

E2SHB 1546 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education

NOT ADOPTED 4/15/2015

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that Washington has
4 been a front-runner in dual credit innovation through the
5 establishment of the running start and college in the high school
6 programs, and has continued to expand student choices in dual credit
7 programs.

8 In Washington, a range of dual credit or dual enrollment programs
9 are available to students. Dual credit programs, such as running
10 start, college in the high school, tech prep (course completion
11 options), and AP and international baccalaureate and Cambridge
12 (standardized exam options) offer academically prepared students the
13 opportunity to earn college credits while still in high school.
14 Students who participate in these programs achieve improved high
15 school graduation rates and are more likely to continue on to college
16 and complete a degree. In addition, dual credit and dual enrollment
17 programs support students' individual college and career pathways.

18 The legislature further finds that through the development and
19 implementation of the 2013 roadmap the student achievement council
20 has identified key barriers that limit access to dual credit
21 programs, particularly for low-income students. Removing these
22 barriers is a critical step toward achieving the state educational
23 attainment goals outlined in the roadmap.

24 The legislature recognizes that the decision to enroll in a dual
25 credit program should be made by the student and the student's
26 parents or guardians, in consultation with counselors or academic
27 advisors, and based on the academic, cultural, and developmental
28 needs and college and career goals of the student. The decision to
29 choose one dual credit option over another should not be based on the
30 difference in the costs of one option over another.

31 In the college in the high school program, credit is awarded
32 based on successful course completion and ability to pay tuition and
33 fees. Under the current college in the high school system, some

1 students may successfully complete the course but do not receive
2 credit because they are unable to pay.

3 Students in the running start program face a different but
4 equally challenging situation. Students in the running start program
5 do not receive funding for books and transportation costs. These
6 financial barriers decrease opportunities for lower income students
7 to benefit from dual credit programs.

8 Therefore, the legislature intends to increase opportunities for
9 academically prepared high school students to earn up to two years of
10 college credit through dual credit programs, and to reduce
11 disparities in access to, and completion of, these programs. This act
12 provides a new funding model to eliminate tuition in the college in
13 the high school program, and provides flexibility in the academic
14 acceleration incentive program to assist students with transportation
15 and book expenses associated with the running start program. It is
16 the intent of the legislature, once this new funding model is enacted
17 and operational, to establish a distinction between the college in
18 the high school program as a program occurring in high schools and
19 the running start program as a program occurring on a college campus
20 or on a high school campus that is thirty driving miles or more from
21 the nearest eligible institution of higher education as defined in
22 RCW 28A.600.300 as measured by the most direct route.

23 The legislature finds that dual credit opportunities are a
24 valuable means of supporting students on their way to successful
25 completion of college and career pathways. The legislature seeks
26 additional recommendations to mitigate financial and other barriers
27 for students enrolled in the running start program, and dual credit
28 programs based on standardized exams.

29 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.320.196 and 2013 c 184 s 3 are each amended to
30 read as follows:

31 (1) Subject to funds appropriated specifically for this purpose,
32 the academic acceleration incentive program is established as
33 provided in this section. The intent of the legislature is that the
34 funds awarded under the program be used to support teacher training,
35 curriculum, technology, examination fees, textbook fees, and other
36 costs associated with offering dual credit courses to high school
37 students, including transportation for running start students to and
38 from the institution of higher education as defined in RCW
39 28A.600.300.

1 (2) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall
2 allocate half of the funds appropriated for the purposes of this
3 section on a competitive basis to provide one-time grants for high
4 schools to expand the availability of dual credit courses. To be
5 eligible for a grant, a school district must have adopted an academic
6 acceleration policy as provided under RCW 28A.320.195. In making
7 grant awards, the office of the superintendent of public instruction
8 must give priority to grants for high schools with a high proportion
9 of low-income students and high schools seeking to develop new
10 capacity for dual credit courses rather than proposing marginal
11 expansion of current capacity.

12 (3) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall
13 allocate half of the funds appropriated for the purposes of this
14 section to school districts as an incentive award for each student
15 who earned dual high school and college credit, as described under
16 subsection (4) of this section, for courses offered by the district's
17 high schools during the previous school year. School districts must
18 distribute the award to the high schools that generated the funds.
19 The award amount for low-income students eligible to participate in
20 the federal free and reduced-price meals program who earn dual
21 credits must be set at one hundred twenty-five percent of the base
22 award for other students. A student who earns more than one dual
23 credit in the same school year counts only once for the purposes of
24 the incentive award.

25 (4) For the purposes of this section, the following students are
26 considered to have earned dual high school and college credit in a
27 course offered by a high school:

28 (a) Students who achieve a score of three or higher on an AP
29 examination;

30 (b) Students who achieve a score of four or higher on an
31 examination of the international baccalaureate diploma programme;

32 (c) Students who successfully complete a Cambridge advanced
33 international certificate of education examination;

34 (d) Students who successfully complete a course through the
35 college in the high school program under RCW 28A.600.290 and are
36 awarded credit by the partnering institution of higher education; and

37 (e) Students who satisfy the dual enrollment and class
38 performance requirements to earn college credit through a tech prep
39 course.

1 (5) If a high school provides access to online courses for
2 students to earn dual high school and college credit at no cost to
3 the student, such a course is considered to be offered by the high
4 school. (~~Students enrolled in the running start program under RCW~~
5 ~~28A.600.300 do not generate an incentive award under this section.~~)

6 (6) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall
7 report to the education policy committees and the fiscal committees
8 of the legislature, by January 1st of each year, information about
9 the demographics of the students earning dual credits in the schools
10 receiving grants under this section for the prior school year.
11 Demographic data shall be disaggregated pursuant to RCW 28A.300.042.

12 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.600.290 and 2012 c 229 s 801 are each amended to
13 read as follows:

14 (1) (~~The superintendent of public instruction, the state board~~
15 ~~for community and technical colleges, and the public baccalaureate~~
16 ~~institutions shall jointly develop and each adopt rules governing the~~
17 ~~college in the high school program. The association of Washington~~
18 ~~school principals shall be consulted during the rules development.~~
19 ~~The rules shall be written to encourage the maximum use of the~~
20 ~~program and may not narrow or limit the enrollment options.~~

21 (2)) Commencing with the 2015-16 school year, in addition to a
22 school district's other general fund allocations, districts shall be
23 allocated an amount per college credit for students enrolled in
24 college in the high school courses under this section as specified in
25 the omnibus appropriations act and adjusted for inflation from the
26 2015-16 school year. The minimum allocation under this section is
27 sixty-five dollars per quarter credit for credit-bearing
28 postsecondary coursework. The office of the superintendent of public
29 instruction, the student achievement council, the state board for
30 community and technical colleges, and the public baccalaureate
31 institutions shall review funding levels for the program every four
32 years beginning in 2017 and recommend changes.

33 (2) For the purposes of funding students enrolled in the college
34 in the high school program in accordance with subsection (1) of this
35 section, college in the high school is defined as a dual credit
36 program located on a high school campus or in a high school
37 environment in which a high school student is able to earn both high
38 school and postsecondary credit by completing postsecondary level
39 courses with a passing grade.

1 (3) College in the high school programs may include both academic
2 and career and technical education.

3 (4) College in the high school programs shall each be governed by
4 a local contract between the district and the participating
5 institution of higher education, in compliance with the ((guidelines
6 adopted by the superintendent of public instruction, the state board
7 for community and technical colleges, and the public baccalaureate
8 institutions)) rules adopted by the superintendent of public
9 instruction under this section.

10 ~~((3))~~ (5) The college in the high school program must include
11 the provisions in this subsection.

12 (a) The high school and participating institution of higher
13 education together shall define the criteria for student eligibility.
14 ~~((The institution of higher education may charge tuition fees to~~
15 ~~participating students.))~~

16 (b) ~~((School districts shall report no student for more than one~~
17 ~~full-time equivalent including college in the high school courses))~~
18 In lieu of tuition and fees as defined in RCW 28B.15.020 and services
19 and activities fees as defined in RCW 28B.15.041, the student's
20 school district shall transmit to the participating institution of
21 higher education as defined in RCW 28B.10.016 an amount per credit
22 for each full-time equivalent student. The superintendent of public
23 instruction shall consult with participating institutions of higher
24 education and the state board for community and technical colleges on
25 the calculation and distribution of the funds.

26 (c) The funds received by the participating institution of higher
27 education may not be deemed tuition or operating fees and may be
28 retained by the institution of higher education.

29 (d) Enrollment information on persons registered under this
30 section must be maintained by the institution of higher education
31 separately from other enrollment information and may not be included
32 in official enrollment reports, nor may such persons be considered in
33 any enrollment statistics that would affect higher education
34 budgetary determinations.

35 (e) A school district must grant high school credit to a student
36 enrolled in a program course if the student successfully completes
37 the course. If no comparable course is offered by the school
38 district, the school district superintendent shall determine how many
39 credits to award for the course. The determination shall be made in
40 writing before the student enrolls in the course. The credits shall

1 be applied toward graduation requirements and subject area
2 requirements. Evidence of successful completion of each program
3 course shall be included in the student's secondary school records
4 and transcript.

5 (f) ~~((An))~~ A participating institution of higher education must
6 grant college credit to a student enrolled in a program course if the
7 student successfully completes the course. The college credit shall
8 be applied toward general education requirements or ~~((major~~
9 ~~requirements. If no comparable course is offered by the college, the~~
10 ~~institution of higher education at which the teacher of the program~~
11 ~~course is employed shall determine how many credits to award for the~~
12 ~~course and whether the course fulfills general education or major))~~
13 degree requirements at institutions of higher education. Evidence of
14 successful completion of each program course must be included in the
15 student's college transcript.

16 (g) Eleventh and twelfth grade students or students who have not
17 yet received a high school diploma or its equivalent and are eligible
18 to be in the eleventh or twelfth grades may participate in the
19 college in the high school program.

20 (h) Participating school districts must provide general
21 information about the college in the high school program to all
22 students in grades ten, eleven, and twelve and to the parents and
23 guardians of those students.

24 ~~((i) Full-time and part-time faculty at institutions of higher~~
25 ~~education, including adjunct faculty, are eligible to teach program~~
26 ~~courses.~~

27 ~~(4))~~ (6) The superintendent of public instruction shall adopt
28 rules for the administration of this section. The rules shall be
29 jointly developed by the superintendent of public instruction, the
30 state board for community and technical colleges, the student
31 achievement council, and the public baccalaureate institutions. The
32 association of Washington school principals must be consulted during
33 the rules development. The rules must outline quality and eligibility
34 standards that are informed by nationally recognized standards or
35 models. In addition, the rules must encourage the maximum use of the
36 program and may not narrow or limit the enrollment options.

37 (7) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this
38 section.

39 (a) "Institution of higher education" has the ~~((meaning))~~
40 definition in RCW 28B.10.016, and also includes a public tribal

1 college located in Washington and accredited by the Northwest
2 commission on colleges and universities or another accrediting
3 association recognized by the United States department of education.

4 (b) "Program course" means a college course offered in a high
5 school under the college in the high school program.

6 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28A.600.310 and 2012 c 229 s 702 are each amended to
7 read as follows:

8 (1)(a) Eleventh and twelfth grade students or students who have
9 not yet received the credits required for the award of a high school
10 diploma and are eligible to be in the eleventh or twelfth grades may
11 apply to a participating institution of higher education to enroll in
12 courses or programs offered by the institution of higher education.

13 (b) The course sections and programs offered as running start
14 courses must also be open for registration to matriculated students
15 at the participating institution of higher education and may not be a
16 course consisting solely of high school students offered at a high
17 school campus unless the offering high school is thirty driving miles
18 or more from the nearest eligible institution of higher education as
19 measured by the most direct route. Students participating in running
20 start programs offered at a high school campus and consisting solely
21 of high school students may be funded at no more than a combined
22 maximum enrollment of 1.0 full-time equivalents including school
23 district and institution of higher education enrollment. In
24 calculating the combined 1.0 full-time equivalents, the office of the
25 superintendent of public instruction may average the participating
26 student's September through June enrollment to account for
27 differences in the start and end dates for courses provided by the
28 high school and institution of higher education.

29 (c) A student receiving home-based instruction enrolling in a
30 public high school for the sole purpose of participating in courses
31 or programs offered by institutions of higher education shall not be
32 counted by the school district in any required state or federal
33 accountability reporting if the student's parents or guardians filed
34 a declaration of intent to provide home-based instruction and the
35 student received home-based instruction during the school year before
36 the school year in which the student intends to participate in
37 courses or programs offered by the institution of higher education.
38 Students receiving home-based instruction under chapter 28A.200 RCW
39 and students attending private schools approved under chapter 28A.195

1 RCW shall not be required to meet the student learning goals, obtain
2 a certificate of academic achievement or a certificate of individual
3 achievement to graduate from high school, or to master the essential
4 academic learning requirements. However, students are eligible to
5 enroll in courses or programs in participating universities only if
6 the board of directors of the student's school district has decided
7 to participate in the program. Participating institutions of higher
8 education, in consultation with school districts, may establish
9 admission standards for these students. If the institution of higher
10 education accepts a secondary school pupil for enrollment under this
11 section, the institution of higher education shall send written
12 notice to the pupil and the pupil's school district within ten days
13 of acceptance. The notice shall indicate the course and hours of
14 enrollment for that pupil.

15 (2)(a) In lieu of tuition and fees, as defined in RCW 28B.15.020
16 and 28B.15.041:

17 (i) Running start students shall pay to the community or
18 technical college all other mandatory fees as established by each
19 community or technical college and, in addition, the state board for
20 community and technical colleges may authorize a fee of up to ten
21 percent of tuition and fees as defined in RCW 28B.15.020 and
22 28B.15.041; and

23 (ii) All other institutions of higher education operating a
24 running start program may charge running start students a fee of up
25 to ten percent of tuition and fees as defined in RCW 28B.15.020 and
26 28B.15.041 in addition to technology fees.

27 (b) The fees charged under this subsection (2) shall be prorated
28 based on credit load.

29 (3)(a) The institutions of higher education must make available
30 fee waivers for low-income running start students. Each institution
31 must establish a written policy for the determination of low-income
32 students before offering the fee waiver. A student shall be
33 considered low income and eligible for a fee waiver upon proof that
34 the student is currently qualified to receive free or reduced-price
35 lunch. Acceptable documentation of low-income status may also
36 include, but is not limited to, documentation that a student has been
37 deemed eligible for free or reduced-price lunches in the last five
38 years, or other criteria established in the institution's policy.

39 (b) Institutions of higher education, in collaboration with
40 relevant student associations, shall aim to have students who can

1 benefit from fee waivers take advantage of these waivers.
2 Institutions shall make every effort to communicate to students and
3 their families the benefits of the waivers and provide assistance to
4 students and their families on how to apply. Information about
5 waivers shall, to the greatest extent possible, be incorporated into
6 financial aid counseling, admission information, and individual
7 billing statements. Institutions also shall, to the greatest extent
8 possible, use all means of communication, including but not limited
9 to web sites, online catalogues, admission and registration forms,
10 mass email messaging, social media, and outside marketing to ensure
11 that information about waivers is visible, compelling, and reaches
12 the maximum number of students and families that can benefit.

13 (4) The pupil's school district shall transmit to the institution
14 of higher education an amount per each full-time equivalent college
15 student at statewide uniform rates for vocational and nonvocational
16 students. The superintendent of public instruction shall separately
17 calculate and allocate moneys appropriated for basic education under
18 RCW 28A.150.260 to school districts for purposes of making such
19 payments and for granting school districts seven percent thereof to
20 offset program related costs. The calculations and allocations shall
21 be based upon the estimated statewide annual average per full-time
22 equivalent high school student allocations under RCW 28A.150.260,
23 excluding small high school enhancements, and applicable rules
24 adopted under chapter 34.05 RCW. The superintendent of public
25 instruction, participating institutions of higher education, and the
26 state board for community and technical colleges shall consult on the
27 calculation and distribution of the funds. The funds received by the
28 institution of higher education from the school district shall not be
29 deemed tuition or operating fees and may be retained by the
30 institution of higher education. A student enrolled under this
31 subsection shall be counted for the purpose of meeting enrollment
32 targets in accordance with terms and conditions specified in the
33 omnibus appropriations act.

34 ~~((5) The state board for community and technical colleges, in~~
35 ~~collaboration with the other institutions of higher education that~~
36 ~~participate in the running start program and the office of the~~
37 ~~superintendent of public instruction, shall identify, assess, and~~
38 ~~report on alternatives for providing ongoing and adequate financial~~
39 ~~support for the program. Such alternatives shall include but are not~~
40 ~~limited to student tuition, increased support from local school~~

1 ~~districts, and reallocation of existing state financial support among~~
2 ~~the community and technical college system to account for~~
3 ~~differential running start enrollment levels and impacts. The state~~
4 ~~board for community and technical colleges shall report the~~
5 ~~assessment of alternatives to the governor and to the appropriate~~
6 ~~fiscal and policy committees of the legislature by September 1,~~
7 ~~2010.)~~

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** (1) By September 15, 2016, the student
9 achievement council, in collaboration with the state board for
10 community and technical colleges, the office of the superintendent of
11 public instruction, and the public baccalaureate institutions, shall
12 make recommendations to the legislature to streamline and improve
13 dual credit programs in Washington with particular attention to
14 increasing participation of students who are low income and/or
15 currently underrepresented in the running start, AP, international
16 baccalaureate, and Cambridge international programs.

17 (2) This section expires January 1, 2017."

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By Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education

NOT ADOPTED 4/15/2015

18 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "education;" strike the
19 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 28A.320.196,
20 28A.600.290, and 28A.600.310; creating new sections; and providing an
21 expiration date."

EFFECT: Strikes all the provisions of the bill. The amendment includes the following provisions:

Academic Acceleration Incentive Program funds may be used to support textbook fees and transportation to and from the institution of higher education for Running Start (RS) students.

Beginning in the 2015-16 school year, districts are allocated money per college credit for students in College in the High School (CHS) courses, adjusted annually for inflation. The minimum allocation is set at sixty-five dollars per quarter credit hour, to be reviewed every four years by relevant agencies and institutions beginning in 2017.

Colleges may no longer charge tuition and fees to CHS students. In lieu of tuition and fees, districts must transmit an amount per credit to the college for each full-time equivalent CHS student. OSPI must consult with institutions and the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) on the calculation and distribution of the funds.

CHS is defined in part as a dual credit program located on a high school campus or in a high school environment and may include both academic and career and technical education courses.

RS course sections and programs must be open for registration by matriculated students at the participating institution of higher education. Courses consisting solely of high school students offered at a high school campus do not meet the definition for Running Start unless the offering high school is thirty driving miles or more from the nearest eligible institution of higher education. Students participating in Running Start offered at those high school campuses may be funded at no more than a combined maximum enrollment of 1.0 FTE.

Credits earned through CHS must apply toward general education or degree requirements, rather than major requirements.

OSPI must adopt rules for the CHS program in consultation with SBCTC, the Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC), and public baccalaureates. The Association of Washington School Principals must be consulted.

WSAC must submit recommendations to the Legislature on streamlining and improving dual credit programs by September 15, 2016.

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