

---

**SENATE BILL 5158**

---

**State of Washington**

**69th Legislature**

**2025 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Valdez, Boehnke, and Nobles

Prefiled 01/07/25. Read first time 01/13/25. Referred to Committee on Higher Education & Workforce Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to student athlete insurance; and amending RCW  
2 28B.10.660.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28B.10.660 and 2009 c 297 s 1 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (1) The governing boards of any of the state's institutions of  
7 higher education may make available liability, life, health, health  
8 care, accident, disability and salary protection or insurance or any  
9 one of, or a combination of, the enumerated types of insurance, or  
10 any other type of insurance or protection, for the regents or  
11 trustees and students of the institution. Except as provided in  
12 subsections (2) (~~and~~), (3), and (4) of this section, the premiums  
13 due on such protection or insurance shall be borne by the assenting  
14 regents, trustees, or students. The regents or trustees of any of the  
15 state institutions of higher education may make liability insurance  
16 available for employees of the institutions. The premiums due on such  
17 liability insurance shall be borne by the university or college.

18 (2) A governing board of a public four-year institution of higher  
19 education may make available, and pay the costs of, health benefits  
20 for graduate students holding graduate service appointments,  
21 designated as such by the institution. Such health benefits may

1 provide coverage for spouses and dependents of such graduate student  
2 appointees.

3 (3) A governing board of a state institution of higher education  
4 may require its students who participate in studies or research  
5 outside of the United States sponsored, arranged, or approved by the  
6 institution to purchase, as a condition of participation, insurance  
7 approved by the governing board, that will provide coverage for  
8 expenses arising from emergency evacuation, repatriation of remains,  
9 injury, illness, or death sustained while participating in the study  
10 or research abroad. The governing board of the institution may bear  
11 all or part of the costs of the insurance. A student shall not be  
12 required to purchase insurance if the student is covered under an  
13 insurance policy that will provide coverage for expenses arising from  
14 emergency evacuation, repatriation of remains, injury, illness, or  
15 death sustained while participating in the study or research abroad.

16 (4) A governing board of a public four-year institution of higher  
17 education may make available, and pay the costs of, insurance for  
18 intercollegiate student athletes, designated as such by the  
19 institution. Such insurance may cover student athletes currently  
20 enrolled at the institution, and, more narrowly, former student  
21 athletes who, by rule of the institution's athletic association, are  
22 entitled to a period of posteligibility health care to address  
23 athletics-related injuries and conditions.

--- END ---