
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1779

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2007 Regular Session

By House Committee on Higher Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Wallace, Dunn, Haigh, Kenney, Hasegawa, B. Sullivan, McDermott, Takko, Roberts, P. Sullivan, Fromhold, Quall, Simpson, Lantz, Hudgins, Kagi, Santos, Ormsby and Morrell)

READ FIRST TIME 02/20/07.

1 AN ACT Relating to the GET ready for math and science scholarship
2 program; amending RCW 28B.95.060; reenacting and amending RCW
3 43.79A.040; adding a new section to chapter 28B.95 RCW; and adding a
4 new chapter to Title 28B RCW.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The GET ready for math and science
7 scholarship program is established. The purpose of the program is to
8 provide scholarships to students who achieve level four on the
9 mathematics or science portions of the tenth grade Washington
10 assessment of student learning, major in a mathematics, science, or
11 related field in college, and commit to working in mathematics,
12 science, or a related field for at least three years in Washington
13 following completion of their bachelor's degree. The program shall be
14 administered by the nonprofit organization selected as the private
15 partner in the public-private partnership.

16 (2) The total annual amount of each GET ready for math and science
17 scholarship may vary, but shall not exceed the annual cost of resident
18 undergraduate tuition fees and mandatory fees at the University of

1 Washington. For full-time students, the amount of the scholarship
2 shall be as follows:

3 (a) Students with family incomes less than or equal to one hundred
4 percent of the state's median family income shall receive the maximum
5 scholarship award for the institution attended;

6 (b) Students whose incomes are greater than one hundred percent,
7 but less than or equal to one hundred fifty percent, of the state's
8 median family income shall receive fifty percent of the maximum award
9 for the institution attended; and

10 (c) Students whose incomes are greater than one hundred fifty
11 percent, but less than or equal to two hundred percent, of the state's
12 median family income shall receive twenty-five percent of the maximum
13 award for the institution attended.

14 (3) An eligible recipient may receive a GET ready for math and
15 science scholarship for up to one hundred eighty quarter credits, or
16 the semester equivalent, or for up to five years, whichever comes
17 first.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The definitions in this section apply
19 throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

20 (1) "Board" means the higher education coordinating board.

21 (2) "GET units" means tuition units under the advanced college
22 tuition payment program in chapter 28B.95 RCW.

23 (3) "Institution of higher education" has the same meaning as in
24 RCW 28B.92.030.

25 (4) "Program administrator" means the private nonprofit corporation
26 that is registered under Title 24 RCW and qualified as a tax-exempt
27 entity under section 501(c)(3) of the federal internal revenue code,
28 that will serve as the private partner in the public-private
29 partnership under this chapter.

30 (5) "Qualified program" or "qualified major" means a mathematics,
31 science, or related degree program or major line of study offered by an
32 institution of higher education that is included on the list of
33 programs or majors selected by the board and the program administrator
34 under section 9 of this act.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) An eligible student is a student who:

1 (a) Is eligible for resident tuition and fee rates as defined in
2 RCW 28B.15.012;

3 (b) Achieved level four on the mathematics or science portion of
4 the tenth grade Washington assessment of student learning;

5 (c) Has a family income at or below one hundred twenty-five percent
6 of the state median family income at the time the student applies for
7 a GET ready for math and science scholarship and for up to the two
8 previous years;

9 (d) Has declared an intention to complete a qualified program or
10 qualified major or has entered a qualified program or declared a
11 qualified major at an institution of higher education;

12 (e) Has declared an intention to work in a mathematics, science, or
13 related field in Washington for at least three years immediately
14 following completion of a bachelor's degree or higher degree.

15 (2) An eligible recipient is an eligible student who:

16 (a) Enrolls at an institution of higher education within one year
17 of graduating from high school;

18 (b) Maintains satisfactory academic progress, as defined by the
19 institution of higher education where the student is enrolled;

20 (c) Takes at least one college-level mathematics or science course
21 each term since enrolling in an institution of higher education; and

22 (d) Enters a qualified program or qualified major no later than the
23 end of the first term in which the student has junior level standing.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) If the student enrolls in a qualified
25 program or declares a qualified major and the program or major is
26 subsequently removed from the list of qualified programs and qualified
27 majors by the board and the program administrator, the student's
28 eligibility to receive a GET ready for math and science scholarship
29 shall not be affected.

30 (2) If a student who received a GET ready for math and science
31 scholarship ceases to be enrolled in an institution of higher
32 education, withdraws or is no longer enrolled in a qualified program,
33 declares a major that is not a qualified major, or otherwise is no
34 longer eligible to receive a GET ready for math and science
35 scholarship, the student shall notify the program administrator as soon
36 as practicable and is not eligible for further GET ready for math and

1 science scholarship awards. Such a student shall also repay the amount
2 of the GET ready for math and science scholarship awarded to the
3 student as required by section 5 of this act.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** (1) A recipient of a GET ready for math and
5 science scholarship incurs an obligation to repay the scholarship, with
6 interest and an equalization fee, if he or she does not:

7 (a) Graduate with a bachelor's degree from a qualified program or
8 in a qualified major within five years of first enrolling at an
9 institution of higher education; and

10 (b) Work in Washington in a mathematics, science, or related
11 occupation full time for at least three years following completion of
12 a bachelor's degree, unless he or she is enrolled in a graduate degree
13 program as provided in subsection (4) of this section.

14 (2) A former scholarship recipient who has earned a bachelor's
15 degree shall annually verify to the board that he or she is working
16 full time in a mathematics, science, or related field for three years.

17 (3) If a former scholarship recipient begins but then stops working
18 full time in a mathematics, science, or related field within three
19 years following completion of a bachelor's degree, he or she shall pay
20 back a prorated portion of the amount of the GET ready for math and
21 science scholarship award received by the recipient, plus interest and
22 a prorated equalization fee.

23 (4) A recipient may postpone for up to three years his or her in-
24 state work obligation if he or she enrolls full time in a graduate
25 degree program in mathematics, science, or a related field.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The office of the superintendent of public
27 instruction shall:

28 (1) Notify elementary, middle, junior high, and high school
29 students, parents, teachers, counselors, principals, and the children's
30 administration of the department of social and health services about
31 the GET ready for math and science scholarship program;

32 (2) Notify students who achieve level four of the mathematics or
33 science Washington assessment of student learning in tenth grade that
34 they may be eligible to apply for a GET ready for math and science
35 scholarship and provide them with contact information for the program
36 administrator;

1 (3) Notify the program administrator and the board, as early as
2 possible during the fall of the students' junior year in high school,
3 of the names and contact information of all students who achieved level
4 four on the mathematics or science Washington assessment of student
5 learning during tenth grade so that the program administrator may
6 provide them with scholarship information; and

7 (4) Provide data showing the race, ethnicity, income, and other
8 available demographic information of students who achieve level four of
9 the math and science Washington assessment of student learning in the
10 tenth grade. Compare those data with comparable information on the
11 tenth grade student population as a whole. Submit a report with the
12 analysis to the committees responsible for education and higher
13 education in the legislature on December 1st of even-numbered years.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** The board shall:

15 (1) Purchase GET units to be owned and held in trust by the board,
16 for the purpose of scholarship awards as provided for in this section;

17 (2) Distribute scholarship funds, in the form of GET units or
18 through direct payments from the GET ready for math and science
19 scholarship account, to institutions of higher education on behalf of
20 eligible recipients identified by the program administrator;

21 (3) Provide the program administrator with annual reports regarding
22 enrollment, contact, and graduation information of GET ready for math
23 and science scholarship recipients, if the recipients have given
24 permission for the board to do so;

25 (4) Collect repayments from former scholarship recipients who do
26 not meet the eligibility criteria or work obligations; and

27 (5) Establish rules for scholarship repayment, approved leaves of
28 absence, deferments, and exceptions to recognize extenuating
29 circumstances that may impact students.

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** The program administrator shall:

31 (1) Recruit a minimum of eight private partners to provide input
32 into the development and administration of the GET ready for math and
33 science program;

34 (2) Solicit and accept grants and donations from private sources to
35 match state funds appropriated for the GET ready for math and science
36 scholarship program;

1 (3) Develop and implement an application, selection, and
2 notification process for awarding GET ready for math and science
3 scholarships;

4 (4) Notify institutions of higher education of scholarship
5 recipients who will attend their institutions and inform them of the
6 terms of the students' eligibility; and

7 (5) Report to private donors on the program outcomes and facilitate
8 contact between scholarship recipients and donors, if the recipients
9 have given the program administrator permission to do so, in order for
10 donors to offer employment opportunities, internships, and career
11 information to recipients.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** The board and the program administrator
13 shall jointly determine criteria for qualifying undergraduate programs,
14 majors, and courses leading to a bachelor's degree in mathematics,
15 science, or a related field, offered by institutions of higher
16 education. The board shall publish the criteria for qualified courses,
17 and lists of qualified programs and qualified majors on its web site on
18 a biennial basis.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** (1) The GET ready for math and science
20 scholarship account is created in the custody of the state treasurer.

21 (2) The board shall deposit into the account all money received for
22 the GET ready for math and science scholarship program from
23 appropriations and private sources. The account shall be
24 self-sustaining.

25 (3) Expenditures from the account shall be used for scholarships to
26 eligible students and for purchases of GET units. Purchased GET units
27 shall be owned and held in trust by the board. Expenditures from the
28 account shall be an equal match of state appropriations and private
29 funds raised by the program administrator.

30 (4) With the exception of the operating costs associated with the
31 management of the account by the treasurer's office as authorized in
32 chapter 43.79A RCW, the account shall be credited with all investment
33 income earned by the account.

34 (5) Disbursements from the account are exempt from appropriations
35 and the allotment provisions of chapter 43.88 RCW.

1 (6) Disbursements from the account shall be made only on the
2 authorization of the board.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.95
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 Ownership of tuition units purchased by the higher education
6 coordinating board for the GET ready for math and science scholarship
7 program under section 7 of this act shall be in the name of the state
8 of Washington and may be redeemed by the state of Washington on behalf
9 of recipients of GET ready for math and science scholarship program
10 scholarships for tuition and fees.

11 **Sec. 12.** RCW 28B.95.060 and 2000 c 14 s 5 are each amended to read
12 as follows:

13 (1) The Washington advanced college tuition payment program account
14 is created in the custody of the state treasurer. The account shall be
15 a discrete nontreasury account retaining its interest earnings in
16 accordance with RCW 43.79A.040.

17 (2)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, the governing
18 body shall deposit in the account all money received for the program.
19 The account shall be self-sustaining and consist of payments received
20 from purchasers of tuition units and funds received from other sources,
21 public or private. With the exception of investment and operating
22 costs associated with the investment of money by the investment board
23 paid under RCW 43.33A.160 and 43.84.160, the account shall be credited
24 with all investment income earned by the account. Disbursements from
25 the account are exempt from appropriations and the allotment provisions
26 of chapter 43.88 RCW. Money used for program administration is subject
27 to the allotment of all expenditures. However, an appropriation is not
28 required for such expenditures. Program administration shall include,
29 but not be limited to: The salaries and expenses of the program
30 personnel including lease payments, travel, and goods and services
31 necessary for program operation; contracts for program promotion and
32 advertisement, audits, and account management; and other general costs
33 of conducting the business of the program.

34 (b) All money received by the program from the higher education
35 coordinating board for the GET ready for math and science scholarship

1 program shall be deposited in the GET ready for math and science
2 scholarship account created in section 10 of this act.

3 (3) The assets of the account may be spent without appropriation
4 for the purpose of making payments to institutions of higher education
5 on behalf of the qualified beneficiaries, making refunds, transfers, or
6 direct payments upon the termination of the Washington advanced college
7 tuition payment program. Disbursements from the account shall be made
8 only on the authorization of the governing body.

9 (4) With regard to the assets of the account, the state acts in a
10 fiduciary, not ownership, capacity. Therefore the assets of the
11 program are not considered state money, common cash, or revenue to the
12 state.

13 **Sec. 13.** RCW 43.79A.040 and 2006 c 311 s 21 and 2006 c 120 s 2 are
14 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

15 (1) Money in the treasurer's trust fund may be deposited, invested,
16 and reinvested by the state treasurer in accordance with RCW 43.84.080
17 in the same manner and to the same extent as if the money were in the
18 state treasury.

19 (2) All income received from investment of the treasurer's trust
20 fund shall be set aside in an account in the treasury trust fund to be
21 known as the investment income account.

22 (3) The investment income account may be utilized for the payment
23 of purchased banking services on behalf of treasurer's trust funds
24 including, but not limited to, depository, safekeeping, and
25 disbursement functions for the state treasurer or affected state
26 agencies. The investment income account is subject in all respects to
27 chapter 43.88 RCW, but no appropriation is required for payments to
28 financial institutions. Payments shall occur prior to distribution of
29 earnings set forth in subsection (4) of this section.

30 (4)(a) Monthly, the state treasurer shall distribute the earnings
31 credited to the investment income account to the state general fund
32 except under (b) and (c) of this subsection.

33 (b) The following accounts and funds shall receive their
34 proportionate share of earnings based upon each account's or fund's
35 average daily balance for the period: The Washington promise
36 scholarship account, the college savings program account, the
37 Washington advanced college tuition payment program account, the

1 agricultural local fund, the American Indian scholarship endowment
2 fund, the foster care scholarship endowment fund, the foster care
3 endowed scholarship trust fund, the students with dependents grant
4 account, the basic health plan self-insurance reserve account, the
5 contract harvesting revolving account, the Washington state combined
6 fund drive account, the commemorative works account, the Washington
7 international exchange scholarship endowment fund, the developmental
8 disabilities endowment trust fund, the energy account, the fair fund,
9 the fruit and vegetable inspection account, the future teachers
10 conditional scholarship account, the game farm alternative account, the
11 GET ready for math and science scholarship account, the grain
12 inspection revolving fund, the juvenile accountability incentive
13 account, the law enforcement officers' and fire fighters' plan 2
14 expense fund, the local tourism promotion account, the produce railcar
15 pool account, the regional transportation investment district account,
16 the rural rehabilitation account, the stadium and exhibition center
17 account, the youth athletic facility account, the self-insurance
18 revolving fund, the sulfur dioxide abatement account, the children's
19 trust fund, the Washington horse racing commission Washington bred
20 owners' bonus fund account, the Washington horse racing commission
21 class C purse fund account, the individual development account program
22 account, the Washington horse racing commission operating account
23 (earnings from the Washington horse racing commission operating account
24 must be credited to the Washington horse racing commission class C
25 purse fund account), the life sciences discovery fund, and the reading
26 achievement account. However, the earnings to be distributed shall
27 first be reduced by the allocation to the state treasurer's service
28 fund pursuant to RCW 43.08.190.

29 (c) The following accounts and funds shall receive eighty percent
30 of their proportionate share of earnings based upon each account's or
31 fund's average daily balance for the period: The advanced right of way
32 revolving fund, the advanced environmental mitigation revolving
33 account, the city and county advance right-of-way revolving fund, the
34 federal narcotics asset forfeitures account, the high occupancy vehicle
35 account, the local rail service assistance account, and the
36 miscellaneous transportation programs account.

37 (5) In conformance with Article II, section 37 of the state

1 Constitution, no trust accounts or funds shall be allocated earnings
2 without the specific affirmative directive of this section.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 14.** Sections 1 through 10 of this act
4 constitute a new chapter in Title 28B RCW.

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