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**SENATE BILL 5413**

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**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2019 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Keiser, King, Wellman, Holy, Das, Saldaña, Wilson, C., Hasegawa, and Hunt

Read first time 01/21/19. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to the pipeline for paraeducators conditional  
2 scholarship program; and amending RCW 28A.660.042 and 28A.660.050.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.660.042 and 2017 c 237 s 19 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (1) The pipeline for paraeducators conditional scholarship  
7 program is created. Participation is limited to paraeducators without  
8 a college degree who have at least ~~((three))~~ one year~~((s))~~ of  
9 classroom experience. It is anticipated that candidates enrolled in  
10 this program will complete their associate of arts degree at a  
11 community and technical college in ~~((two))~~ four years or less and  
12 become eligible for an endorsement in a subject matter shortage area,  
13 as defined by the professional educator standards board, via route  
14 one in the alternative route~~((s—te))~~ teacher certification program  
15 provided in this chapter.

16 (2) Entry requirements for candidates include district or  
17 building validation of qualifications, including three years of  
18 successful student interaction and leadership as a classified  
19 instructional employee.

1       **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.660.050 and 2016 c 233 s 14 are each amended to  
2 read as follows:

3       Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this  
4 specific purpose, the conditional scholarship programs in this  
5 chapter are created under the following guidelines:

6       (1) The programs shall be administered by the student achievement  
7 council. In administering the programs, the council has the following  
8 powers and duties:

9       (a) To adopt necessary rules and develop guidelines to administer  
10 the programs;

11       (b) To collect and manage repayments from participants who do not  
12 meet their service obligations; and

13       (c) To accept grants and donations from public and private  
14 sources for the programs.

15       (2) Requirements for participation in the conditional scholarship  
16 programs are as provided in this subsection (2).

17       (a) The alternative route conditional scholarship program is  
18 limited to interns of professional educator standards board-approved  
19 alternative route teacher certification programs (~~under RCW~~  
20 ~~28A.660.040~~). For fiscal year 2011, priority must be given to fiscal  
21 year 2010 participants in the alternative route partnership program.  
22 In order to receive conditional scholarship awards, recipients shall:

23       (i) Be accepted and maintain enrollment in an alternative route  
24 teacher certification program through a professional educator  
25 standards board-approved program;

26       (ii) Continue to make satisfactory progress toward completion of  
27 the alternative route teacher certification program and receipt of a  
28 residency teaching certificate; and

29       (iii) Receive no more than the annual amount of the scholarship,  
30 not to exceed eight thousand dollars, for the cost of tuition, fees,  
31 and educational expenses, including books, supplies, and  
32 transportation for the alternative route teacher certification  
33 program in which the recipient is enrolled. The council may adjust  
34 the annual award by the average rate of resident undergraduate  
35 tuition and fee increases at the state universities as defined in RCW  
36 28B.10.016.

37       (b) The pipeline for paraeducators conditional scholarship  
38 program is limited to qualified paraeducators as provided by RCW  
39 28A.660.042. In order to receive conditional scholarship awards,  
40 recipients shall:

1 (i) Be accepted and maintain enrollment at a community and  
2 technical college for no more than (~~two~~) four years and attain an  
3 associate of arts degree;

4 (ii) Continue to make satisfactory progress toward completion of  
5 an associate of arts degree. This progress requirement is a condition  
6 for eligibility into a route one program of the alternative route  
7 teacher certification program for an early childhood education,  
8 elementary education, mathematics, computer science, special  
9 education, bilingual education, or English as a second language  
10 endorsement; and

11 (iii) Receive no more than the annual amount of the scholarship,  
12 not to exceed four thousand dollars, for the cost of tuition, fees,  
13 and educational expenses, including books, supplies, and  
14 transportation for the alternative route teacher certification  
15 program in which the recipient is enrolled. The student achievement  
16 council may adjust the annual award by the average rate of tuition  
17 and fee increases at the state community and technical colleges.

18 (c) The educator retooling conditional scholarship program is  
19 limited to current K-12 teachers. In order to receive conditional  
20 scholarship awards:

21 (i) Individuals currently employed as teachers shall pursue an  
22 endorsement in a subject or geographic endorsement shortage area, as  
23 defined by the professional educator standards board, including but  
24 not limited to mathematics, science, special education, elementary  
25 education, early childhood education, bilingual education, English  
26 language learner, computer science education, or environmental and  
27 sustainability education; or

28 (ii) Individuals who are certificated with an elementary  
29 education endorsement shall pursue an endorsement in a subject or  
30 geographic endorsement shortage area, as defined by the professional  
31 educator standards board, including but not limited to mathematics,  
32 science, special education, bilingual education, English language  
33 learner, computer science education, or environmental and  
34 sustainability education; and

35 (iii) Individuals shall use one of the pathways to endorsement  
36 processes to receive an endorsement in a subject or geographic  
37 endorsement shortage area, as defined by the professional educator  
38 standards board, including but not limited to mathematics, science,  
39 special education, bilingual education, English language learner,  
40 computer science education, or environmental and sustainability

1 education, which shall include passing an endorsement test plus  
2 observation and completing applicable coursework to attain the proper  
3 endorsement; and

4 (iv) Individuals shall receive no more than the annual amount of  
5 the scholarship, not to exceed three thousand dollars, for the cost  
6 of tuition, test fees, and educational expenses, including books,  
7 supplies, and transportation for the endorsement pathway being  
8 pursued.

9 (3) The Washington professional educator standards board shall  
10 select individuals to receive conditional scholarships. In selecting  
11 recipients, preference shall be given to eligible veterans or  
12 national guard members. In awarding conditional scholarships to  
13 support additional bilingual education or English language learner  
14 endorsements, the board shall also give preference to teachers  
15 assigned to schools required under state or federal accountability  
16 measures to implement a plan for improvement, and to teachers  
17 assigned to schools whose enrollment of English language learner  
18 students has increased an average of more than five percent per year  
19 over the previous three years.

20 (4) For the purpose of this chapter, a conditional scholarship is  
21 a loan that is forgiven in whole or in part in exchange for service  
22 as a certificated teacher employed in a Washington state K-12 public  
23 school. The state shall forgive one year of loan obligation for every  
24 two years a recipient teaches in a public school. Recipients who fail  
25 to continue a course of study leading to residency teacher  
26 certification or cease to teach in a public school in the state of  
27 Washington in their endorsement area are required to repay the  
28 remaining loan principal with interest.

29 (5) Recipients who fail to fulfill the required teaching  
30 obligation are required to repay the remaining loan principal with  
31 interest and any other applicable fees. The student achievement  
32 council shall adopt rules to define the terms for repayment,  
33 including applicable interest rates, fees, and deferments.

34 (6) The student achievement council may deposit all  
35 appropriations, collections, and any other funds received for the  
36 program in this chapter in the future teachers conditional  
37 scholarship account authorized in RCW 28B.102.080.

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