
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1522

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2011 Regular Session

By House Higher Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Kenney, Haler, Maxwell, Probst, Haigh, Hasegawa, Frockt, Santos, Reykdal, Goodman, Ormsby, and Moscoso)

READ FIRST TIME 02/11/11.

1 AN ACT Relating to academic credit for prior learning; and adding
2 a new section to chapter 28B.76 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.76 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) The board, the state board for community and technical
7 colleges, the council of presidents, the four-year institutions of
8 higher education, the private independent higher education
9 institutions, and the private career schools shall collaborate to carry
10 out the following goals:

11 (a) Increase the number of students who receive academic credit for
12 prior learning and the number of students who receive credit for prior
13 learning that counts towards their major or towards earning their
14 degree, certificate, or credential, while ensuring that credit is
15 awarded only for high quality, course-level competencies;

16 (b) Increase the number and type of academic credits accepted for
17 prior learning in institutions of higher education, while ensuring that
18 credit is awarded only for high quality, course-level competencies;

1 (c) Develop transparent policies and practices in awarding academic
2 credit for prior learning;

3 (d) Improve prior learning assessment practices across the
4 institutions of higher education;

5 (e) Create tools to develop faculty and staff knowledge and
6 expertise in awarding credit for prior learning and to share exemplary
7 policies and practices among institutions of higher education;

8 (f) Develop articulation agreements when patterns of credit for
9 prior learning are identified for particular programs and pathways; and

10 (g) Develop outcome measures to track progress on the goals
11 outlined in this section.

12 (2) The board shall convene the academic credit for prior learning
13 work group.

14 (a) The work group must include the following members in addition
15 to representation from the board:

16 (i) The state board for community and technical colleges;

17 (ii) The workforce training and education coordinating board;

18 (iii) The council of presidents;

19 (iv) Representatives from Washington institutions of higher
20 education;

21 (v) Representatives from faculty of two and four-year institutions
22 of higher education;

23 (vi) Representatives from private career schools; and

24 (vii) Representatives from business and labor.

25 (b) The purpose of the work group is to coordinate and implement
26 the goals in subsection (1) of this section.

27 (3) The board shall report progress on the goals and outcome
28 measures annually by December 31st. All entities listed in subsection
29 (2)(a) of this section shall collaborate with the board to provide
30 information for tracking purposes.

31 (4) The office of financial management shall work with the board,
32 the state board for community and technical colleges, and the four-year
33 institutions of higher education to track the number of students
34 receiving academic credit for prior learning and the type of credit
35 awarded at institutions of higher education. This information shall be
36 included among the outcomes tracked in RCW 43.41.400(2)(f) beginning in
37 2013.

1 (5) For the purposes of this section, "prior learning" means the
2 knowledge and skills gained through work and life experience; through
3 military training and experience; and through formal and informal
4 education and training from in-state and out-of-state institutions
5 including foreign institutions.

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