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HOUSE BILL 1280

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State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Representative Shavers; by request of Superintendent of Public Instruction

1 AN ACT Relating to career and technical education in sixth grade;  
2 amending RCW 28A.150.265; and reenacting and amending RCW  
3 28A.150.260.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28A.150.260 and 2024 c 262 s 2 and 2024 c 191 s 2  
6 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

7 The purpose of this section is to provide for the allocation of  
8 state funding that the legislature deems necessary to support school  
9 districts in offering the minimum instructional program of basic  
10 education under RCW 28A.150.220. The allocation shall be determined  
11 as follows:

12 (1) The governor shall and the superintendent of public  
13 instruction may recommend to the legislature a formula for the  
14 distribution of a basic education instructional allocation for each  
15 common school district.

16 (2)(a) The distribution formula under this section shall be for  
17 allocation purposes only. Except as may be required under subsections  
18 (4)(b) and (c), (5)(b) and (c), (8), and (9) of this section, chapter  
19 28A.155, 28A.165, 28A.180, or 28A.185 RCW, or federal laws and  
20 regulations, nothing in this section requires school districts to use  
21 basic education instructional funds to implement a particular

1 instructional approach or service. Nothing in this section requires  
2 school districts to maintain a particular classroom teacher-to-  
3 student ratio or other staff-to-student ratio or to use allocated  
4 funds to pay for particular types or classifications of staff.  
5 Nothing in this section entitles an individual teacher to a  
6 particular teacher planning period.

7 (b) To promote transparency in state funding allocations, the  
8 superintendent of public instruction must report state per-pupil  
9 allocations for each school district for the general apportionment,  
10 special education, learning assistance, transitional bilingual,  
11 highly capable, and career and technical education programs. The  
12 superintendent must report this information in a user-friendly format  
13 on the main page of the office's website. School districts must  
14 include a link to the superintendent's per-pupil allocations report  
15 on the main page of the school district's website. In addition, the  
16 budget documents published by the legislature for the enacted omnibus  
17 operating appropriations act must report statewide average per-pupil  
18 allocations for general apportionment and the categorical programs  
19 listed in this subsection.

20 (3)(a) To the extent the technical details of the formula have  
21 been adopted by the legislature and except when specifically provided  
22 as a school district allocation, the distribution formula for the  
23 basic education instructional allocation shall be based on minimum  
24 staffing and nonstaff costs the legislature deems necessary to  
25 support instruction and operations in prototypical schools serving  
26 high, middle, and elementary school students as provided in this  
27 section. The use of prototypical schools for the distribution formula  
28 does not constitute legislative intent that schools should be  
29 operated or structured in a similar fashion as the prototypes.  
30 Prototypical schools illustrate the level of resources needed to  
31 operate a school of a particular size with particular types and grade  
32 levels of students using commonly understood terms and inputs, such  
33 as class size, hours of instruction, and various categories of school  
34 staff. It is the intent that the funding allocations to school  
35 districts be adjusted from the school prototypes based on the actual  
36 number of annual average full-time equivalent students in each grade  
37 level at each school in the district and not based on the grade-level  
38 configuration of the school to the extent that data is available. The  
39 allocations shall be further adjusted from the school prototypes with

1 minimum allocations for small schools and to reflect other factors  
2 identified in the omnibus appropriations act.

3 (b) For the purposes of this section, prototypical schools are  
4 defined as follows:

5 (i) A prototypical high school has 600 average annual full-time  
6 equivalent students in grades nine through 12;

7 (ii) A prototypical middle school has 432 average annual full-  
8 time equivalent students in grades seven and eight; and

9 (iii) A prototypical elementary school has 400 average annual  
10 full-time equivalent students in grades kindergarten through six.

11 (4)(a)(i) The minimum allocation for each level of prototypical  
12 school shall be based on the number of full-time equivalent classroom  
13 teachers needed to provide instruction over the minimum required  
14 annual instructional hours under RCW 28A.150.220 and provide at least  
15 one teacher planning period per school day, and based on the  
16 following general education average class size of full-time  
17 equivalent students per teacher:

	General education average class size
18 Grades K-3. . . . .	17.00
19 Grade 4. . . . .	27.00
20 Grades 5-6. . . . .	27.00
21 Grades 7-8. . . . .	28.53
22 Grades 9-12. . . . .	28.74

23 (ii) The minimum class size allocation for each prototypical high  
24 school shall also provide for enhanced funding for class size  
25 reduction for two laboratory science classes within grades nine  
26 through 12 per full-time equivalent high school student multiplied by  
27 a laboratory science course factor of 0.0833, based on the number of  
28 full-time equivalent classroom teachers needed to provide instruction  
29 over the minimum required annual instructional hours in RCW  
30 28A.150.220, and providing at least one teacher planning period per  
31 school day:

	Laboratory science average class size
32 Grades 9-12. . . . .	19.98

33 (b)(i) Beginning September 1, 2019, funding for average K-3 class  
34 sizes in this subsection (4) may be provided only to the extent of,

1 and proportionate to, the school district's demonstrated actual class  
2 size in grades K-3, up to the funded class sizes.

3 (ii) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall  
4 develop rules to implement this subsection (4)(b).

5 (c)(i) The minimum allocation for each prototypical middle and  
6 high school shall also provide for full-time equivalent classroom  
7 teachers based on the following number of full-time equivalent  
8 students per teacher in career and technical education:

	Career and technical education average class size
9	
10	
11	
12	Approved career and technical education offered at
13	the middle school and high school level. . . . . 23.00
14	Skill center programs meeting the standards established
15	by the office of the superintendent of public
16	instruction. . . . . 19.00

17 (ii) Funding allocated under this subsection (4)(c) is subject to  
18 RCW 28A.150.265.

19 (d) In addition, the omnibus appropriations act shall at a  
20 minimum specify:

21 (i) A high-poverty average class size in schools where more than  
22 50 percent of the students are eligible for free and reduced-price  
23 meals; and

24 (ii) A specialty average class size for advanced placement and  
25 international baccalaureate courses.

26 (5)(a) The minimum allocation for each level of prototypical  
27 school shall include allocations for the following types of staff in  
28 addition to classroom teachers:

	Elementary	Middle	High
	School	School	School
29			
30			
31			
32	Principals, assistant principals, and other certificated building-level		
33	administrators. . . . . 1.253	1.353	1.880
34	Teacher-librarians, a function that includes information literacy, technology,		
35	and media to support school library media programs. . . . . 0.663	0.519	0.523
36	Paraeducators, including any aspect of educational instructional services		
37	provided by classified employees. . . . . 1.012	0.776	0.728
	Office support and other noninstructional aides. . . . . 2.088	2.401	3.345

1	Custodians.....	1.657	1.942	2.965
2	Nurses.....	0.585	0.888	0.824
3	Social workers.....	0.311	0.088	0.127
4	Psychologists.....	0.104	0.024	0.049
5	Counselors.....	0.993	1.716	3.039
6	Classified staff providing student and staff safety.....	0.079	0.092	0.141
7	Parent involvement coordinators.....	0.0825	0.00	0.00

8 (b) (i) The superintendent may only allocate funding, up to the  
9 combined minimum allocations, for nurses, social workers,  
10 psychologists, counselors, classified staff providing student and  
11 staff safety, and parent involvement coordinators under (a) of this  
12 subsection to the extent of and proportionate to a school district's  
13 demonstrated actual ratios of: Full-time equivalent physical, social,  
14 and emotional support staff to full-time equivalent students.

15 (ii) The superintendent must adopt rules to implement this  
16 subsection (5)(b) and the rules must require school districts to  
17 prioritize funding allocated as required by (b) (i) of this subsection  
18 for physical, social, and emotional support staff who hold a valid  
19 educational staff associate certificate appropriate for the staff's  
20 role.

21 (iii) For the purposes of this subsection (5)(b), "physical,  
22 social, and emotional support staff" include nurses, social workers,  
23 psychologists, counselors, classified staff providing student and  
24 staff safety, parent involvement coordinators, and other school  
25 district employees and contractors who provide physical, social, and  
26 emotional support to students as defined by the superintendent.

27 (c) The superintendent shall develop rules that require school  
28 districts to use the additional funding provided under (a) of this  
29 subsection to support increased staffing, prevent layoffs, or  
30 increase salaries for the following staff types in the 2024-25 school  
31 year: Paraeducators, office support, and noninstructional aides. The  
32 superintendent shall collect data from school districts on how the  
33 increased allocations are used.

34 (6) (a) The minimum staffing allocation for each school district  
35 to provide district-wide support services shall be allocated per one  
36 thousand annual average full-time equivalent students in grades K-12  
37 as follows:

	Staff per 1,000 K-12 students
1 Technology. . . . .	0.628
2 Facilities, maintenance, and grounds. . . . .	1.813
3 Warehouse, laborers, and mechanics. . . . .	0.332

6 (b) The minimum allocation of staff units for each school  
7 district to support certificated and classified staffing of central  
8 administration shall be 5.30 percent of the staff units generated  
9 under subsections (4)(a) and (5) of this section and (a) of this  
10 subsection.

11 (7) The distribution formula shall include staffing allocations  
12 to school districts for career and technical education and skill  
13 center administrative and other school-level certificated staff, as  
14 specified in the omnibus appropriations act.

15 (8)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, the minimum  
16 allocation for each school district shall include allocations per  
17 annual average full-time equivalent student for the following  
18 materials, supplies, and operating costs as provided in the 2023-24  
19 school year, after which the allocations shall be adjusted annually  
20 for inflation as specified in the omnibus appropriations act:

	Per annual average full-time equivalent student in grades K-12
21 Technology. . . . .	\$178.98
22 Utilities and insurance. . . . .	\$430.26
23 Curriculum and textbooks. . . . .	\$164.48
24 Other supplies . . . . .	\$326.54
25 Library materials. . . . .	\$22.65
26 Instructional professional development for certificated and 27 classified staff. . . . .	\$28.94
28 Facilities maintenance. . . . .	\$206.22
29 Security and central office administration. . . . .	\$146.37

30 (b) In addition to the amounts provided in (a) of this  
31 subsection, beginning in the 2023-24 school year, the omnibus  
32 appropriations act shall provide the following minimum allocation for  
33 each annual average full-time equivalent student in grades nine  
34 through 12 for the following materials, supplies, and operating  
35 costs, to be adjusted annually for inflation:  
36  
37  
38

1		Per annual average
2		full-time equivalent student
3		in grades 9-12
4	Technology. . . . .	\$44.05
5	Curriculum and textbooks. . . . .	\$48.06
6	Other supplies . . . . .	\$94.07
7	Library materials. . . . .	\$6.05
8	Instructional professional development for certificated and	
9	classified staff. . . . .	\$8.01

10 (c) The increased allocation amount of \$21 per annual average  
11 full-time equivalent student for materials, supplies, and operating  
12 costs provided under (a) of this subsection is intended to address  
13 growing costs in the enumerated categories and may not be expended  
14 for any other purpose.

15 (9) (a) In addition to the amounts provided in subsection (8) of  
16 this section and subject to RCW 28A.150.265, the omnibus  
17 appropriations act shall provide an amount based on full-time  
18 equivalent student enrollment in each of the following:

19 ~~((a))~~ (i) Exploratory career and technical education courses  
20 for students in grades ~~((seven))~~ six through 12 offered in a middle  
21 or high school;

22 ~~((b))~~ (ii) Preparatory career and technical education courses  
23 for students in grades nine through 12 offered in a high school; and

24 ~~((c))~~ (iii) Preparatory career and technical education courses  
25 for students in grades 11 and 12 offered through a skill center.

26 (b) School districts may only receive funding under (a)(i) of  
27 this subsection for middle school courses if those courses are  
28 developed within a planned program of study that provides a  
29 nonduplicative progression of aligned career and technical education  
30 opportunities across both middle school and high school.

31 (10) In addition to the allocations otherwise provided under this  
32 section, amounts shall be provided to support the following programs  
33 and services:

34 (a) (i) To provide supplemental instruction and services for  
35 students who are not meeting academic standards through the learning  
36 assistance program under RCW 28A.165.005 through 28A.165.065,  
37 allocations shall be based on the greater of either: The district  
38 percentage of students in kindergarten through grade 12 who were  
39 eligible for free or reduced-price meals for the school year

1 immediately preceding the district's participation, in whole or part,  
2 in the United States department of agriculture's community  
3 eligibility provision, or the district percentage of students in  
4 grades K-12 who were eligible for free or reduced-price meals in the  
5 prior school year. The minimum allocation for the program shall,  
6 except as provided in (a)(iii) of this subsection, provide for each  
7 level of prototypical school resources to provide, on a statewide  
8 average, 2.3975 hours per week in extra instruction with a class size  
9 of 15 learning assistance program students per teacher.

10 (ii) In addition to funding allocated under (a)(i) of this  
11 subsection, to provide supplemental instruction and services for  
12 students who are not meeting academic standards in qualifying  
13 schools. A qualifying school, except as provided in (a)(iv) of this  
14 subsection, means a school in which the three-year rolling average of  
15 the prior year total annual average enrollment that qualifies for  
16 free or reduced-price meals equals or exceeds 50 percent or more of  
17 its total annual average enrollment. A school continues to meet the  
18 definition of a qualifying school if the school: Participates in the  
19 United States department of agriculture's community eligibility  
20 provision; and met the definition of a qualifying school in the year  
21 immediately preceding their participation. The minimum allocation for  
22 this additional high poverty-based allocation must provide for each  
23 level of prototypical school resources to provide, on a statewide  
24 average, 1.1 hours per week in extra instruction with a class size of  
25 15 learning assistance program students per teacher, under RCW  
26 28A.165.055, school districts must distribute the high poverty-based  
27 allocation to the schools that generated the funding allocation.

28 (iii) For the 2024-25 and 2025-26 school years, allocations under  
29 (a)(i) of this subsection for school districts providing meals at no  
30 charge to students under RCW 28A.235.135 that are not participating,  
31 in whole or in part, in the United States department of agriculture's  
32 community eligibility provision shall be based on the school district  
33 percentage of students in grades K-12 who were eligible for free or  
34 reduced-price meals in school years 2019-20 through 2022-23 or the  
35 prior school year, whichever is greatest.

36 (iv) For the 2024-25 and 2025-26 school years, a school providing  
37 meals at no charge to students under RCW 28A.235.135 that is not  
38 participating in the department of agriculture's community  
39 eligibility provision continues to meet the definition of a  
40 qualifying school under (a)(ii) of this subsection if the school met

1 the definition during one year of the 2019-20 through 2022-23 school  
2 years, or in the prior school year.

3 (b) (i) To provide supplemental instruction and services for  
4 students whose primary language is other than English, allocations  
5 shall be based on the head count number of students in each school  
6 who are eligible for and enrolled in the transitional bilingual  
7 instruction program under RCW 28A.180.010 through 28A.180.080. The  
8 minimum allocation for each level of prototypical school shall  
9 provide resources to provide, on a statewide average, 4.7780 hours  
10 per week in extra instruction for students in grades kindergarten  
11 through six and 6.7780 hours per week in extra instruction for  
12 students in grades seven through 12, with 15 transitional bilingual  
13 instruction program students per teacher. Notwithstanding other  
14 provisions of this subsection (10), the actual per-student allocation  
15 may be scaled to provide a larger allocation for students needing  
16 more intensive intervention and a commensurate reduced allocation for  
17 students needing less intensive intervention, as detailed in the  
18 omnibus appropriations act.

19 (ii) To provide supplemental instruction and services for  
20 students who have exited the transitional bilingual program,  
21 allocations shall be based on the head count number of students in  
22 each school who have exited the transitional bilingual program within  
23 the previous two years based on their performance on the English  
24 proficiency assessment and are eligible for and enrolled in the  
25 transitional bilingual instruction program under RCW  
26 28A.180.040(1)(g). The minimum allocation for each prototypical  
27 school shall provide resources to provide, on a statewide average,  
28 3.0 hours per week in extra instruction with 15 exited students per  
29 teacher.

30 (c) To provide additional allocations to support programs for  
31 highly capable students under RCW 28A.185.010 through 28A.185.030,  
32 allocations shall be based on 5.0 percent of each school district's  
33 full-time equivalent basic education enrollment. The minimum  
34 allocation for the programs shall provide resources to provide, on a  
35 statewide average, 2.1590 hours per week in extra instruction with  
36 fifteen highly capable program students per teacher.

37 (11) The allocations under subsections (4)(a), (5), (6), and (8)  
38 of this section shall be enhanced as provided under RCW 28A.150.390  
39 on an excess cost basis to provide supplemental instructional  
40 resources for students with disabilities.

1 (12)(a) For the purposes of allocations for prototypical high  
2 schools and middle schools under subsections (4) and (10) of this  
3 section that are based on the percent of students in the school who  
4 are eligible for free and reduced-price meals, the actual percent of  
5 such students in a school shall be adjusted by a factor identified in  
6 the omnibus appropriations act to reflect underreporting of free and  
7 reduced-price meal eligibility among middle and high school students.

8 (b) Allocations or enhancements provided under subsections (4),  
9 (7), and (9) of this section for exploratory and preparatory career  
10 and technical education courses shall be provided only for courses  
11 approved by the office of the superintendent of public instruction  
12 under chapter 28A.700 RCW.

13 (13)(a) This formula for distribution of basic education funds  
14 shall be reviewed biennially by the superintendent and governor. The  
15 recommended formula shall be subject to approval, amendment or  
16 rejection by the legislature.

17 (b) In the event the legislature rejects the distribution formula  
18 recommended by the governor, without adopting a new distribution  
19 formula, the distribution formula for the previous school year shall  
20 remain in effect.

21 (c) The enrollment of any district shall be the annual average  
22 number of full-time equivalent students and part-time students as  
23 provided in RCW 28A.150.350, enrolled on the first school day of each  
24 month, including students who are in attendance pursuant to RCW  
25 28A.335.160 and 28A.225.250 who do not reside within the servicing  
26 school district. The definition of full-time equivalent student shall  
27 be determined by rules of the superintendent of public instruction  
28 and shall be included as part of the superintendent's biennial budget  
29 request. The definition shall be based on the minimum instructional  
30 hour offerings required under RCW 28A.150.220. Any revision of the  
31 present definition shall not take effect until approved by the house  
32 ways and means committee and the senate ways and means committee.

33 (d) The office of financial management shall make a monthly  
34 review of the superintendent's reported full-time equivalent students  
35 in the common schools in conjunction with RCW 43.62.050.

36 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.150.265 and 2017 3rd sp.s. c 13 s 409 are each  
37 amended to read as follows:

38 (1) To the extent that career and technical education funding  
39 allocations under RCW 28A.150.260 (4)(c) and (9) exceed general

1 education funding allocations under RCW 28A.150.260, school districts  
2 may use the difference only for the career and technical education  
3 purposes, defined as follows:

4 (a) Staff salaries and benefits for career and technical  
5 education program delivery;

6 (b) Materials, supplies, and operating costs;

7 (c) Smaller class sizes;

8 (d) Work-based learning programs such as internships and  
9 preapprenticeship programs, including coordination tied to career and  
10 technical education coursework;

11 (e) New high quality career and technical education and expanded  
12 learning program development in high-demand fields;

13 (f) Certificated work-based learning coordinators and career  
14 guidance advisors;

15 (g) School expenses associated with career and technical  
16 education community partnerships with a career discovery focus  
17 including research or evidence-based mentoring programs and expanded  
18 learning opportunities in school, before or after school, and during  
19 the summer, and career-focused education programs with private and  
20 public K-12 schools and colleges, community-based organizations and  
21 nonprofit organizations, industry partners, tribal governments, and  
22 workforce development entities;

23 (h) Student fees for national and state industry-recognized  
24 certifications; and

25 (i) Course equivalency development to integrate core learning  
26 standards into career and technical education courses.

27 (2) A school district's maximum allowable indirect cost charges  
28 for approved career and technical education programs funded by the  
29 state may not exceed the lower of five percent or the cap established  
30 in federal law for federal career and technical education funding  
31 provided to school districts, as the federal law existed on September  
32 1, 2017.

33 (3) For purposes of accounting for and calculating minimum  
34 expenditures, and carryover or recovery amounts, the career and  
35 technical education program funded through RCW 28A.150.260(4)(c) must  
36 be treated as a single program.

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