
SENATE BILL 5079

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2023 Regular Session

By Senators Braun, Lias, Boehnke, Dozier, Holy, King, Mullet, Muzzall, Saldaña, Schoesler, Wagoner, and Wellman

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1 AN ACT Relating to the date by which tuition operating fees are
2 established; and amending RCW 28B.15.067.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28B.15.067 and 2021 c 200 s 9 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) Tuition fees shall be established under the provisions of
7 this chapter.

8 (2) (~~Tuition~~) The maximum increase in tuition operating fees
9 for resident undergraduates at institutions of higher education as
10 defined in RCW 28B.10.016, excluding applied baccalaureate degrees as
11 defined in RCW 28B.50.030, shall be calculated by the office of
12 financial management and transmitted to the institutions of higher
13 education by October 1st of each year for the following academic
14 year. Tuition operating fees for resident undergraduates at
15 institutions of higher education as defined in RCW 28B.10.016,
16 excluding applied baccalaureate degrees as defined in RCW 28B.50.030,
17 may increase by no more than the average annual percentage growth
18 rate in the median hourly wage for Washington (~~for the previous~~
19 fourteen years)) as the wage is determined by the federal bureau of
20 labor statistics and calculated based on the previous 14 years prior
21 to the transmittal date by the office of financial management.

1 (3) The governing boards of the state universities, regional
2 universities, and The Evergreen State College; and the state board
3 for community and technical colleges may reduce or increase full-time
4 tuition fees for all students other than resident undergraduates,
5 including nonresident students, summer school students, and students
6 in other self-supporting degree programs. Percentage increases in
7 full-time tuition may exceed the fiscal growth factor. Except during
8 the 2013-2015 fiscal biennium, the state board for community and
9 technical colleges may pilot or institute differential tuition
10 models. The board may define scale, scope, and rationale for the
11 models.

12 (4) The tuition fees established under this chapter shall not
13 apply to high school students enrolling in participating institutions
14 of higher education under RCW 28A.600.300 through 28A.600.400.

15 (5)(a) The tuition fees established under this chapter shall not
16 apply to eligible students enrolling in a dropout reengagement
17 program through an interlocal agreement between a school district and
18 a community or technical college under RCW 28A.175.100 through
19 28A.175.110.

20 (b) The tuition fees established under this chapter shall not
21 apply to students incarcerated with the department of corrections who
22 are participating in credit-eligible postsecondary education courses
23 and degree programs when the program expenses are funded by
24 nontuition resources such as, but not limited to, grants, contracts,
25 and donations.

26 (6) As a result of any changes in tuition under section 3,
27 chapter 36, Laws of 2015 3rd sp. sess., the governing boards of the
28 state universities, the regional universities, and The Evergreen
29 State College shall not reduce resident undergraduate enrollment
30 below the 2014-15 academic year levels.

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