
HOUSE BILL 2077

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2024 Regular Session

By Representatives Reed, Bergquist, and Pollet

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1 AN ACT Relating to making higher education more accessible by
2 modifying the Washington guaranteed admissions program and requiring
3 student notifications; and adding new sections to chapter 28A.150
4 RCW.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.150
7 RCW to read as follows:

8 (1)(a) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for
9 this specific purpose, beginning with the 2025-26 academic year, each
10 public school district that operates a high school must enter into a
11 data-sharing agreement with participating state universities,
12 regional universities, and the state college, as defined in RCW
13 28B.10.016, in guaranteed admissions to facilitate the transfer of
14 11th and 12th grade high school student data that meets the criteria
15 determined by the Washington guaranteed admissions program by
16 September 30, 2025.

17 (b) The regional universities, the state college, and at least
18 one campus of each state university must participate in the
19 Washington guaranteed admissions program by January 1, 2025.

20 (2) An organization representing the presidents of the public
21 four-year institutions of higher education must hold the high school

1 student data collected under this section and make the information
2 available to participating public four-year institutions of higher
3 education, as defined in RCW 28B.10.016, for the purpose of
4 guaranteeing admission to qualified applicants in accordance with
5 this act.

6 (3) Beginning with the 2025-26 academic year, each public school
7 district that operates a high school must notify students and parents
8 or guardians regarding the Washington guaranteed admissions program
9 and general admissions. Each notification must provide a parent or
10 guardian of a high school student with an opportunity to opt the
11 student out of the Washington guaranteed admissions program. Public
12 school districts must work with participating public four-year
13 institutions of higher education through an organization representing
14 the presidents of the public four-year institutions of higher
15 education to create the notification to students and families.

16 (4) Through an organization representing the presidents of the
17 public four-year institutions of higher education, public four-year
18 institutions of higher education participating in the Washington
19 guaranteed admissions program must collaborate with the student
20 achievement council to jointly determine eligibility criteria for the
21 program and annually review eligibility criteria.

22 (5) By December 10, 2026, and each year thereafter until December
23 31, 2031, an organization representing the presidents of the public
24 four-year institutions of higher education must submit an annual
25 report on the Washington guaranteed admissions program to the
26 appropriate committees of the legislature, pursuant to RCW 43.01.036.
27 The report must include eligibility criteria and changes made to the
28 Washington guaranteed admissions program in the prior academic year.

29 (6) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this
30 section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

31 (a) "High school" means a public school, as provided in RCW
32 28A.150.010, that serves students in any of grades nine through 12.

33 (b) "Public school district" means a school district eligible to
34 receive state basic education moneys under RCW 28A.150.250 and
35 28A.150.260.

36 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.150
37 RCW to read as follows:

38 (1) The student achievement council must collaborate with the
39 office of the superintendent of public instruction, an organization

1 representing the presidents of the public four-year institutions of
2 higher education, and the Washington school counselor association to
3 create a notice detailing the definitions and eligibility criteria
4 for the following programs or initiatives:

- 5 (a) Washington guaranteed admissions program;
- 6 (b) Washington college grant program;
- 7 (c) Dual credit programs such as running start and college in the
8 high school;
- 9 (d) Career and technical education programs;
- 10 (e) Two-year college pathways;
- 11 (f) Free application for federal student aid; and
- 12 (g) Washington application for state financial aid.

13 (2) The office of the superintendent of public instruction must
14 disseminate the notice created in subsection (1) of this section to
15 each public school district that operates a high school.

16 (3) (a) Beginning in the 2024-25 academic year, each public school
17 district that operates a high school must disseminate the notice
18 created in subsection (1) of this section to ninth, 10th, and 11th
19 grade students and their parents or guardians at the beginning of the
20 academic year but no later than November of each academic year. The
21 notice may be disseminated electronically.

22 (b) Beginning in the 2024-25 academic year, each public school
23 district that operates a high school must designate a staff member or
24 create a virtual resource for students to learn more about the
25 information contained in the notice created in subsection (1) of this
26 section.

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