
HOUSE BILL 1823

State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2013 Regular Session

By Representatives Sells, Tarleton, Seaquist, Maxwell, Smith, Bergquist, Fey, and Santos

Read first time 02/11/13. Referred to Committee on Labor & Workforce Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to centers of excellence; and amending RCW
2 28B.50.902.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28B.50.902 and 2011 1st sp.s. c 14 s 6 are each
5 amended to read as follows:

6 (1) The college board, in consultation with business, industry,
7 labor, the workforce training and education coordinating board, the
8 department of commerce, the employment security department, the council
9 of presidents, and (~~community and technical colleges~~) institutions of
10 higher education, shall designate centers of excellence and allocate
11 funds to existing and new centers of excellence (~~based~~) on a
12 competitive basis.

13 (2) Eligible applicants for the program established under this
14 section include community and technical colleges. Priority shall be
15 given to applicants that have an established education and training
16 program serving the targeted industry, have networked effectively with
17 both secondary and baccalaureate institutions on developing a talent
18 pipeline for the targeted industry, and that have in their home

1 district or region an industry cluster with the same targeted industry
2 at its core.

3 (3) It is the role of centers of excellence to ~~((employ~~
4 ~~strategies))~~ be central sources of information regarding education and
5 training services available to meet the needs of strategic industry
6 sectors, and a communication conduit to Washington's education system
7 about industry trends, in order to:

8 (a) Build a diverse, competitive workforce for strategic
9 industries;

10 (b) Serve as one-stop sources of information for employers
11 regarding education and training programs that prepare workers for
12 strategic industries;

13 (c) Serve as an information entry point for prospective students
14 and job seekers regarding education, training, and employment in
15 strategic industries;

16 (d) Engage employer and labor representatives from strategic
17 industries in identifying industry needs for a skilled and educated
18 workforce and developing and implementing action plans that address
19 those needs;

20 (e) Create educational efficiencies;

21 ~~((b) Build a diverse, competitive workforce for strategic~~
22 ~~industries;~~

23 ~~(e))~~ (f) Maintain an institutional reputation for innovation and
24 responsiveness;

25 ~~((d))~~ (g) Develop innovative curriculum and means of delivering
26 education and training;

27 ~~((e))~~ (h) Identify industry skill standards and industry-based
28 certifications;

29 (i) Facilitate the creation of model programs of study that are
30 secondary and postsecondary sequences of education and training that
31 prepare students for careers in strategic industries;

32 (j) Act as brokers of information and resources related to
33 ~~((community and technical college))~~ education and training and
34 assistance available for firms in a targeted industry, including
35 working with ~~((innovate Washington to develop methods to identify~~
36 ~~businesses within a targeted industry that could benefit from the~~
37 ~~services offered by innovate Washington under chapter 43.333 RCW))~~ K-12
38 schools, colleges and universities, and apprenticeship programs; and

1 ((+f+)) (k) Serve as partners with workforce development councils,
2 associate development organizations, and other workforce and economic
3 development organizations; and coordinate with industry assistance
4 organizations including impact Washington and innovate Washington in
5 order to connect businesses within the targeted industries to business
6 services.

7 (4) Examples of strategies under subsection (3) of this section
8 include but are not limited to: Sharing curriculum and other
9 instructional resources, to ensure cost savings to the system;
10 delivering collaborative certificate and degree programs; ~~((and))~~
11 holding statewide summits, seminars, conferences, and workshops on
12 industry trends and best practices in ~~((community and technical~~
13 ~~college))~~ education and training; and coordinating industry-based
14 certifications.

15 (5) The centers of excellence shall seek federal funds and private
16 gifts and grants to supplement state resources for the purpose of
17 performing the strategies identified in subsections (3) and (4) of this
18 section.

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