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HOUSE BILL 2386

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State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By Representatives Hudgins, Tarleton, Bergquist, Santos, Dolan, Valdez, Doglio, Pollet, and Stonier

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1 AN ACT Relating to room and board for college bound scholarship  
2 students; and amending RCW 28B.118.010.

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

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

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

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

11 (a) Qualify for free or reduced-price lunches. If a student  
12 qualifies in the seventh grade, the student remains eligible even if  
13 the student does not receive free or reduced-price lunches  
14 thereafter;

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

16 (i) In grade seven through twelve; or

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

19 (c) Were dependent pursuant to chapter 13.34 RCW and were adopted  
20 between the ages of fourteen and eighteen with a negotiated adoption

1 agreement that includes continued eligibility for the Washington  
2 state college bound scholarship program pursuant to RCW 74.13A.025.

3 (2) Eligible students shall be notified of their eligibility for  
4 the Washington college bound scholarship program beginning in their  
5 seventh grade year. Students shall also be notified of the  
6 requirements for award of the scholarship.

7 (3)(a) To be eligible for a Washington college bound scholarship,  
8 a student eligible under subsection (1)(a) of this section must sign  
9 a pledge during seventh or eighth grade that includes a commitment to  
10 graduate from high school with at least a C average and with no  
11 felony convictions. The pledge must be witnessed by a parent or  
12 guardian and forwarded to the office of student financial assistance  
13 by mail or electronically, as indicated on the pledge form.

14 (b) A student eligible under subsection (1)(b) of this section  
15 shall be automatically enrolled, with no action necessary by the  
16 student or the student's family, and the enrollment form must be  
17 forwarded by the department of social and health services to the  
18 higher education coordinating board or its successor by mail or  
19 electronically, as indicated on the form.

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

24 (b)(i) To receive the Washington college bound scholarship, a  
25 student must graduate with at least a "C" average from a public high  
26 school or an approved private high school under chapter 28A.195 RCW  
27 in Washington or have received home-based instruction under chapter  
28 28A.200 RCW, must have no felony convictions, and must be a resident  
29 student as defined in RCW 28B.15.012(2) (a) through (d).

30 (ii) For eligible children as defined in subsection (1)(b) and  
31 (c) of this section, to receive the Washington college bound  
32 scholarship, a student must have received a high school equivalency  
33 certificate as provided in RCW 28B.50.536 or have graduated with at  
34 least a "C" average from a public high school or an approved private  
35 high school under chapter 28A.195 RCW in Washington or have received  
36 home-based instruction under chapter 28A.200 RCW, must have no felony  
37 convictions, and must be a resident student as defined in RCW  
38 28B.15.012(2) (a) through (d).

39 For a student who does not meet the "C" average requirement, and  
40 who completes fewer than two quarters in the running start program,

1 under chapter 28A.600 RCW, the student's first quarter of running  
2 start course grades must be excluded from the student's overall grade  
3 point average for purposes of determining their eligibility to  
4 receive the scholarship.

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

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

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

16 (b) For students attending private four-year institutions of  
17 higher education in Washington, the award amount shall be the  
18 representative average of awards granted to students in public  
19 research universities in Washington or the representative average of  
20 awards granted to students in public research universities in  
21 Washington in the 2014-15 academic year, whichever is greater.

22 (c) For students attending private vocational schools in  
23 Washington, the award amount shall be the representative average of  
24 awards granted to students in public community and technical colleges  
25 in Washington or the representative average of awards granted to  
26 students in public community and technical colleges in Washington in  
27 the 2014-15 academic year, whichever is greater.

28 (d) If at graduation from high school the student meets all  
29 eligibility requirements for a Washington college bound scholarship  
30 and is homeless, as set forth in the federal McKinney-Vento homeless  
31 education assistance act (P.L. 100-77;101 Stat. 482), the award may  
32 also include on campus housing and a basic meal plan as provided in  
33 subsection (13) of this section.

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

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

1 (9) The first scholarships shall be awarded to students  
2 graduating in 2012.

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

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

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

15 (13) Two or four-year institutions of higher education as defined  
16 in RCW 28B.10.016, that have college or university-owned student  
17 housing, shall award the students identified in subsection (6)(d) of  
18 this section standard room and board at the college or university-  
19 owned student housing while the student is attending the college or  
20 university as a college bound scholarship recipient.

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