
THIRD SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1512

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By House Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Bergquist, Stambaugh, McBride, Gregerson, Slatter, Frame, Macri, Peterson, Hudgins, Pollet, Orwall, Doglio, Appleton, Fitzgibbon, Goodman, Farrell, and Stanford)

READ FIRST TIME 01/26/18.

1 AN ACT Relating to expanding college bound scholarship
2 eligibility; amending RCW 28B.118.010, 28B.118.040, 28B.118.090, and
3 28B.92.060; and creating a new section.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28B.118.010 and 2017 3rd sp.s. c 20 s 11 are each
6 amended to read as follows:

7 The office of student financial assistance shall design the
8 Washington college bound scholarship program in accordance with this
9 section and in alignment with the state need grant program in chapter
10 28B.92 RCW unless otherwise provided in this section.

11 (1) "Eligible students" are those students who:

12 (a) Qualify for free or reduced-price lunches.

13 (i) If a student qualifies in the seventh or eighth grade, the
14 student remains eligible even if the student does not receive free or
15 reduced-price lunches thereafter;

16 (ii) Beginning in the 2018-19 academic year, if a student
17 qualifies for free or reduced-price lunches in the ninth grade and
18 was previously ineligible during the seventh or eighth grade while he
19 or she was a student in Washington, the student is eligible for the
20 college bound scholarship program; or

1 (iii) Beginning in the 2018-19 academic year, if a student
2 qualifies for free or reduced-price lunches in the tenth grade and
3 was previously ineligible during the seventh or eighth grade while he
4 or she was a student in Washington, the student is eligible for the
5 college bound scholarship program; or

6 (b) Are dependent pursuant to chapter 13.34 RCW and:

7 (i) In grade seven through twelve; or

8 (ii) Are between the ages of eighteen and twenty-one and have not
9 graduated from high school; or

10 (c) Were dependent pursuant to chapter 13.34 RCW and were adopted
11 between the ages of fourteen and eighteen with a negotiated adoption
12 agreement that includes continued eligibility for the Washington
13 state college bound scholarship program pursuant to RCW 74.13A.025.

14 (2) Eligible students shall be notified of their eligibility for
15 the Washington college bound scholarship program (~~(beginning)~~) in
16 their seventh, eighth, ninth, and tenth grade years. Students shall
17 also be notified of the requirements for award of the scholarship.

18 (3)(a) To be eligible for a Washington college bound scholarship,
19 a student eligible under subsection (1)(a)(i) of this section must
20 sign a pledge during seventh or eighth grade (~~(that includes)~~) or a
21 student eligible under subsection (1)(a)(ii) or (iii) of this section
22 must sign a pledge during ninth or tenth grade. The pledge must
23 include a commitment to graduate from high school with at least a C
24 average and with no felony convictions. The pledge must be witnessed
25 by a parent or guardian and forwarded to the office of student
26 financial assistance by mail or electronically, as indicated on the
27 pledge form.

28 (b) A student eligible under subsection (1)(b) of this section
29 shall be automatically enrolled, with no action necessary by the
30 student or the student's family, and the enrollment form must be
31 forwarded by the department of social and health services to the
32 (~~(higher education coordinating board or its successor)~~) student
33 achievement council by mail or electronically, as indicated on the
34 form.

35 (4)(a) Scholarships shall be awarded to eligible students
36 graduating from public high schools, approved private high schools
37 under chapter 28A.195 RCW, or who received home-based instruction
38 under chapter 28A.200 RCW.

39 (b)(i) To receive the Washington college bound scholarship, a
40 student must graduate with at least a "C" average from a public high

1 school or an approved private high school under chapter 28A.195 RCW
2 in Washington or have received home-based instruction under chapter
3 28A.200 RCW, must have no felony convictions, and must be a resident
4 student as defined in RCW 28B.15.012(2) (a) through (d).

5 (ii) For eligible children as defined in subsection (1)(b) and
6 (c) of this section, to receive the Washington college bound
7 scholarship, a student must have received a high school equivalency
8 certificate as provided in RCW 28B.50.536 or have graduated with at
9 least a "C" average from a public high school or an approved private
10 high school under chapter 28A.195 RCW in Washington or have received
11 home-based instruction under chapter 28A.200 RCW, must have no felony
12 convictions, and must be a resident student as defined in RCW
13 28B.15.012(2) (a) through (d).

14 For a student who does not meet the "C" average requirement, and
15 who completes fewer than two quarters in the running start program,
16 under chapter 28A.600 RCW, the student's first quarter of running
17 start course grades must be excluded from the student's overall grade
18 point average for purposes of determining their eligibility to
19 receive the scholarship.

20 (5) A student's family income will be assessed upon graduation
21 before awarding the scholarship.

22 (6) If at graduation from high school the student's family income
23 does not exceed sixty-five percent of the state median family income,
24 scholarship award amounts shall be as provided in this section.

25 (a) For students attending two or four-year institutions of
26 higher education as defined in RCW 28B.10.016, the value of the award
27 shall be (i) the difference between the student's tuition and
28 required fees, less the value of any state-funded grant, scholarship,
29 or waiver assistance the student receives; (ii) plus five hundred
30 dollars for books and materials.

31 (b) For students attending private four-year institutions of
32 higher education in Washington, the award amount shall be the
33 representative average of awards granted to students in public
34 research universities in Washington or the representative average of
35 awards granted to students in public research universities in
36 Washington in the 2014-15 academic year, whichever is greater.

37 (c) For students attending private vocational schools in
38 Washington, the award amount shall be the representative average of
39 awards granted to students in public community and technical colleges
40 in Washington or the representative average of awards granted to

1 students in public community and technical colleges in Washington in
2 the 2014-15 academic year, whichever is greater.

3 (7) Recipients may receive no more than four full-time years'
4 worth of scholarship awards.

5 (8) Institutions of higher education shall award the student all
6 need-based and merit-based financial aid for which the student would
7 otherwise qualify. The Washington college bound scholarship is
8 intended to replace unmet need, loans, and, at the student's option,
9 work-study award before any other grants or scholarships are reduced.

10 (9) The first scholarships shall be awarded to students
11 graduating in 2012.

12 (10) The state of Washington retains legal ownership of tuition
13 units awarded as scholarships under this chapter until the tuition
14 units are redeemed. These tuition units shall remain separately held
15 from any tuition units owned under chapter 28B.95 RCW by a Washington
16 college bound scholarship recipient.

17 (11) The scholarship award must be used within five years of
18 receipt. Any unused scholarship tuition units revert to the
19 Washington college bound scholarship account.

20 (12) Should the recipient terminate his or her enrollment for any
21 reason during the academic year, the unused portion of the
22 scholarship tuition units shall revert to the Washington college
23 bound scholarship account.

24 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28B.118.040 and 2015 c 244 s 4 are each amended to
25 read as follows:

26 The office of student financial assistance shall:

27 (1) With the assistance of the office of the superintendent of
28 public instruction, implement and administer the Washington college
29 bound scholarship program;

30 (2) Develop and distribute, to all schools with students enrolled
31 in grades seven (~~or eight~~) through ten, a pledge form that can be
32 completed and returned electronically or by mail by the student or
33 the school to the office of student financial assistance;

34 (3) Develop and implement a student application, selection, and
35 notification process for scholarships, which includes working with
36 other state agencies, law enforcement, or the court system to verify
37 that eligible students do not have felony convictions;

38 (4) Annually in March, with the assistance of the office of the
39 superintendent of public instruction, distribute to tenth grade

1 college bound scholarship students and their families: (a)
2 Notification that, to qualify for the scholarship, a student's family
3 income may not exceed sixty-five percent of the state median family
4 income at graduation from high school; (b) the current year's value
5 for sixty-five percent of the state median family income; and (c) a
6 statement that a student should consult their school counselor if
7 their family makes, or is projected to make, more than this value
8 before the student graduates;

9 (5) Develop comprehensive social media outreach with grade-level
10 specific information designed to keep students on track to graduate
11 and leverage current tools such as the high school and beyond plan
12 required by the state board of education and the ready set grad web
13 site maintained by the student achievement council;

14 (6) Track scholarship recipients to ensure continued eligibility
15 and determine student compliance for awarding of scholarships;

16 (7) Within existing resources, collaborate with college access
17 providers and K-12, postsecondary, and youth-serving organizations to
18 map and coordinate mentoring and advising resources across the state;

19 (8) Subject to appropriation, deposit funds into the state
20 educational trust fund;

21 (9) Purchase tuition units under the advanced college tuition
22 payment program in chapter 28B.95 RCW to be owned and held in trust
23 by the (~~board~~) student achievement council, for the purpose of
24 scholarship awards as provided for in this section; and

25 (10) Distribute scholarship funds, in the form of tuition units
26 purchased under the advanced college tuition payment program in
27 chapter 28B.95 RCW or through direct payments from the state
28 educational trust fund, to institutions of higher education on behalf
29 of scholarship recipients identified by the office, as long as
30 recipients maintain satisfactory academic progress.

31 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28B.118.090 and 2015 c 244 s 6 are each amended to
32 read as follows:

33 (1) Beginning January 1, 2015, and at a minimum every year
34 thereafter, the student achievement council and all institutions of
35 higher education eligible to participate in the college bound
36 scholarship program shall ensure data needed to analyze and evaluate
37 the effectiveness of the college bound scholarship program is
38 promptly transmitted to the education data center created in RCW

1 43.41.400 so that it is available and easily accessible. The data to
2 be reported should include but not be limited to:

3 (a) The number of students who sign up for the college bound
4 scholarship program in seventh or eighth grade, or in ninth or tenth
5 grade;

6 (b) The number of college bound scholarship students who graduate
7 from high school;

8 (c) The number of college bound scholarship students who enroll
9 in postsecondary education;

10 (d) Persistence and completion rates of college bound scholarship
11 recipients disaggregated by institutions of higher education;

12 (e) College bound scholarship recipient grade point averages;

13 (f) The number of college bound scholarship recipients who did
14 not remain eligible and reasons for ineligibility;

15 (g) College bound scholarship program costs; and

16 (h) Impacts to the state need grant program.

17 (2) Beginning May 12, 2015, and at a minimum every December 1st
18 thereafter, the student achievement council shall submit student unit
19 record data for the college bound scholarship program applicants and
20 recipients to the education data center.

21 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28B.92.060 and 2012 c 229 s 558 are each amended to
22 read as follows:

23 In awarding need grants, the office shall proceed substantially
24 as follows: PROVIDED, That nothing contained herein shall be
25 construed to prevent the office, in the exercise of its sound
26 discretion, from following another procedure when the best interest
27 of the program so dictates:

28 (1) The office shall annually select the financial aid award
29 recipients from among Washington residents applying for student
30 financial aid who have been ranked according to:

31 (a) Financial need as determined by the amount of the family
32 contribution; (~~and~~)

33 (b) College bound scholarship eligibility, in which students who
34 are eligible for the college bound scholarship and whose family
35 incomes are in the zero to seventy percent median family income range
36 shall be prioritized and awarded the maximum state need grant for
37 which they are eligible under state policies and may not be denied
38 maximum state need grant funding due to institutional policies or
39 delayed awarding of college bound scholarship students; and

1 (c) Other considerations, such as whether the student is a former
2 foster youth, or is a placebound student who has completed an
3 associate of arts or associate of science degree or its equivalent.

4 (2) The financial need of the highest ranked students shall be
5 met by grants depending upon the evaluation of financial need until
6 the total allocation has been disbursed. Funds from grants which are
7 declined, forfeited or otherwise unused shall be reawarded until
8 disbursed, except that eligible former foster youth shall be assured
9 receipt of a grant. The office, in consultation with four-year
10 institutions of higher education, the council, and the state board
11 for community and technical colleges, shall develop award criteria
12 and methods of disbursement based on level of need, and not solely
13 rely on a first-come, first-served basis.

14 (3) A student shall be eligible to receive a state need grant for
15 up to five years, or the credit or clock hour equivalent of five
16 years, or up to one hundred twenty-five percent of the published
17 length of time of the student's program. A student may not start a
18 new associate degree program as a state need grant recipient until at
19 least five years have elapsed since earning an associate degree as a
20 need grant recipient, except that a student may earn two associate
21 degrees concurrently. Qualifications for renewal will include
22 maintaining satisfactory academic progress toward completion of an
23 eligible program as determined by the office. Should the recipient
24 terminate his or her enrollment for any reason during the academic
25 year, the unused portion of the grant shall be returned to the state
26 educational grant fund by the institution according to the
27 institution's own policy for issuing refunds, except as provided in
28 RCW 28B.92.070.

29 (4) In computing financial need, the office shall determine a
30 maximum student expense budget allowance, not to exceed an amount
31 equal to the total maximum student expense budget at the public
32 institutions plus the current average state appropriation per student
33 for operating expense in the public institutions. Any child support
34 payments received by students who are parents attending less than
35 half-time shall not be used in computing financial need.

36 (5)(a) A student who is enrolled in three to six credit-bearing
37 quarter credits, or the equivalent semester credits, may receive a
38 grant for up to one academic year before beginning a program that
39 leads to a degree or certificate.

1 (b) An eligible student enrolled on a less-than-full-time basis
2 shall receive a prorated portion of his or her state need grant for
3 any academic period in which he or she is enrolled on a less-than-
4 full-time basis, as long as funds are available.

5 (c) An institution of higher education may award a state need
6 grant to an eligible student enrolled in three to six credit-bearing
7 quarter credits, or the semester equivalent, on a provisional basis
8 if:

9 (i) The student has not previously received a state need grant
10 from that institution;

11 (ii) The student completes the required free application for
12 federal student aid;

13 (iii) The institution has reviewed the student's financial
14 condition, and the financial condition of the student's family if the
15 student is a dependent student, and has determined that the student
16 is likely eligible for a state need grant; and

17 (iv) The student has signed a document attesting to the fact that
18 the financial information provided on the free application for
19 federal student aid and any additional financial information provided
20 directly to the institution is accurate and complete, and that the
21 student agrees to repay the institution for the grant amount if the
22 student submitted false or incomplete information.

23 (6) As used in this section, "former foster youth" means a person
24 who is at least eighteen years of age, but not more than twenty-four
25 years of age, who was a dependent of the department of social and
26 health services at the time he or she attained the age of eighteen.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** If specific funding for the purposes of
28 this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not
29 provided by June 30, 2018, in the omnibus appropriations act, this
30 act is null and void.

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