
HOUSE BILL 1316

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Representatives Leavitt, Caldier, Shavers, Davis, Reed, Salahuddin, Pollet, Nance, Doglio, and Timmons

Read first time 01/15/25. Referred to Committee on Appropriations.

1 AN ACT Relating to expanding the scope of programs for
2 postsecondary students experiencing homelessness and former foster
3 youth; and amending RCW 28B.77.850.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28B.77.850 and 2023 c 339 s 2 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this
8 specific purpose, each public four-year institution of higher
9 education, their respective university campuses pursuant to chapter
10 28B.45 RCW, and the tribal college may implement a program to provide
11 assistance to students experiencing homelessness and to students who
12 were in the foster care system when they graduated high school. The
13 program must provide certain accommodations to these students that
14 may include, but are not limited to, the following:

15 (a) Access to laundry facilities;

16 (b) Access to storage;

17 (c) Access to locker room and shower facilities;

18 (d) Reduced-price meals or meal plans, and access to food banks;

19 (e) Access to technology;

20 (f) Access to short-term housing or housing assistance,
21 especially during seasonal breaks; and

1 (g) Case management services.

2 (2) The public four-year institutions of higher education, their
3 respective university campuses, and the tribal college may also
4 establish plans to develop surplus property for affordable housing to
5 accommodate the needs of students experiencing homelessness and
6 students who were in the foster care system when they graduated high
7 school.

8 (3) The public four-year institutions of higher education, their
9 respective university campuses, and the tribal college participating
10 in the program shall leverage existing community resources by making
11 available to students in the program information that is available
12 for individuals experiencing homelessness, including through not-for-
13 profit organizations, the local housing authority, and the department
14 of commerce's office of homeless youth.

15 (4) The public four-year institutions of higher education, their
16 respective university campuses, and the tribal college participating
17 in the program shall annually provide a joint report to the
18 appropriate committees of the legislature in accordance with RCW
19 43.01.036 beginning December 1, 2023, that includes at least the
20 following information:

21 (a) The number of students experiencing homelessness or food
22 insecurity, and the number of students who were in the foster care
23 system when they graduated high school who attended a public four-
24 year institution of higher education, its respective university
25 campus, or the tribal college during the program. The council shall
26 coordinate with all of the four-year institutions of higher
27 education, their respective university campuses, and the tribal
28 college to collect voluntary data on how many students experiencing
29 homelessness or food insecurity are attending the four-year
30 institutions of higher education, their respective university
31 campuses, and the tribal college;

32 (b) The number of students assisted by the program;

33 (c) Strategies for accommodating students experiencing
34 homelessness or food insecurity, and former foster care students; and

35 (d) Legislative recommendations for how students experiencing
36 homelessness or food insecurity, and former foster care students
37 could be better served.

38 (5) For purposes of this section, (~~"program"~~) the following
39 definitions apply:

1 (a) "Program" means the students experiencing homelessness and
2 foster youth program;

3 (b) "Tribal college" means a public tribal college located in
4 Washington and accredited by the northwest commission on colleges and
5 universities or another accrediting association recognized by the
6 United States department of education.

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