

---

SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1779

---

State of Washington

60th Legislature

2007 Regular Session

**By** House Committee on Appropriations (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 3/5/07.

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 or achieve a score in the math section  
11 of the SAT or the math section of the ACT that is above the ninety-  
12 fifth percentile, major in a mathematics, science, or related field in  
13 college, and commit to working in mathematics, science, or a related  
14 field for at least three years in Washington following completion of  
15 their bachelor's degree. The program shall be administered by the  
16 nonprofit organization selected as the private partner in the public-  
17 private partnership.

18 (2) The total annual amount of each GET ready for math and science  
19 scholarship may vary, but shall not exceed the annual cost of resident

1 undergraduate tuition fees and mandatory fees at the University of  
2 Washington. For full-time students, the amount of the scholarship  
3 shall be as follows:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

36 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 or achieved  
5 a score in the math section of the SAT or the math section of the ACT  
6 that is above the ninety-fifth percentile;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 as practicable and is not eligible for further GET ready for math and  
2 science scholarship awards. Such a student shall also repay the amount  
3 of the GET ready for math and science scholarship awarded to the  
4 student as required by section 5 of this act.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

33 (2) Notify students who achieve level four of the mathematics or  
34 science Washington assessment of student learning in tenth grade that  
35 they may be eligible to apply for a GET ready for math and science

1 scholarship and provide them with contact information for the program  
2 administrator;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1       (b) All money received by the program from the higher education  
2 coordinating board for the GET ready for math and science scholarship  
3 program shall be deposited in the GET ready for math and science  
4 scholarship account created in section 10 of this act.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

35       (b) The following accounts and funds shall receive their  
36 proportionate share of earnings based upon each account's or fund's  
37 average daily balance for the period: The Washington promise



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

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

1           (5) In conformance with Article II, section 37 of the state  
2 Constitution, no trust accounts or funds shall be allocated earnings  
3 without the specific affirmative directive of this section.

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

--- END ---