

E2SHB 1546 - S COMM AMD
By Committee on Ways & Means

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

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

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

37 (2) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall
38 allocate half of the funds appropriated for the purposes of this
39 section on a competitive basis to provide one-time grants for high

1 schools to expand the availability of dual credit courses. To be
2 eligible for a grant, a school district must have adopted an academic
3 acceleration policy as provided under RCW 28A.320.195. In making
4 grant awards, the office of the superintendent of public instruction
5 must give priority to grants for high schools with a high proportion
6 of low-income students and high schools seeking to develop new
7 capacity for dual credit courses rather than proposing marginal
8 expansion of current capacity.

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

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

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

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

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

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

34 (e) Students who satisfy the dual enrollment and class
35 performance requirements to earn college credit through a tech prep
36 course.

37 (5) If a high school provides access to online courses for
38 students to earn dual high school and college credit at no cost to
39 the student, such a course is considered to be offered by the high

1 school. (~~Students enrolled in the running start program under RCW~~
2 ~~28A.600.300 do not generate an incentive award under this section.~~)

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

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

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

18 ~~(2))~~ (a) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for
19 this specific purpose and commencing with the 2015-16 school year,
20 funding may be allocated at an amount per college credit for students
21 enrolled in college in the high school courses under this section as
22 specified in the omnibus appropriations act and adjusted for
23 inflation from the 2015-16 school year. The maximum annual number of
24 allocated credits per participating student shall be specified in the
25 omnibus appropriations act, which must not exceed ten credits.
26 Funding shall be prioritized in the following order:

27 (i) Students enrolled in a running start in the high school
28 program in school year 2014-15. These students shall only receive
29 prioritized funding in school year 2015-16;

30 (ii) High schools that are twenty driving miles or more from the
31 nearest eligible institution of higher education offering a running
32 start program as measured by the most direct route; and

33 (iii) High schools eligible for the small school funding
34 enhancement in the omnibus appropriations act.

35 (b)(i) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for
36 this specific purpose and commencing with the 2015-16 school year,
37 and only after the programs in (a) of this subsection are funded, a
38 subsidy may be provided per college credit for students who have been
39 deemed eligible for free or reduced-price lunch enrolled in college

1 in the high school courses under this section as specified in the
2 omnibus appropriations act and adjusted for inflation from the
3 2015-16 school year. The maximum annual number of subsidized credits
4 per participating student shall be specified in the omnibus
5 appropriations act, which must not exceed five credits.

6 (ii) Districts wishing to participate in the subsidy program must
7 apply to the office of the superintendent of public instruction by
8 July 1st of each year and report the preliminary estimate of eligible
9 students to receive the subsidy and the total number of projected
10 credit hours.

11 (iii) The office of the superintendent of public instruction
12 shall notify districts by September 1st of each school year if the
13 district's students will receive the subsidy. If more districts apply
14 than funding is available, the office of the superintendent of public
15 instruction shall prioritize the district applications. The
16 superintendent shall develop factors to determine priority including,
17 but not limited to, the number of dual credit opportunities available
18 for low-income students in the districts.

19 (c) Districts shall remit any allocations or subsidies on behalf
20 of participating students under (a) and (b) of this subsection to the
21 participating institution of higher education and those students
22 shall not be required to pay for the credits.

23 (d) The minimum allocation and subsidy under this section is
24 sixty-five dollars per quarter credit for credit-bearing
25 postsecondary coursework. The office of the superintendent of public
26 instruction, the student achievement council, the state board for
27 community and technical colleges, and the public baccalaureate
28 institutions shall review funding levels for the program every four
29 years beginning in 2017 and recommend changes.

30 (e) Students may pay college in the high school fees with
31 advanced college tuition payment program tuition units at a rate set
32 by the advanced college tuition payment program governing body under
33 chapter 28B.95 RCW.

34 (2) For the purposes of funding students enrolled in the college
35 in the high school program in accordance with subsection (1) of this
36 section, college in the high school is defined as a dual credit
37 program located on a high school campus or in a high school
38 environment in which a high school student is able to earn both high
39 school and postsecondary credit by completing postsecondary level
40 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. If specific funding is provided in the
16 omnibus appropriations act for the per credit allocations and per
17 credit subsidies under subsection (1) of this section, the maximum
18 per credit fee charged to any enrolled student may not exceed the
19 amount of the per credit allocation or subsidy.

20 ~~((b) ((School districts shall report no student for more than one~~
21 ~~full-time equivalent including college in the high school courses.~~

22 ~~(e))~~ The funds received by the participating institution of
23 higher education may not be deemed tuition or operating fees and may
24 be retained by the institution of higher education.

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

31 ~~((e))~~ (d) A school district must grant high school credit to a
32 student enrolled in a program course if the student successfully
33 completes the course. If no comparable course is offered by the
34 school district, the school district superintendent shall determine
35 how many credits to award for the course. The determination shall be
36 made in writing before the student enrolls in the course. The credits
37 shall be applied toward graduation requirements and subject area
38 requirements. Evidence of successful completion of each program
39 course shall be included in the student's secondary school records
40 and transcript.

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

12 ~~((g))~~ (f) Eleventh and twelfth grade students or students who
13 have not yet received a high school diploma or its equivalent and are
14 eligible to be in the eleventh or twelfth grades may participate in
15 the college in the high school program.

16 ~~((h))~~ (g) Participating school districts must provide general
17 information about the college in the high school program to all
18 students in grades ten, eleven, and twelve and to the parents and
19 guardians of those students.

20 ~~((i))~~ (h) Full-time and part-time faculty at institutions of
21 higher education, including adjunct faculty, are eligible to teach
22 program courses.

23 ~~((4))~~ (6) The superintendent of public instruction shall adopt
24 rules for the administration of this section. The rules shall be
25 jointly developed by the superintendent of public instruction, the
26 state board for community and technical colleges, the student
27 achievement council, and the public baccalaureate institutions. The
28 association of Washington school principals must be consulted during
29 the rules development. The rules must outline quality and eligibility
30 standards that are informed by nationally recognized standards or
31 models. In addition, the rules must encourage the maximum use of the
32 program and may not narrow or limit the enrollment options.

33 (7) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this
34 section.

35 (a) "Institution of higher education" has the ~~((meaning))~~
36 definition in RCW 28B.10.016, and also includes a public tribal
37 college located in Washington and accredited by the Northwest
38 commission on colleges and universities or another accrediting
39 association recognized by the United States department of education.

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

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

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

10 (b) The course sections and programs offered as running start
11 courses must also be open for registration to matriculated students
12 at the participating institution of higher education and may not be a
13 course consisting solely of high school students offered at a high
14 school campus.

15 (c) A student receiving home-based instruction enrolling in a
16 public high school for the sole purpose of participating in courses
17 or programs offered by institutions of higher education shall not be
18 counted by the school district in any required state or federal
19 accountability reporting if the student's parents or guardians filed
20 a declaration of intent to provide home-based instruction and the
21 student received home-based instruction during the school year before
22 the school year in which the student intends to participate in
23 courses or programs offered by the institution of higher education.
24 Students receiving home-based instruction under chapter 28A.200 RCW
25 and students attending private schools approved under chapter 28A.195
26 RCW shall not be required to meet the student learning goals, obtain
27 a certificate of academic achievement or a certificate of individual
28 achievement to graduate from high school, or to master the essential
29 academic learning requirements. However, students are eligible to
30 enroll in courses or programs in participating universities only if
31 the board of directors of the student's school district has decided
32 to participate in the program. Participating institutions of higher
33 education, in consultation with school districts, may establish
34 admission standards for these students. If the institution of higher
35 education accepts a secondary school pupil for enrollment under this
36 section, the institution of higher education shall send written
37 notice to the pupil and the pupil's school district within ten days
38 of acceptance. The notice shall indicate the course and hours of
39 enrollment for that pupil.

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

3 (i) Running start students shall pay to the community or
4 technical college all other mandatory fees as established by each
5 community or technical college and, in addition, the state board for
6 community and technical colleges may authorize a fee of up to ten
7 percent of tuition and fees as defined in RCW 28B.15.020 and
8 28B.15.041; and

9 (ii) All other institutions of higher education operating a
10 running start program may charge running start students a fee of up
11 to ten percent of tuition and fees as defined in RCW 28B.15.020 and
12 28B.15.041 in addition to technology fees.

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

15 (c) Students may pay fees under this subsection with advanced
16 college tuition payment program tuition units at a rate set by the
17 advanced college tuition payment program governing body under chapter
18 28B.95 RCW.

19 (3)(a) The institutions of higher education must make available
20 fee waivers for low-income running start students. Each institution
21 must establish a written policy for the determination of low-income
22 students before offering the fee waiver. A student shall be
23 considered low income and eligible for a fee waiver upon proof that
24 the student is currently qualified to receive free or reduced-price
25 lunch. Acceptable documentation of low-income status may also
26 include, but is not limited to, documentation that a student has been
27 deemed eligible for free or reduced-price lunches in the last five
28 years, or other criteria established in the institution's policy.

29 (b) Institutions of higher education, in collaboration with
30 relevant student associations, shall aim to have students who can
31 benefit from fee waivers take advantage of these waivers.
32 Institutions shall make every effort to communicate to students and
33 their families the benefits of the waivers and provide assistance to
34 students and their families on how to apply. Information about
35 waivers shall, to the greatest extent possible, be incorporated into
36 financial aid counseling, admission information, and individual
37 billing statements. Institutions also shall, to the greatest extent
38 possible, use all means of communication, including but not limited
39 to web sites, online catalogues, admission and registration forms,
40 mass email messaging, social media, and outside marketing to ensure

1 that information about waivers is visible, compelling, and reaches
2 the maximum number of students and families that can benefit.

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

24 ~~((5) The state board for community and technical colleges, in
25 collaboration with the other institutions of higher education that
26 participate in the running start program and the office of the
27 superintendent of public instruction, shall identify, assess, and
28 report on alternatives for providing ongoing and adequate financial
29 support for the program. Such alternatives shall include but are not
30 limited to student tuition, increased support from local school
31 districts, and reallocation of existing state financial support among
32 the community and technical college system to account for
33 differential running start enrollment levels and impacts. The state
34 board for community and technical colleges shall report the
35 assessment of alternatives to the governor and to the appropriate
36 fiscal and policy committees of the legislature by September 1,
37 2010.))~~

38 **Sec. 5.** RCW 28B.95.020 and 2012 c 229 s 606 are each reenacted
39 and amended to read as follows:

1 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter,
2 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

3 (1) "Academic year" means the regular nine-month, three-quarter,
4 or two-semester period annually occurring between August 1st and July
5 31st.

6 (2) "Account" means the Washington advanced college tuition
7 payment program account established for the deposit of all money
8 received by the office from eligible purchasers and interest earnings
9 on investments of funds in the account, as well as for all
10 expenditures on behalf of eligible beneficiaries for the redemption
11 of tuition units and for the development of any authorized college
12 savings program pursuant to RCW 28B.95.150.

13 (3) "Committee on advanced tuition payment" or "committee" means
14 a committee of the following members: The state treasurer, the
15 director of the office of financial management, the director of the
16 office, or their designees, and two members to be appointed by the
17 governor, one representing program participants and one private
18 business representative with marketing, public relations, or
19 financial expertise.

20 (4) "Contractual obligation" means a legally binding contract of
21 the state with the purchaser and the beneficiary establishing that
22 purchases of tuition units will be worth the same number of tuition
23 units at the time of redemption as they were worth at the time of the
24 purchase.

25 (5) "Dual credit fees" means any fees charged to a student for
26 participation in college in the high school under RCW 28A.600.290 or
27 running start under RCW 28A.600.310.

28 (6) "Eligible beneficiary" means the person for whom the tuition
29 unit will be redeemed for attendance at an institution of higher
30 education, participation in college in the high school under RCW
31 28A.600.290, or participation in running start under RCW 28A.600.310.
32 The beneficiary is that person named by the purchaser at the time
33 that a tuition unit contract is accepted by the governing body.
34 Qualified organizations, as allowed under section 529 of the federal
35 internal revenue code, purchasing tuition unit contracts as future
36 scholarships need not designate a beneficiary at the time of
37 purchase.

38 ((+6+)) (7) "Eligible purchaser" means an individual or
39 organization that has entered into a tuition unit contract with the
40 governing body for the purchase of tuition units for an eligible

1 beneficiary. The state of Washington may be an eligible purchaser for
2 purposes of purchasing tuition units to be held for granting
3 Washington college bound scholarships.

4 ~~((7))~~ (8) "Full-time tuition charges" means resident tuition
5 charges at a state institution of higher education for enrollments
6 between ten credits and eighteen credit hours per academic term.

7 ~~((8))~~ (9) "Governing body" means the committee empowered by the
8 legislature to administer the Washington advanced college tuition
9 payment program.

10 ~~((9))~~ (10) "Institution of higher education" means an
11 institution that offers education beyond the secondary level and is
12 recognized by the internal revenue service under chapter 529 of the
13 internal revenue code.

14 ~~((10))~~ (11) "Investment board" means the state investment board
15 as defined in chapter 43.33A RCW.

16 ~~((11))~~ (12) "Office" means the office of student financial
17 assistance as defined in chapter 28B.76 RCW.

18 ~~((12))~~ (13) "State institution of higher education" means
19 institutions of higher education as defined in RCW 28B.10.016.

20 ~~((13))~~ (14) "Tuition and fees" means undergraduate tuition and
21 services and activities fees as defined in RCW 28B.15.020 and
22 28B.15.041 rounded to the nearest whole dollar. For purposes of this
23 chapter, services and activities fees do not include fees charged for
24 the payment of bonds heretofore or hereafter issued for, or other
25 indebtedness incurred to pay, all or part of the cost of acquiring,
26 constructing, or installing any lands, buildings, or facilities.

27 ~~((14))~~ (15) "Tuition unit contract" means a contract between an
28 eligible purchaser and the governing body, or a successor agency
29 appointed for administration of this chapter, for the purchase of
30 tuition units for a specified beneficiary that may be redeemed at a
31 later date for an equal number of tuition units.

32 ~~((15))~~ (16) "Unit purchase price" means the minimum cost to
33 purchase one tuition unit for an eligible beneficiary. Generally, the
34 minimum purchase price is one percent of the undergraduate tuition
35 and fees for the current year, rounded to the nearest whole dollar,
36 adjusted for the costs of administration and adjusted to ensure the
37 actuarial soundness of the account. The analysis for price setting
38 shall also include, but not be limited to consideration of past and
39 projected patterns of tuition increases, program liability, past and

1 projected investment returns, and the need for a prudent
2 stabilization reserve.

3 **Sec. 6.** RCW 28B.95.030 and 2011 1st sp.s. c 12 s 2 and 2011 1st
4 sp.s. c 11 s 170 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

5 (1) The Washington advanced college tuition payment program shall
6 be administered by the committee on advanced tuition payment which
7 shall be chaired by the director of the office. The committee shall
8 be supported by staff of the office.

9 (2)(a) The Washington advanced college tuition payment program
10 shall consist of the sale of tuition units, which may be redeemed by
11 the beneficiary at a future date for an equal number of tuition units
12 regardless of any increase in the price of tuition, that may have
13 occurred in the interval.

14 (b) Each purchase shall be worth a specific number of or fraction
15 of tuition units at each state institution of higher education as
16 determined by the governing body.

17 (c) The number of tuition units necessary to pay for a full
18 year's, full-time undergraduate tuition and fee charges at a state
19 institution of higher education shall be set by the governing body at
20 the time a purchaser enters into a tuition unit contract.

21 (d) The governing body may limit the number of tuition units
22 purchased by any one purchaser or on behalf of any one beneficiary,
23 however, no limit may be imposed that is less than that necessary to
24 achieve four years of full-time, undergraduate tuition charges at a
25 state institution of higher education. The governing body also may,
26 at its discretion, limit the number of participants, if needed, to
27 ensure the actuarial soundness and integrity of the program.

28 (e) While the Washington advanced college tuition payment program
29 is designed to help all citizens of the state of Washington, the
30 governing body may determine residency requirements for eligible
31 purchasers and eligible beneficiaries to ensure the actuarial
32 soundness and integrity of the program.

33 (3)(a) No tuition unit may be redeemed until two years after the
34 purchase of the unit.

35 (b) Units may be redeemed for enrollment at any institution of
36 higher education that is recognized by the internal revenue service
37 under chapter 529 of the internal revenue code. Units may also be
38 redeemed to pay for dual credit fees.

1 (b) Units redeemed at a nonstate institution of higher education
2 or for graduate enrollment shall be redeemed at the rate for state
3 public institutions in effect at the time of redemption.

4 (4) The governing body shall determine the conditions under which
5 the tuition benefit may be transferred to another family member. In
6 permitting such transfers, the governing body may not allow the
7 tuition benefit to be bought, sold, bartered, or otherwise exchanged
8 for goods and services by either the beneficiary or the purchaser.

9 (5) The governing body shall administer the Washington advanced
10 college tuition payment program in a manner reasonably designed to be
11 actuarially sound, such that the assets of the trust will be
12 sufficient to defray the obligations of the trust including the costs
13 of administration. The governing body may, at its discretion,
14 discount the minimum purchase price for certain kinds of purchases
15 such as those from families with young children, as long as the
16 actuarial soundness of the account is not jeopardized.

17 (6) The governing body shall annually determine current value of
18 a tuition unit.

19 (7) The governing body shall promote, advertise, and publicize
20 the Washington advanced college tuition payment program.

21 (8) In addition to any other powers conferred by this chapter,
22 the governing body may:

23 (a) Impose reasonable limits on the number of tuition units or
24 units that may be used in any one year;

25 (b) Determine and set any time limits, if necessary, for the use
26 of benefits under this chapter;

27 (c) Impose and collect administrative fees and charges in
28 connection with any transaction under this chapter;

29 (d) Appoint and use advisory committees and the state actuary as
30 needed to provide program direction and guidance;

31 (e) Formulate and adopt all other policies and rules necessary
32 for the efficient administration of the program;

33 (f) Consider the addition of an advanced payment program for room
34 and board contracts and also consider a college savings program;

35 (g) Purchase insurance from insurers licensed to do business in
36 the state, to provide for coverage against any loss in connection
37 with the account's property, assets, or activities or to further
38 insure the value of the tuition units;

1 (h) Make, execute, and deliver contracts, conveyances, and other
2 instruments necessary to the exercise and discharge of its powers and
3 duties under this chapter;

4 (i) Contract for the provision for all or part of the services
5 necessary for the management and operation of the program with other
6 state or nonstate entities authorized to do business in the state;

7 (j) Contract for other services or for goods needed by the
8 governing body in the conduct of its business under this chapter;

9 (k) Contract with financial consultants, actuaries, auditors, and
10 other consultants as necessary to carry out its responsibilities
11 under this chapter;

12 (l) Solicit and accept cash donations and grants from any person,
13 governmental agency, private business, or organization; and

14 (m) Perform all acts necessary and proper to carry out the duties
15 and responsibilities of this program under this chapter.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** (1) By September 15, 2016, the student
17 achievement council, in collaboration with the state board for
18 community and technical colleges, the office of the superintendent of
19 public instruction, and the public baccalaureate institutions, shall
20 make recommendations to the legislature to streamline and improve
21 dual credit programs in Washington with particular attention to
22 increasing participation of students who are low income and/or
23 currently underrepresented in the running start, AP, international
24 baccalaureate, and Cambridge international programs.

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

E2SHB 1546 - S COMM AMD
By Committee on Ways & Means

NOT ADOPTED 4/15/2015

26 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "education;" strike the
27 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 28A.320.196,
28 28A.600.290, and 28A.600.310; reenacting and amending RCW 28B.95.020
29 and 28B.95.030; creating new sections; and providing an expiration
30 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.

Within appropriated funds, prioritizes college in the high school (CHS) funding in the following order:

1. Students who attended a Running Start in the high school program in the 2014-15 school year will be prioritized for the 2015-16 school year only;

2. Rural schools more than twenty miles from a higher education institution offering a running start program;

3. High schools receiving the small school funding enhancement;

4. Low-income students in schools with limited dual credit options.

Students meeting the definition of items one through three above may receive up to ten college in the high school credits fund by the state. Students meeting the definition of item four may receive up to five college in the high school credits. If more districts apply for the subsidies for low-income students than funds are available for, then OSPI must prioritize school district applications.

The minimum allocation and subsidy is set at sixty-five dollars per quarter credit hour, to be reviewed every four years by relevant agencies and institutions beginning in 2017. Districts must remit any allocations or subsidies to the participating institution on behalf of the student and those students shall not be required to pay for those credits. If funding is provided for the per credit allocation or subsidies, the maximum per credit fee charged to any student may not exceed that amount.

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.

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.

Running Start 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.

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

Students may use Guaranteed Education Tuition units to pay for CHS and RS fees.

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