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HOUSE BILL 2349

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State of Washington

64th Legislature

2016 Regular Session

By Representative Haler

Prefiled 01/05/16. Read first time 01/11/16. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to eliminating the term "branch" as an  
2 identifying factor for extensions of the public institutions of  
3 higher education; and amending RCW 28B.12.030, 28B.15.0139,  
4 28B.45.010, 28B.45.012, 28B.45.014, 28B.45.020, 28B.45.0201,  
5 28B.45.030, 28B.45.040, 28B.45.080, 28B.50.820, 34.05.514, 44.28.816,  
6 43.41.393, 43.88D.010, and 84.14.010.

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

8 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28B.12.030 and 2012 c 229 s 519 are each amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 As used in this chapter, the following words and terms shall have  
11 the following meanings, unless the context shall clearly indicate  
12 another or different meaning or intent:

13 (1) The term "needy student" shall mean a student enrolled or  
14 accepted for enrollment at a postsecondary institution who, according  
15 to a system of need analysis approved by the office of student  
16 financial assistance, demonstrates a financial inability, either  
17 parental, familial, or personal, to bear the total cost of education  
18 for any semester or quarter.

19 (2) The term "eligible institution" shall mean any postsecondary  
20 institution in this state accredited by the Northwest Association of  
21 Schools and Colleges, or a (~~branch~~) campus of a member institution

1 of an accrediting association recognized by rule of the student  
2 achievement council for purposes of this section, that is eligible  
3 for federal student financial aid assistance and has operated as a  
4 nonprofit college or university delivering on-site classroom  
5 instruction for a minimum of twenty consecutive years within the  
6 state of Washington, or any public technical college in the state.

7 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28B.15.0139 and 2009 c 158 s 2 are each amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 For the purposes of determining resident tuition rates, "resident  
10 student" includes a resident of Oregon, residing in Columbia,  
11 Gilliam, Hood River, Multnomah, Clatsop, Clackamas, Morrow, Sherman,  
12 Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Wasco, or Washington county, who meets the  
13 following conditions:

14 (1) The student is eligible to pay resident tuition rates under  
15 Oregon laws and has been domiciled in Columbia, Gilliam, Hood River,  
16 Multnomah, Clatsop, Clackamas, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Union,  
17 Wallowa, Wasco, or Washington county for at least ninety days  
18 immediately before enrollment at a community college located in  
19 Asotin, Benton, Clark, Columbia, Cowlitz, Franklin, Garfield,  
20 Klickitat, Pacific, Skamania, Wahkiakum, or Walla Walla county,  
21 Washington;

22 (2) The student is enrolled in courses located at the Tri-Cities  
23 or Vancouver (~~branch~~) campus of Washington State University for  
24 eight credits or less; or

25 (3) The student is currently domiciled in Washington and:

26 (a) Was eligible to pay resident tuition rates under Oregon laws;  
27 and

28 (b) Had been domiciled in Columbia, Gilliam, Hood River,  
29 Multnomah, Clatsop, Clackamas, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Union,  
30 Wallowa, Wasco, or Washington county for at least ninety days  
31 immediately before being domiciled in Washington.

32 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28B.45.010 and 1989 1st ex.s. c 7 s 1 are each  
33 amended to read as follows:

34 The legislature finds that the benefits of higher education  
35 should be more widely available to the citizens of the state of  
36 Washington. The legislature also finds that a citizen's place of  
37 residence can restrict that citizen's access to educational  
38 opportunity at the upper division and graduate level.

1       Because most of the state-supported baccalaureate universities  
2 are located in areas removed from major metropolitan areas, the  
3 legislature finds that many of the state's citizens, especially those  
4 citizens residing in the central Puget Sound area, the Tri-Cities,  
5 Spokane, Vancouver, and Yakima, have insufficient and inequitable  
6 access to upper-division baccalaureate and graduate education.

7       This lack of sufficient educational opportunities in urban areas  
8 makes it difficult or impossible for place-bound individuals, who are  
9 unable to relocate, to complete a baccalaureate or graduate degree.  
10 It also exacerbates the difficulty financially needy students have in  
11 attending school, since many of those students need to work, and work  
12 is not always readily available in some communities where the  
13 baccalaureate institutions of higher education are located.

14       The lack of sufficient educational opportunities in metropolitan  
15 areas also affects the economy of the underserved communities.  
16 Businesses benefit from access to the research and teaching  
17 capabilities of institutions of higher education. The absence of  
18 these institutions from some of the state's major urban centers  
19 prevents beneficial interaction between businesses in these  
20 communities and the state's universities.

21       The Washington state master plan for higher education, adopted by  
22 the higher education coordinating board, recognizes the need to  
23 expand upper-division and graduate educational opportunities in the  
24 state's large urban centers. The board has also attempted to provide  
25 a means for helping to meet future educational demand through a  
26 system of ((branch)) campuses in the state's major urban areas.

27       The legislature endorses the assignment of responsibility to  
28 serve these urban centers that the board has made to various  
29 institutions of higher education. The legislature also endorses the  
30 creation of ((branch)) campuses for the University of Washington and  
31 Washington State University.

32       The legislature recognizes that, among their other  
33 responsibilities, the state's comprehensive community colleges share  
34 with the four-year universities and colleges the responsibility of  
35 providing the first two years of a baccalaureate education. It is the  
36 intent of the legislature that the four-year institutions and the  
37 community colleges work as cooperative partners to ensure the  
38 successful and efficient operation of the state's system of higher  
39 education. The legislature further intends that the four-year  
40 institutions work cooperatively with the community colleges to ensure

1 that ((branch)) the campuses created under this chapter are operated  
2 as models of a two plus two educational system.

3 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28B.45.012 and 2004 c 57 s 1 are each amended to  
4 read as follows:

5 (1) In 1989, the legislature created five ((branch)) campuses to  
6 be operated by the state's two public research universities. Located  
7 in growing urban areas, the ((branch)) campuses were charged with two  
8 missions:

9 (a) Increasing access to higher education by focusing on upper  
10 division and graduate programs, targeting placebound students, and  
11 operating as models of a two plus two educational system in  
12 cooperation with the community colleges; and

13 (b) Promoting regional economic development by responding to  
14 demand for degrees from local businesses and supporting regional  
15 economies through research activities.

16 (2) Fifteen years later, the legislature finds that ((branch))  
17 the campuses are responding to their original mission:

18 (a) ((Branch)) The campuses accounted for half of statewide upper  
19 division and graduate public enrollment growth since 1990;

20 (b) ((Branch)) The campuses have grown steadily and enroll  
21 increasing numbers of transfer students each year;

22 (c) ((Branch)) The campuses enroll proportionately more older and  
23 part-time students than their main campuses and attract increasing  
24 proportions of students from nearby counties;

25 (d) Although the extent of their impact has not been measured,  
26 ((branch)) these campuses positively affect local economies and offer  
27 degree programs that roughly correspond with regional occupational  
28 projections; and

29 (e) The capital investments made by the state to support  
30 ((branch)) the campuses represent a significant benefit to regional  
31 economic development.

32 (3) However, the legislature also finds the policy landscape in  
33 higher education has changed since the original creation of the  
34 ((branch)) campuses. Demand for access to baccalaureate and graduate  
35 education is increasing rapidly. Economic development efforts  
36 increasingly recognize the importance of focusing on local and  
37 regional economic clusters and improving collaboration among  
38 communities, businesses, and colleges and universities. Each  
39 ((branch)) campus has evolved into a unique institution, and it is

1 appropriate to assess the nature of this evolution to ensure the role  
2 and mission of each campus is aligned with the state's higher  
3 education goals and the needs of the region where the campus is  
4 located.

5 (4) Therefore, it is the legislature's intent to recognize the  
6 unique nature of Washington's higher education ((branch)) campuses  
7 created under this chapter, reaffirm the role and mission of each,  
8 and set the course for their continued future development.

9 (5) It is the further intent of the legislature that the campuses  
10 be identified by the following names: University of Washington  
11 Bothell, University of Washington Tacoma, Washington State University  
12 Tri-Cities, and Washington State University Vancouver.

13 **Sec. 5.** RCW 28B.45.014 and 2012 c 229 s 531 are each amended to  
14 read as follows:

15 (1) The primary mission of the higher education ((branch))  
16 campuses created under this chapter remains to expand access to  
17 baccalaureate and graduate education in underserved urban areas of  
18 the state in collaboration with community and technical colleges. The  
19 top priority for each of the campuses is to expand courses and degree  
20 programs for transfer and graduate students. New degree programs  
21 should be driven by the educational needs and demands of students and  
22 the community, as well as the economic development needs of local  
23 businesses and employers.

24 (2) ((Branch)) The campuses created under this chapter shall  
25 collaborate with the community and technical colleges in their region  
26 to develop articulation agreements, dual admissions policies, and  
27 other partnerships to ensure that ((branch)) the campuses serve as  
28 innovative models of a two plus two educational system. Other  
29 possibilities for collaboration include but are not limited to joint  
30 development of curricula and degree programs, colocation of  
31 instruction, and arrangements to share faculty.

32 (3) In communities where a private postsecondary institution is  
33 located, representatives of the private institution may be invited to  
34 participate in the conversation about meeting the baccalaureate and  
35 graduate needs in underserved urban areas of the state.

36 (4) However, the legislature recognizes there are alternative  
37 models for achieving this primary mission. Some campuses may have  
38 additional missions in response to regional needs and demands. At  
39 selected ((branch)) campuses, an innovative combination of

1 instruction and research targeted to support regional economic  
2 development may be appropriate to meet the region's needs for both  
3 access and economic viability. Other campuses should focus on  
4 becoming models of a two plus two educational system through  
5 continuous improvement of partnerships and agreements with community  
6 and technical colleges. Still other campuses may be best suited to  
7 transition to a four-year university (~~or be removed from designation~~  
8 ~~as a branch campus entirely~~)).

9 (5) The legislature recognizes that size, mix of degree programs,  
10 and proportion of lower versus upper division and graduate  
11 enrollments are factors that affect costs at ((branch)) the campuses.  
12 However over time, the legislature intends that ((branch)) the  
13 campuses be funded more similarly to regional universities.

14 (6) Research universities are authorized to develop doctoral  
15 degree programs at their ((branch)) campuses.

16 (7) The student achievement council shall monitor and evaluate  
17 growth of the ((branch)) campuses and periodically report and make  
18 recommendations to the higher education committees of the legislature  
19 to ensure the campuses continue to follow the priorities established  
20 under this chapter.

21 **Sec. 6.** RCW 28B.45.020 and 2013 c 23 s 54 are each amended to  
22 read as follows:

23 (1) The University of Washington is responsible for ensuring the  
24 expansion of baccalaureate and graduate educational programs in the  
25 central Puget Sound area under rules or guidelines adopted by the  
26 student achievement council and in accordance with proportionality  
27 agreements emphasizing access for transfer students developed with  
28 the state board for community and technical colleges. The University  
29 of Washington shall meet that responsibility through the operation of  
30 at least two ((branch)) campuses. One ((branch)) campus shall be  
31 located in the Tacoma area. Another ((branch)) campus shall be  
32 collocated with Cascadia Community College in the Bothell-Woodinville  
33 area.

34 (2) At the University of Washington Tacoma, a top priority is  
35 expansion of upper division capacity for transfer students and  
36 graduate capacity and programs. Beginning in the fall of 2006, the  
37 campus may offer lower division courses linked to specific majors in  
38 fields not addressed at local community colleges. The campus shall  
39 admit lower division students through coadmission or coenrollment

1 agreements with a community college, or through direct transfer for  
2 students who have accumulated approximately one year of transferable  
3 college credits. In addition to offering lower division courses  
4 linked to specific majors as addressed above, the campus may also  
5 directly admit first-year students and sophomores.

6 (3) At the University of Washington Bothell, a top priority is  
7 expansion of upper division capacity for transfer students and  
8 graduate capacity and programs. The campus shall also seek additional  
9 opportunities to collaborate with and maximize its colocation with  
10 Cascadia Community College. Beginning in the fall of 2006, the campus  
11 may offer lower division courses linked to specific majors in fields  
12 not addressed at local community colleges. The campus may admit lower  
13 division students through coadmission or coenrollment agreements with  
14 a community college, or through direct transfer for students who have  
15 accumulated approximately one year of transferable college credits.  
16 In addition to offering lower division courses linked to specific  
17 majors as addressed above, the campus may also directly admit first-  
18 year students and sophomores.

19 **Sec. 7.** RCW 28B.45.0201 and 2011 c 118 s 2 are each amended to  
20 read as follows:

21 The legislature finds that population growth in north King and  
22 south Snohomish counties has created a need to expand higher  
23 education and workforce training programs for the people living and  
24 working in those areas. In keeping with the recommendations of the  
25 higher education coordinating board, the legislature intends to help  
26 address those education and training needs through the creation of  
27 Cascadia Community College, expansion of educational opportunities at  
28 Lake Washington Institute of Technology, and support of the  
29 University of Washington's ((branch)) campus at Bothell-Woodinville.  
30 It is further the intention of the legislature, in keeping with the  
31 higher education coordinating board recommendations, that the  
32 Cascadia Community College and the University of Washington  
33 ((branch)) Bothell-Woodinville campus be collocated, and that the new  
34 community college and the University of Washington's ((branch))  
35 Bothell-Woodinville campus work in partnership to ensure that  
36 properly prepared students from community colleges and other  
37 institutions are able to transfer smoothly to the ((branch)) Bothell-  
38 Woodinville campus.

1 The legislature further finds that a governing board for Cascadia  
2 Community College needs to be appointed and confirmed as  
3 expeditiously as possible. The legislature intends to work  
4 cooperatively with the governor to facilitate the appointment and  
5 confirmation of trustees for the college.

6 **Sec. 8.** RCW 28B.45.030 and 2013 c 23 s 55 are each amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 (1) Washington State University is responsible for providing  
9 baccalaureate and graduate level higher education programs to the  
10 citizens of the Tri-Cities area, under rules or guidelines adopted by  
11 the student achievement council and in accordance with  
12 proportionality agreements emphasizing access for transfer students  
13 developed with the state board for community and technical colleges.  
14 Washington State University shall meet that responsibility through  
15 the operation of a ((branch)) campus in the Tri-Cities area. The  
16 ((branch)) Tri-Cities campus shall replace and supersede the Tri-  
17 Cities university center. All land, facilities, equipment, and  
18 personnel of the Tri-Cities university center shall be transferred  
19 from the University of Washington to Washington State University.

20 (2) Beginning in the fall of 2007, the Washington State  
21 University Tri-Cities ((branch)) campus may directly admit first-year  
22 students and sophomore students.

23 **Sec. 9.** RCW 28B.45.040 and 2013 c 23 s 56 are each amended to  
24 read as follows:

25 (1) Washington State University is responsible for providing  
26 baccalaureate and graduate level higher education programs to the  
27 citizens of the southwest Washington area, under rules or guidelines  
28 adopted by the student achievement council and in accordance with  
29 proportionality agreements emphasizing access for transfer students  
30 developed with the state board for community and technical colleges.  
31 Washington State University shall meet that responsibility through  
32 the operation of a ((branch)) campus in the southwest Washington  
33 area.

34 (2) Washington State University Vancouver shall expand upper  
35 division capacity for transfer students and graduate capacity and  
36 programs and continue to collaborate with local community colleges on  
37 coadmission and coenrollment programs. In addition, beginning in the  
38 fall of 2006, the campus may admit lower division students directly.



1 By simultaneously admitting first-year students and sophomores,  
2 increasing transfer enrollment, coadmitting transfer students, and  
3 expanding graduate and professional programs, the campus shall  
4 develop into a four-year institution serving the southwest Washington  
5 region.

6 **Sec. 10.** RCW 28B.45.080 and 2012 c 229 s 535 are each amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 The state board for community and technical colleges and the  
9 student achievement council shall adopt performance measures to  
10 ensure a collaborative partnership between the community and  
11 technical colleges and the ((branch)) campuses created under this  
12 chapter. The partnership shall be one in which the community and  
13 technical colleges prepare students for transfer to the upper-  
14 division programs of the ((branch)) campuses and the ((branch))  
15 campuses work with community and technical colleges to enable  
16 students to transfer and obtain degrees efficiently.

17 **Sec. 11.** RCW 28B.50.820 and 2012 c 229 s 538 are each amended to  
18 read as follows:

19 (1) One strategy to accomplish expansion of baccalaureate  
20 capacity in underserved regions of the state is to allocate state  
21 funds for student enrollment to a community and technical college and  
22 authorize the college to enter into agreements with a state  
23 university, regional university, or state college as defined in RCW  
24 28B.10.016, to offer baccalaureate degree programs.

25 (2) Subject to legislative appropriation for the purpose  
26 described in this section, the college board shall select and  
27 allocate funds to three community or technical colleges for the  
28 purpose of entering into an agreement with one or more state  
29 universities, regional universities, or the state college to offer  
30 baccalaureate degree programs on the college campus.

31 (3) The college board shall select the community or technical  
32 college based on analysis of gaps in service delivery, capacity, and  
33 student and employer demand for programs. Before taking effect, the  
34 agreement under this section must be approved by the student  
35 achievement council.

36 (4) Students enrolled in programs under this section are  
37 considered students of the state university, regional university,

1 ((~~branch-campus,~~)) or state college for all purposes including  
2 tuition and reporting of state-funded enrollments.

3 **Sec. 12.** RCW 34.05.514 and 2008 c 128 s 16 are each amended to  
4 read as follows:

5 (1) Except as provided in subsections (2) through (4) of this  
6 section, proceedings for review under this chapter shall be  
7 instituted by paying the fee required under RCW 36.18.020 and filing  
8 a petition in the superior court, at the petitioner's option, for (a)  
9 Thurston county, (b) the county of the petitioner's residence or  
10 principal place of business, or (c) in any county where the property  
11 owned by the petitioner and affected by the contested decision is  
12 located.

13 (2) For proceedings involving institutions of higher education,  
14 the petition shall be filed either in the county in which the  
15 principal office of the institution involved is located or in the  
16 county of ((~~a-branch~~)) an institution's campus if the action involves  
17 such ((~~branch~~)) campus.

18 (3) For proceedings conducted by the pollution control hearings  
19 board pursuant to chapter 43.21B RCW or as otherwise provided in RCW  
20 90.03.210(2) involving decisions of the department of ecology on  
21 applications for changes or transfers of water rights that are the  
22 subject of a general adjudication of water rights that is being  
23 litigated actively under chapter 90.03 or 90.44 RCW, the petition  
24 must be filed with the superior court conducting the adjudication, to  
25 be consolidated by the court with the general adjudication. A party  
26 to the adjudication shall be a party to the appeal under this chapter  
27 only if the party files or is served with a petition for review to  
28 the extent required by this chapter.

29 (4) For proceedings involving appeals of examinations or  
30 evaluation exercises of the board of pilotage commissioners under  
31 chapter 88.16 RCW, the petition must be filed either in Thurston  
32 county or in the county in which the board maintains its principal  
33 office.

34 **Sec. 13.** RCW 44.28.816 and 2014 c 162 s 3 are each amended to  
35 read as follows:

36 (1) During calendar year 2018, the joint committee shall complete  
37 a systemic performance audit of the tuition-setting authority in RCW  
38 28B.15.067 granted to the governing boards of the state universities,

1 regional universities, and The Evergreen State College. The audit  
2 must include a separate analysis of (~~both~~) the authority granted in  
3 RCW 28B.15.067(~~(3)~~ and the authority in RCW 28B.15.067(~~4~~)) (5). The  
4 purpose of the audit is to evaluate the impact of institutional  
5 tuition-setting authority on student access, affordability, and  
6 completion.

7 (2) The audit must include an evaluation of the following  
8 outcomes for each four-year institution of higher education:

9 (a) Changes in undergraduate enrollment, retention, and  
10 graduation by race and ethnicity, gender, state and county of origin,  
11 age, and socioeconomic status;

12 (b) The impact on student transferability, particularly from  
13 Washington community and technical colleges;

14 (c) Changes in time and credits to degree;

15 (d) Changes in the number and availability of online programs and  
16 undergraduate enrollments in the programs;

17 (e) Changes in enrollments in the running start and other dual  
18 enrollment programs;

19 (f) Impacts on funding levels for state student financial aid  
20 programs;

21 (g) Any changes in the percent of students who apply for student  
22 financial aid using the free application for federal student aid  
23 (FAFSA);

24 (h) Any changes in the percent of students who apply for  
25 available tax credits;

26 (i) Information on the use of building fee revenue by fiscal or  
27 academic year; and

28 (j) Undergraduate tuition and fee rates compared to undergraduate  
29 tuition and fee rates at similar institutions in the global challenge  
30 states.

31 (3) The audit must include recommendations on whether to continue  
32 tuition-setting authority beyond the 2018-19 academic year.

33 (4) In conducting the audit, the auditor shall solicit input from  
34 key higher education stakeholders, including but not limited to  
35 students and their families, faculty, and staff. To the maximum  
36 extent possible, data for the University of Washington and Washington  
37 State University shall be disaggregated by (~~branch~~) campus.

38 (5) The auditor shall report findings and recommendations to the  
39 appropriate committees of the legislature by December 15, 2018.

40 (6) This section expires December 31, 2018.

1       **Sec. 14.** RCW 43.41.393 and 2015 3rd sp.s. c 1 s 215 are each  
2 amended to read as follows:

3       The office, in conjunction with the K-20 network users, shall  
4 maintain a technical plan of the K-20 telecommunications system and  
5 ongoing system enhancements. The office shall ensure that the  
6 technical plan adheres to the goals and objectives established under  
7 RCW 43.105.054. The technical plan shall provide for:

8       (1) A telecommunications backbone connecting educational service  
9 districts, the main campuses of public baccalaureate institutions,  
10 all of the ((branch)) campuses of public research institutions, and  
11 the main campuses of community colleges and technical colleges.

12       (2)(a) Connection to the K-20 network by entities that include,  
13 but need not be limited to: School districts, public higher education  
14 off-campus and extension centers, and ((branch)) campuses of  
15 community colleges and technical colleges, as prioritized by the  
16 chief information officer; (b) distance education facilities and  
17 components for entities listed in this subsection and subsection (1)  
18 of this section; and (c) connection for independent nonprofit  
19 institutions of higher education, provided that:

20       (i) The office and each independent nonprofit institution of  
21 higher education to be connected agree in writing to terms and  
22 conditions of connectivity. The terms and conditions shall ensure,  
23 among other things, that the provision of K-20 services does not  
24 violate Article VIII, section 5 of the state Constitution and that  
25 the institution shall adhere to K-20 network policies; and

26       (ii) The office determines that inclusion of the independent  
27 nonprofit institutions of higher education will not significantly  
28 affect the network's eligibility for federal universal service fund  
29 discounts or subsidies.

30       (3) Subsequent phases may include, but need not be limited to,  
31 connections to public libraries, state and local governments,  
32 community resource centers, and the private sector.

33       **Sec. 15.** RCW 43.88D.010 and 2012 c 229 s 821 are each amended to  
34 read as follows:

35       (1) By October 1st of each even-numbered year, the office of  
36 financial management shall complete an objective analysis and scoring  
37 of all capital budget projects proposed by the public four-year  
38 institutions of higher education and submit the results of the  
39 scoring process to the legislative fiscal committees and the four-

1 year institutions. Each project must be reviewed and scored within  
2 one of the following categories, according to the project's principal  
3 purpose. Each project may be scored in only one category. The  
4 categories are:

5 (a) Access-related projects to accommodate enrollment growth at  
6 (~~main and branch~~) all campuses, at existing or new university  
7 centers, or through distance learning. Growth projects should provide  
8 significant additional student capacity. Proposed projects must  
9 demonstrate that they are based on solid enrollment demand  
10 projections, more cost-effectively provide enrollment access than  
11 alternatives such as university centers and distance learning, and  
12 make cost-effective use of existing and proposed new space;

13 (b) Projects that replace failing permanent buildings. Facilities  
14 that cannot be economically renovated are considered replacement  
15 projects. New space may be programmed for the same or a different use  
16 than the space being replaced and may include additions to improve  
17 access and enhance the relationship of program or support space;

18 (c) Projects that renovate facilities to restore building life  
19 and upgrade space to meet current program requirements. Renovation  
20 projects should represent a complete renovation of a total facility  
21 or an isolated wing of a facility. A reasonable renovation project  
22 should cost between sixty to eighty percent of current replacement  
23 value and restore the renovated area to at least twenty-five years of  
24 useful life. New space may be programmed for the same or a different  
25 use than the space being renovated and may include additions to  
26 improve access and enhance the relationship of program or support  
27 space;

28 (d) Major stand-alone campus infrastructure projects;

29 (e) Projects that promote economic growth and innovation through  
30 expanded research activity. The acquisition and installation of  
31 specialized equipment is authorized under this category; and

32 (f) Other project categories as determined by the office of  
33 financial management in consultation with the legislative fiscal  
34 committees.

35 (2) The office of financial management, in consultation with the  
36 legislative fiscal committees, shall establish a scoring system and  
37 process for each four-year project category that is based on the  
38 framework used in the community and technical college system of  
39 prioritization. Staff from the state board for community and  
40 technical colleges and the four-year institutions shall provide

1 technical assistance on the development of a scoring system and  
2 process.

3 (3) The office of financial management shall consult with the  
4 legislative fiscal committees in the scoring of four-year institution  
5 project proposals, and may also solicit participation by independent  
6 experts.

7 (a) For each four-year project category, the scoring system must,  
8 at a minimum, include an evaluation of enrollment trends,  
9 reasonableness of cost, the ability of the project to enhance  
10 specific strategic master plan goals, age and condition of the  
11 facility if applicable, and impact on space utilization.

12 (b) Each four-year project category may include projects at the  
13 predesign, design, or construction funding phase.

14 (c) To the extent possible, the objective analysis and scoring  
15 system of all capital budget projects shall occur within the context  
16 of any and all performance agreements between the office of financial  
17 management and the governing board of a public, four-year institution  
18 of higher education that aligns goals, priorities, desired outcomes,  
19 flexibility, institutional mission, accountability, and levels of  
20 resources.

21 (4) In evaluating and scoring four-year institution projects, the  
22 office of financial management shall take into consideration project  
23 schedules that result in realistic, balanced, and predictable  
24 expenditure patterns over the ensuing three biennia.

25 (5) The office of financial management shall distribute common  
26 definitions, the scoring system, and other information required for  
27 the project proposal and scoring process as part of its biennial  
28 budget instructions. The office of financial management, in  
29 consultation with the legislative fiscal committees, shall develop  
30 common definitions that four-year institutions must use in developing  
31 their project proposals and lists under this section.

32 (6) In developing any scoring system for capital projects  
33 proposed by the four-year institutions, the office of financial  
34 management:

35 (a) Shall be provided with all required information by the four-  
36 year institutions as deemed necessary by the office of financial  
37 management;

38 (b) May utilize independent services to verify, sample, or  
39 evaluate information provided to the office of financial management  
40 by the four-year institutions; and

1 (c) Shall have full access to all data maintained by the joint  
2 legislative audit and review committee concerning the condition of  
3 higher education facilities.

4 (7) By August 1st of each even-numbered year each public four-  
5 year higher education institution shall prepare and submit  
6 prioritized lists of the individual projects proposed by the  
7 institution for the ensuing six-year period in each category. The  
8 lists must be submitted to the office of financial management and the  
9 legislative fiscal committees. The four-year institutions may  
10 aggregate minor works project proposals by primary purpose for  
11 ranking purposes. Proposed minor works projects must be prioritized  
12 within the aggregated proposal, and supporting documentation,  
13 including project descriptions and cost estimates, must be provided  
14 to the office of financial management and the legislative fiscal  
15 committees.

16 **Sec. 16.** RCW 84.14.010 and 2014 c 96 s 3 are each amended to  
17 read as follows:

18 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter  
19 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

20 (1) "Affordable housing" means residential housing that is rented  
21 by a person or household whose monthly housing costs, including  
22 utilities other than telephone, do not exceed thirty percent of the  
23 household's monthly income. For the purposes of housing intended for  
24 owner occupancy, "affordable housing" means residential housing that  
25 is within the means of low or moderate-income households.

26 (2) "Campus facilities master plan" means the area that is  
27 defined by the University of Washington as necessary for the future  
28 growth and development of its campus facilities for ((branch))  
29 campuses authorized under RCW 28B.45.020.

30 (3) "City" means either (a) a city or town with a population of  
31 at least fifteen thousand, (b) the largest city or town, if there is  
32 no city or town with a population of at least fifteen thousand,  
33 located in a county planning under the growth management act, or (c)  
34 a city or town with a population of at least five thousand located in  
35 a county subject to the provisions of RCW 36.70A.215.

36 (4) "County" means a county with an unincorporated population of  
37 at least three hundred fifty thousand.

1 (5) "Governing authority" means the local legislative authority  
2 of a city or a county having jurisdiction over the property for which  
3 an exemption may be applied for under this chapter.

4 (6) "Growth management act" means chapter 36.70A RCW.

5 (7) "High cost area" means a county where the third quarter  
6 median house price for the previous year as reported by the  
7 Washington center for real estate research at Washington State  
8 University is equal to or greater than one hundred thirty percent of  
9 the statewide median house price published during the same time  
10 period.

11 (8) "Household" means a single person, family, or unrelated  
12 persons living together.

13 (9) "Low-income household" means a single person, family, or  
14 unrelated persons living together whose adjusted income is at or  
15 below eighty percent of the median family income adjusted for family  
16 size, for the county where the project is located, as reported by the  
17 United States department of housing and urban development. For cities  
18 located in high-cost areas, "low-income household" means a household  
19 that has an income at or below one hundred percent of the median  
20 family income adjusted for family size, for the county where the  
21 project is located.

22 (10) "Moderate-income household" means a single person, family,  
23 or unrelated persons living together whose adjusted income is more  
24 than eighty percent but is at or below one hundred fifteen percent of  
25 the median family income adjusted for family size, for the county  
26 where the project is located, as reported by the United States  
27 department of housing and urban development. For cities located in  
28 high-cost areas, "moderate-income household" means a household that  
29 has an income that is more than one hundred percent, but at or below  
30 one hundred fifty percent, of the median family income adjusted for  
31 family size, for the county where the project is located.

32 (11) "Multiple-unit housing" means a building having four or more  
33 dwelling units not designed or used as transient accommodations and  
34 not including hotels and motels. Multifamily units may result from  
35 new construction or rehabilitated or conversion of vacant,  
36 underutilized, or substandard buildings to multifamily housing.

37 (12) "Owner" means the property owner of record.

38 (13) "Permanent residential occupancy" means multiunit housing  
39 that provides either rental or owner occupancy on a nontransient  
40 basis. This includes owner-occupied or rental accommodation that is



1 leased for a period of at least one month. This excludes hotels and  
2 motels that predominately offer rental accommodation on a daily or  
3 weekly basis.

4 (14) "Rehabilitation improvements" means modifications to  
5 existing structures, that are vacant for twelve months or longer,  
6 that are made to achieve a condition of substantial compliance with  
7 existing building codes or modification to existing occupied  
8 structures which increase the number of multifamily housing units.

9 (15) "Residential targeted area" means an area within an urban  
10 center or urban growth area that has been designated by the governing  
11 authority as a residential targeted area in accordance with this  
12 chapter. With respect to designations after July 1, 2007,  
13 "residential targeted area" may not include a campus facilities  
14 master plan.

15 (16) "Rural county" means a county with a population between  
16 fifty thousand and seventy-one thousand and bordering Puget Sound.

17 (17) "Substantial compliance" means compliance with local  
18 building or housing code requirements that are typically required for  
19 rehabilitation as opposed to new construction.

20 (18) "Urban center" means a compact identifiable district where  
21 urban residents may obtain a variety of products and services. An  
22 urban center must contain:

23 (a) Several existing or previous, or both, business  
24 establishments that may include but are not limited to shops,  
25 offices, banks, restaurants, governmental agencies;

26 (b) Adequate public facilities including streets, sidewalks,  
27 lighting, transit, domestic water, and sanitary sewer systems; and

28 (c) A mixture of uses and activities that may include housing,  
29 recreation, and cultural activities in association with either  
30 commercial or office, or both, use.

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