Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

College & Workforce Development Committee

SB 6374

Brief Description: Concerning apprenticeship materials for dual credit scholarship programs.

Sponsors: Senators Holy, Mullet, Padden, Wilson, L. and Wilson, C.

Brief Summary of Bill

• Adds the cost of apprenticeship materials to the Running Start scholarship provided under the Washington Dual Enrollment Scholarship Pilot Program.

Hearing Date: 2/25/20

Staff: Megan Mulvihill (786-7304).

Background:

Running Start.

Running Start (RS) courses are offered to eleventh and twelfth grade students by participating higher education institutions. RS courses may be on the higher education institution's campus, online, or at the student's high school. RS students do not pay tuition for RS courses, but may be charged fees and are responsible for books and transportation. The higher education institutions must provide fee waivers for low-income students, including those who qualify for free or reduced-price lunch.

Washington Dual Enrollment Scholarship Pilot Program.

The Washington Dual Enrollment Scholarship Pilot Program (Pilot Program) was established in 2019 to provide eligible students with scholarships to participate in RS or College in the High School programs. An eligible student is a student who:

- qualifies for free or reduced-price lunch;
- is enrolled in one or more dual credit programs; and
- has at least a 2.0 grade point average.

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House Bill Analysis - 1 - SB 6374

Under the Pilot Program, a student enrolled in College in the High School may receive a scholarship for tuition fees. A RS student may receive a scholarship to cover:

- mandatory fees, prorated based on credit load;
- course or laboratory fees; and
- a textbook voucher worth \$10 per credit the student is enrolled per quarter or equivalent, up to a maximum of 15 credits, per year.

For RS, the Student Achievement Council selected Eastern Washington University, Clark College, and Whatcom Community College to participate in the Pilot Program. The Pilot Program is set to expire July 1, 2025, pending sunset review by the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee.

Summary of Bill:

The RS scholarship for students participating in the Pilot Program is expanded to cover the cost of apprenticeship materials, as determined appropriate by the college or university. The scholarship may cover occupation-specific tools, work clothes, rain gear, or boots.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.