
HOUSE BILL 1608

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2011 Regular Session

By Representatives Billig, Probst, Haigh, Santos, Seaquist, Anderson, Haler, Maxwell, Dammeier, Sells, Carlyle, Sullivan, Ladenburg, Dahlquist, Frockt, Fitzgibbon, Ryu, Orwall, Moscoso, Stanford, Jinkins, Ormsby, Jacks, McCoy, Appleton, Kelley, Van De Wege, Clibborn, Kenney, Roberts, Upthegrove, Goodman, Hasegawa, and Tharinger

Read first time 01/26/11. Referred to Committee on Labor & Workforce Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to modifying the opportunity internship program;
2 amending RCW 28C.18.162, 28C.18.164, 28C.18.166, and 28B.92.084;
3 amending 2009 c 238 s 11 (uncodified); and reenacting and amending RCW
4 28B.92.030.

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

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28C.18.162 and 2009 c 238 s 3 are each amended to read
7 as follows:

8 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in
9 this section apply throughout this section and RCW 28C.18.160 and
10 28C.18.164 through 28C.18.168.

11 (1) "High-demand occupation" means an occupation with a substantial
12 number of current or projected employment opportunities.

13 (2) "Low-income high school student" means a student who is
14 enrolled in (~~grades~~) grade ten, eleven, or twelve in a public high
15 school and who (~~qualifies for federal free or reduced price meals~~):

16 (a) Would qualify for a state need grant under chapter 28B.92 RCW on
17 the basis of financial need; or (b) qualifies to participate in the
18 title I-B youth program under the federal workforce investment act of
19 1988. If a student qualifies at the time the student begins

1 participating in the opportunity internship program, the student
2 remains eligible even if the student (~~does not receive free or~~
3 ~~reduced-price meals~~) would not qualify thereafter. To participate in
4 the program, the student must remain enrolled in high school until the
5 student receives a high school diploma or receives a GED.

6 (3) "Opportunity internship consortium" means a local consortium
7 formed for the purpose of participating in the opportunity internship
8 program and which may be composed of a local workforce development
9 council, economic development council, area high schools, community or
10 technical colleges, apprenticeship councils, preapprenticeship programs
11 such as running start for the trades, private vocational schools
12 licensed under chapter 28C.10 RCW, public and private four-year
13 institutions of higher education, employers in targeted industries, and
14 labor organizations.

15 (4) "Opportunity internship graduate" means a low-income high
16 school student who successfully completes an opportunity internship
17 program and either graduates from high school or receives a GED.

18 (5) "Postsecondary program of study" means an undergraduate or
19 graduate certificate, apprenticeship, or degree program.

20 (6) "Preapprenticeship" means a program of at least ninety hours
21 and not more than one hundred eighty hours in length that provides
22 practical experience, education, preparation, and the development of
23 skills that would be beneficial for entry into (~~state-approved~~
24 ~~apprenticeship programs~~) a state or federally approved apprenticeship,
25 including but not limited to construction industry structure and the
26 construction process; orientation to state-approved apprenticeship;
27 tools of the various trades and safe handling of power tools; and
28 industry standards of safety, responsibility, and craft excellence.

29 (7) "Targeted industry" means a business or industry identified by
30 a local workforce development council as having high-demand occupations
31 that require candidates to have completed a postsecondary program of
32 study.

33 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28C.18.164 and 2010 1st sp.s. c 24 s 4 are each
34 amended to read as follows:

35 (1) Opportunity internship consortia may apply to the board to
36 offer an opportunity internship program.

1 (a) The board, in consultation with the Washington state
2 apprenticeship and training council, may select those consortia that
3 demonstrate the strongest commitment and readiness to implement a high
4 quality opportunity internship program for low-income high school
5 students. The board shall place a priority on consortia with
6 demonstrated experience working with similar populations of students
7 and demonstrated capacity to assist a large number of students through
8 the progression of internship or preapprenticeship, high school
9 graduation or receipt of a GED, postsecondary education, and retention
10 in a high-demand occupation. The board shall place a priority on
11 programs that emphasize secondary career and technical education and
12 nonbaccalaureate postsecondary education; however, programs that target
13 four-year postsecondary degrees are eligible to participate.

14 (b)(i) Except as provided in (b)(ii) of this subsection (1), the
15 board shall enter into a contract with each consortium selected to
16 participate in the program. No more than ten consortia per year shall
17 be selected to participate in the program, and to the extent possible,
18 the board shall assure a geographic distribution of consortia in
19 regions across the state emphasizing a variety of targeted industries.
20 Each consortium may select no more than one hundred low-income high
21 school students per year to participate in the program.

22 (ii) For fiscal years 2011 through 2013, the board shall enter into
23 a contract with each consortium selected to participate in the program.
24 No more than twelve consortia per year shall be selected to participate
25 in the program, and to the extent possible, the board shall assure a
26 geographic distribution of consortia in regions across the state
27 emphasizing a variety of targeted industries. No more than five
28 thousand low-income high school students per year may be selected to
29 participate in the program.

30 (2) Under the terms of an opportunity internship program contract,
31 an opportunity internship consortium shall commit to the following
32 activities which shall be conducted using existing federal, state,
33 local, or private funds available to the consortium:

34 (a) Identify high-demand occupations in targeted industries for
35 which opportunity internships or preapprenticeships shall be developed
36 and provided;

37 (b) Develop and implement the components of opportunity
38 internships, including paid or unpaid internships or preapprenticeships

1 of at least ninety hours in length in high-demand occupations with
2 employers in the consortium, mentoring and guidance for students who
3 participate in the program, assistance with applications for
4 postsecondary programs and financial aid, and a guarantee of a job
5 interview with a participating employer for all opportunity internship
6 graduates who successfully complete a postsecondary program of study;

7 (c) Once the internship or preapprenticeship components have been
8 developed, conduct outreach efforts to inform low-income high school
9 students about high-demand occupations, the opportunity internship
10 program, options for postsecondary programs of study, and the
11 incentives and opportunities provided to students who participate in
12 the program;

13 (d) Obtain appropriate documentation of the low-income status of
14 students who participate in the program;

15 (e) Award each opportunity internship graduate with the certificate
16 produced by the higher education coordinating board under RCW
17 28B.92.084 that notifies graduates of their eligibility for a state
18 need grant;

19 (f) Maintain communication with opportunity internship graduates of
20 the consortium who enroll in postsecondary programs of study; and

21 ((+f)) (g) Submit an annual report to the board on the progress of
22 and participation in the opportunity internship program of the
23 consortium.

24 (3) Opportunity internship consortia are encouraged to:

25 (a) Provide paid opportunity internships or preapprenticeships,
26 including during the summer months to encourage students to stay
27 enrolled in high school;

28 (b) Work with high schools to offer opportunity internships as
29 approved worksite learning experiences where students can earn high
30 school credit;

31 (c) Designate the local workforce development council as fiscal
32 agent for the opportunity internship program contract;

33 (d) Work with area high schools to incorporate the opportunity
34 internship program into comprehensive guidance and counseling programs
35 such as the navigation 101 program; ((and))

36 (e) Coordinate the opportunity internship program with other
37 workforce development and postsecondary education programs, including

1 opportunity grants, the college bound scholarship program, federal
2 workforce investment act initiatives, and college access challenge
3 grants; and

4 (f) Provide stipends or financial incentives for internship
5 completion.

6 (4) The board shall seek federal funds that may be used to support
7 the opportunity internship program, including providing the incentive
8 payments under RCW 28C.18.168.

9 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28C.18.166 and 2009 c 238 s 5 are each amended to read
10 as follows:

11 On an annual basis, each opportunity internship consortium shall
12 provide the board with a list of the opportunity internship graduates
13 from the consortium. The board shall compile the lists from all
14 consortia and shall notify the higher education coordinating board of
15 the eligibility of each graduate on the lists to receive a state need
16 grant under chapter 28B.92 RCW if the graduate enrolls in a
17 postsecondary program of study within one year of high school
18 graduation or completion of a GED.

19 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28B.92.030 and 2009 c 238 s 7 and 2009 c 215 s 5 are
20 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

21 As used in this chapter:

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

23 (2) "Disadvantaged student" means a post high school student who by
24 reason of adverse cultural, educational, environmental, experiential,
25 familial or other circumstances is unable to qualify for enrollment as
26 a full-time student in an institution of higher education, who would
27 otherwise qualify as a needy student, and who is attending an
28 institution of higher education under an established program designed
29 to qualify the student for enrollment as a full-time student.

30 (3) "Financial aid" means loans and/or grants to needy students
31 enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a student at institutions of
32 higher education.

33 (4) "Institution" or "institutions of higher education" means:

34 (a) Any public university, college, community college, or technical
35 college operated by the state of Washington or any political
36 subdivision thereof; or

1 (b) Any other university, college, school, or institute in the
2 state of Washington offering instruction beyond the high school level
3 which is a member institution of an accrediting association recognized
4 by rule of the board for the purposes of this section: PROVIDED, That
5 any institution, branch, extension or facility operating within the
6 state of Washington which is affiliated with an institution operating
7 in another state must be a separately accredited member institution of
8 any such accrediting association, or a branch of a member institution
9 of an accrediting association recognized by rule of the board for
10 purposes of this section, that is eligible for federal student
11 financial aid assistance and has operated as a nonprofit college or
12 university delivering on-site classroom instruction for a minimum of
13 twenty consecutive years within the state of Washington, and has an
14 annual enrollment of at least seven hundred full-time equivalent
15 students: PROVIDED FURTHER, That no institution of higher education
16 shall be eligible to participate in a student financial aid program
17 unless it agrees to and complies with program rules and regulations
18 adopted pursuant to RCW 28B.92.150.

19 (5) "Needy student" means a post high school student of an
20 institution of higher education who demonstrates to the board the
21 financial inability, either through the student's parents, family
22 and/or personally, to meet the total cost of board, room, books, and
23 tuition and incidental fees for any semester or quarter. "Needy
24 student" also means an opportunity internship graduate as defined by
25 RCW 28C.18.162 who enrolls in a postsecondary program of study as
26 defined in RCW 28C.18.162 within one year of high school graduation or
27 receipt of a GED.

28 (6) "Placebound student" means a student who (a) is unable to
29 complete a college program because of family or employment commitments,
30 health concerns, monetary inability, or other similar factors; and (b)
31 may be influenced by the receipt of an enhanced student financial aid
32 award to complete a baccalaureate degree at an eligible institution.

33 **Sec. 5.** RCW 28B.92.084 and 2009 c 238 s 8 are each amended to read
34 as follows:

35 (1) The board shall work with institutions of higher education to
36 assure that the institutions are aware of the eligibility of
37 opportunity internship graduates for an award under this chapter. The

1 board shall also create certificates that notify opportunity internship
2 graduates of their eligibility for an award under this chapter and the
3 importance of early filing of the free application for federal student
4 aid to secure their eligibility. The board shall provide the
5 certificates to opportunity internship consortia for distribution.

6 (2) If an opportunity internship graduate enrolls within one year
7 of high school graduation or receipt of a GED in a postsecondary
8 program of study in an institution of higher education, including in an
9 apprenticeship program with related and supplemental instruction
10 provided through an institution of higher education, the graduate is
11 eligible to receive a state need grant for up to one year. The
12 graduate shall not be required to be enrolled on at least a half-time
13 basis. The related and supplemental instruction provided to a graduate
14 through an apprenticeship program shall not be required to lead to a
15 degree or certificate.

16 (3) Except for the eligibility criteria for an opportunity
17 internship graduate that are provided under this section, other rules
18 pertaining to award of a state need grant apply.

19 (4) Nothing in this section precludes an opportunity internship
20 graduate from being eligible to receive additional state need grants
21 after the one-year grant provided in this section if the graduate meets
22 other criteria as a needy or disadvantaged student.

23 **Sec. 6.** 2009 c 238 s 11 (uncodified) is amended to read as
24 follows:

25 (1) The workforce training and education coordinating board shall
26 conduct an outcome evaluation of opportunity internship programs. At
27 a minimum, the analysis shall examine the financial benefits of on-time
28 graduation, youth employment while in high school, postsecondary
29 education enrollment and completion, and adult employment in high-
30 demand occupations compared to the local and state costs of the
31 programs.

32 (2) The board shall submit a preliminary analysis to the governor
33 and the education and higher education committees of the legislature by
34 December 1, 2012, and a final analysis by December 1, 2014. The board
35 shall include in its final analysis whether the performance of the
36 opportunity internship program warrants expanding participation to

1 include students from middle-income families who do not qualify under
2 the income criteria for the program.

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