
SENATE BILL 5074

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2017 Regular Session

By Senators Frockt, Hasegawa, Carlyle, McCoy, Rolfes, Mullet, and Palumbo

Read first time 01/11/17. Referred to Committee on Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to aligning eligibility for the college bound
2 scholarship program with the state need grant program; and amending
3 RCW 28B.118.010.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28B.118.010 and 2015 3rd sp.s. c 36 s 8 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. If a student
13 qualifies in the seventh grade, the student remains eligible even if
14 the student does not receive free or reduced-price lunches
15 thereafter; or

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

17 (i) In grade seven through twelve; or

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

20 (2) Eligible students shall be notified of their eligibility for
21 the Washington college bound scholarship program beginning in their

1 seventh grade year. Students shall also be notified of the
2 requirements for award of the scholarship.

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

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

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

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

26 (ii) For a student who does not meet the "C" average requirement,
27 and who completes fewer than two quarters in the running start
28 program, under chapter 28A.600 RCW, the student's first quarter of
29 running start course grades must be excluded from the student's
30 overall grade point average for purposes of determining their
31 eligibility to receive the scholarship.

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

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

37 (a) For students attending two or four-year institutions of
38 higher education as defined in RCW 28B.10.016, the value of the award
39 shall be (i) the difference between the student's tuition and
40 required fees, less the value of any state-funded grant, scholarship,

1 or waiver assistance the student receives; (ii) plus five hundred
2 dollars for books and materials.

3 (b) For students attending private four-year institutions of
4 higher education in Washington, the award amount shall be the
5 representative average of awards granted to students in public
6 research universities in Washington or the representative average of
7 awards granted to students in public research universities in
8 Washington in the 2014-15 academic year, whichever is greater.

9 (c) For students attending private vocational schools in
10 Washington, the award amount shall be the representative average of
11 awards granted to students in public community and technical colleges
12 in Washington or the representative average of awards granted to
13 students in public community and technical colleges in Washington in
14 the 2014-15 academic year, whichever is greater.

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

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

22 (9) The first scholarships shall be awarded to students
23 graduating in 2012.

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

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

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

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