 technical colleges, and the public baccalaureate institutions.

36 (3) The college in the high school program shall provide that:

1 (a) Funding is authorized for the superintendent of public  
2 instruction to distribute to school districts an incentive equivalent  
3 to seven percent of the basic education allocation for each student in  
4 a five-credit college in the high school course. The amount of the  
5 incentive shall be calculated as seven percent of the statewide average  
6 basic education amount generated for a 1.0 average annual full-time  
7 equivalent position, pursuant to RCW 28A.150.260. School districts  
8 shall transfer the program course amount to the appropriate institution  
9 of higher education to offset students' fees.

10 (b) The institution of higher education shall not require the  
11 student to pay any other fees. The funds received by the institution  
12 of higher education from the school district shall not be deemed  
13 tuition or operating fees and may be retained by the institution of  
14 higher education. A student enrolled under this subsection shall not  
15 be counted for the purpose of determining any enrollment restrictions  
16 imposed by the state on the institution of higher education.

17 (c) A school district shall grant high school credit to a student  
18 enrolled in a program course if the student successfully completes the  
19 course. If no comparable course is offered by the school district, the  
20 school district superintendent shall determine how many credits to  
21 award for the course. The determination shall be made in writing  
22 before the student enrolls in the course. The credits shall be applied  
23 toward graduation requirements and subject area requirements. Evidence  
24 of successful completion of each program course shall be included in  
25 the student's secondary school records and transcript.

26 (d) Eleventh and twelfth grade students or students who have not  
27 yet received a high school diploma or its equivalent and are eligible  
28 to be in the eleventh or twelfth grades may participate in the college  
29 in the high school program. Participating school districts and  
30 institutions of higher education may establish standards for admission  
31 to program courses.

32 (e) Participating school districts shall provide general  
33 information about the college in the high school program to all  
34 students in grades ten, eleven, and twelve and the parents and  
35 guardians of those students.

36 (4) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this  
37 section.

1 (a) "Institution of higher education" has the meaning in RCW  
2 28B.10.016 and also includes a public tribal college located in  
3 Washington and accredited by the Northwest commission on colleges and  
4 universities or another accrediting association recognized by the  
5 United States department of education.

6 (b) "Program course" means a college course offered in a high  
7 school under the college in the high school program.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.600  
9 RCW to read as follows:

10 The superintendent of public instruction shall develop advising  
11 guidelines to ensure that students and parents understand that college  
12 credits earned in high school dual credit programs may impact  
13 eligibility for financial aid.

14 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28A.150.275 and 1995 c 77 s 4 are each amended to read  
15 as follows:

16 The basic education allocation, including applicable vocational  
17 entitlements and special education program money, generated under this  
18 chapter and under state appropriation acts by school districts for  
19 students enrolled in a technical college program established by an  
20 interlocal agreement under RCW 28B.50.533 shall be allocated in amounts  
21 as determined by the superintendent of public instruction to the  
22 serving college rather than to the school district, unless the college  
23 chooses to continue to receive the allocations through the school  
24 districts. This section does not apply to students enrolled in the  
25 running start program established in RCW 28A.600.310 or the college in  
26 the high school program established in section 2 of this act.

27 **Sec. 5.** RCW 28A.225.290 and 1990 1st ex.s. c 9 s 207 are each  
28 amended to read as follows:

29 (1) The superintendent of public instruction shall prepare and  
30 annually distribute an information booklet outlining parents' and  
31 guardians' enrollment options for their children.

32 (2) Before the 1991-92 school year, the booklet shall be  
33 distributed to all school districts by the office of the superintendent  
34 of public instruction. School districts shall have a copy of the

1 information booklet available for public inspection at each school in  
2 the district, at the district office, and in public libraries.

3 (3) The booklet shall include:

4 (a) Information about enrollment options and program opportunities,  
5 including but not limited to programs in RCW 28A.225.220, 28A.185.040,  
6 28A.225.200 through 28A.225.215, 28A.225.230 through 28A.225.250,  
7 (~~28A.175.090~~) 28A.340.010 through 28A.340.070 (small high school  
8 cooperative projects), and 28A.335.160.

9 (b) Information about the running start - community college or  
10 vocational-technical institute choice program under RCW 28A.600.300  
11 through (~~28A.600.395~~) 28A.600.400 and about the college in the high  
12 school program under section 2 of this act; and

13 (c) Information about the seventh and eighth grade choice program  
14 under RCW 28A.230.090.

15 (4) The booklet may be distributed in an electronic format.

16 **Sec. 6.** RCW 28A.600.160 and 1998 c 225 s 2 are each amended to  
17 read as follows:

18 Any middle school, junior high school, or high school using  
19 educational pathways shall ensure that all participating students will  
20 continue to have access to the courses and instruction necessary to  
21 meet admission requirements at baccalaureate institutions. Students  
22 shall be allowed to enter the educational pathway of their choice.  
23 Before accepting a student into an educational pathway, the school  
24 shall inform the student's parent of the pathway chosen, the  
25 opportunities available to the student through the pathway, and the  
26 career objectives the student will have exposure to while pursuing the  
27 pathway. Parents and students dissatisfied with the opportunities  
28 available through the selected educational pathway shall be provided  
29 with the opportunity to transfer the student to any other pathway  
30 provided in the school. Schools may not develop educational pathways  
31 that retain students in high school beyond the date they are eligible  
32 to graduate, and may not require students who transfer between pathways  
33 to complete pathway requirements beyond the date the student is  
34 eligible to graduate. Educational pathways may include, but are not  
35 limited to, programs such as work-based learning, school-to-work  
36 transition, tech prep, vocational-technical education, running start,

1 college in the high school, and preparation for technical college,  
2 community college, or university education.

3 **Sec. 7.** RCW 28A.600.300 and 2005 c 207 s 5 are each amended to  
4 read as follows:

5 (1) The program established in this section through RCW 28A.600.400  
6 shall be known as the running start program.

7 (2) For the purposes of RCW 28A.600.310 through 28A.600.400,  
8 "participating institution of higher education" or "institution of  
9 higher education" means:

10 ~~((1))~~ (a) A community or technical college as defined in RCW  
11 28B.50.030;

12 ~~((2))~~ (b) A public tribal college located in Washington and  
13 accredited by the northwest commission on colleges and universities or  
14 another accrediting association recognized by the United States  
15 department of education; and

16 ~~((3))~~ (c) Central Washington University, Eastern Washington  
17 University, Washington State University, and The Evergreen State  
18 College, if the institution's governing board decides to participate in  
19 the program in RCW 28A.600.310 through 28A.600.400.

--- END ---