
SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2864

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2020 Regular Session

By House Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Paul, Morgan, Valdez, Bergquist, Lekanoff, and Santos)

READ FIRST TIME 02/11/20.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing a running start summer school
2 pilot program; adding a new section to chapter 28A.630 RCW; creating
3 a new section; and providing an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that the
6 successes of the running start program, a program that allows
7 students to earn high school and college credit through courses taken
8 at participating institutions of higher education, have enabled
9 students throughout the state to meaningfully advance their secondary
10 and postsecondary education goals. However, because running start
11 program schedules are constrained by the academic calendar of the
12 applicable high school, students are precluded from participating in
13 running start programs during the summer academic term.

14 (2) The legislature finds that creating a summer term running
15 start pilot program for students who have completed grade ten or
16 eleven would result in numerous benefits, including providing
17 students with additional opportunities to: Complete requirements for
18 earning a high school diploma or an associate's degree; and explore
19 college-level courses in a lower stress environment that does not
20 include concurrent high school obligations. The expansion of these
21 opportunities could be especially beneficial for students who:

1 (a) Need or want additional academic credit for high school
2 requirements;

3 (b) Are interested in maximizing opportunities to earn college
4 credit before or immediately after graduating from high school;

5 (c) Have not determined which career and educational pathways to
6 pursue after high school and wish to explore academic options; and

7 (d) May be the first in their family to attend an institution of
8 higher education.

9 (3) The legislature, therefore, intends to establish a two-year
10 running start summer school pilot program to evaluate interest in and
11 barriers to expanding the running start program to include the summer
12 term.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.630
14 RCW to read as follows:

15 (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this
16 specific purpose, the office of the superintendent of public
17 instruction, in consultation with the state board for community and
18 technical colleges, shall establish the running start summer school
19 pilot program as described in this section. The purpose of the pilot
20 program is to evaluate interest in and barriers to expanding the
21 running start program to include the summer term.

22 (2) The office of the superintendent of public instruction, in
23 consultation with the state board for community and technical
24 colleges, must select up to three community colleges that choose to
25 participate in the pilot program during the 2021 and 2022 summer
26 academic terms. One community college must be located east of the
27 crest of the Cascade mountains and another must be located in a
28 county with a population between one hundred fifteen thousand and one
29 hundred fifty thousand.

30 (3) Participating community colleges must establish agreements
31 with the school districts of eligible students about data sharing,
32 credit transfer, funds transfer, and other administrative matters.

33 (4) Under the pilot program, an eligible student may enroll in a
34 participating community college tuition-free. Students who are
35 eligible under subsection (7)(a)(ii) of this section may enroll for a
36 maximum of five college credits per summer academic term. Provisions
37 in RCW 28A.600.310 (2) and (3), which describe fees paid by running
38 start students and fee waivers for low-income running start students,
39 apply to eligible students participating in the pilot program.

1 (5) The school district of an eligible student must transmit to
2 the participating community college an amount per each full-time
3 equivalent college student at statewide uniform rates for vocational
4 and nonvocational students. The superintendent of public instruction
5 shall separately calculate and allocate amounts appropriated for this
6 specific purpose under the omnibus operating appropriations act to
7 school districts for purposes of making such payments and for
8 granting school districts seven percent thereof to offset pilot
9 program related costs. The calculations and allocations must be based
10 upon the estimated statewide annual average per full-time equivalent
11 high school student allocations under RCW 28A.150.260, excluding
12 small high school enhancements, and rules adopted under RCW
13 28A.600.390. The funds received by the community college from the
14 school district are not tuition or operating fees and may be retained
15 by the community college. A student enrolled under this section must
16 be counted for the purpose of meeting enrollment targets in
17 accordance with terms and conditions specified in the omnibus
18 operating appropriations act.

19 (6) By November 10, 2022, and in accordance with RCW 43.01.036,
20 the office of the superintendent of public instruction and the state
21 board for community and technical colleges shall jointly report to
22 the appropriate committees of the legislature with findings from and
23 recommendations regarding the pilot program, including recommending
24 whether to expand the running start program to include the summer
25 term.

26 (7) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this
27 section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

28 (a) "Eligible student" means:

29 (i) A student attending a participating high school who will be
30 eligible to enroll in grade eleven or twelve in the subsequent school
31 year; or

32 (ii) A student who graduated from a participating high school in
33 the current school year and who has five or fewer college credits to
34 earn before meeting associate degree requirements.

35 (b) "Participating community college" means a community college
36 selected, as described in subsection (2) of this section, to
37 participate in the pilot program.

38 (c) "Participating high school" means a high school in a school
39 district that has an agreement, as described under subsection (3) of
40 this section, with a participating community college.

1 (d) "Pilot program" means the running start summer pilot program
2 established in this section.

3 (e) "Running start program" has the same meaning as in RCW
4 28A.600.300.

5 (8) (a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, and unless
6 the context clearly requires otherwise, the requirements established
7 in RCW 28A.600.300 through 28A.600.400 apply to the running start
8 summer school pilot program.

9 (b) The provisions of RCW 28A.600.310(4) relating to calculation,
10 allocation, and distribution of funds and RCW 28A.600.385 relating to
11 cooperative agreements with community colleges in Oregon and Idaho do
12 not apply to this section.

13 (9) This section expires December 31, 2022.

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