
HOUSE BILL 1415

State of Washington 65th Legislature 2017 Regular Session

By Representatives Taylor, Harris, Manweller, McCaslin, and Shea

1 AN ACT Relating to statewide high school student assessments;
2 amending RCW 28A.655.070, 28A.230.090, 28A.230.122, 28A.230.125,
3 28A.305.130, 28A.195.010, and 28A.600.310; adding new sections to
4 chapter 28A.655 RCW; creating a new section; and repealing RCW
5 28A.600.405, 28A.655.061, 28A.655.063, 28A.655.065, 28A.655.066, and
6 28A.655.068.

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

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature recognizes that while
9 the 2015 adoption of the every student succeeds act, P.L. 114-95, has
10 reshaped certain aspects of federal education law and the interaction
11 between federal and state authorities, fundamental decisions
12 regarding how to best prepare Washington's students to become
13 productive and responsible citizens should and must be made at the
14 state and local levels.

15 (2) The legislature recognizes also that, while federal education
16 law requires states to administer assessments to high school students
17 for accountability purposes, states are properly granted discretion
18 in determining what assessments to employ, and what relationship, if
19 any, will exist between statewide high school assessments and
20 graduation requirements.

1 (3) The legislature, therefore, beginning with the graduating
2 class of 2018, intends to simplify existing state assessment
3 requirements and to administer the ACT test as the statewide high
4 school assessment for reading or language arts, mathematics, and
5 science. The legislature intends for the administration of the ACT
6 test to be for federal accountability purposes and does not intend
7 for the ACT test, or any segment thereof, to be used in determining
8 whether a student is eligible to graduate from high school.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.655
10 RCW to read as follows:

11 (1) Beginning with the graduating class of 2018, the statewide
12 high school assessment for reading or language arts, mathematics, and
13 science, which is to be administered for federal accountability
14 requirements under the elementary and secondary education act of
15 1965, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 6301 et seq., as reauthorized by the every
16 student succeeds act of 2015, will be the ACT test.

17 (2) In accordance with federal accountability requirements:

18 (a) The reading or language arts assessments and mathematics
19 assessments must be administered to each student not less than once
20 during grades nine through twelve; and

21 (b) The science assessment, if the student did not complete a
22 science assessment in grades six through eight, must be administered
23 to each student not less than once during grade nine, and not less
24 than once during grades ten through twelve.

25 (3) Assessments required by this section for federal
26 accountability purposes:

27 (a) Must be provided at no cost to the student. Students who have
28 completed a required assessment but who wish to improve their results
29 may do so but are responsible for the costs of retaking the
30 assessment;

31 (b) May not, in whole or part, be used to determine whether a
32 student is eligible to graduate from high school.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.655
34 RCW to read as follows:

35 To help assure continued progress in academic achievement as a
36 foundation for high school graduation and to assure that students are
37 on track for high school graduation, each school district shall
38 prepare plans for and notify students and their parents or legal

1 guardians as provided in this section. Student learning plans are
2 required for eighth grade students who were not successful on any or
3 all of the content areas of the state assessment during the previous
4 school year or who may not be on track to graduate due to credit
5 deficiencies or absences. The parent or legal guardian must be
6 notified about the information in the student learning plan,
7 preferably through a parent conference and at least annually. To the
8 extent feasible, schools serving English language learner students
9 and their parents must translate the plan into the primary language
10 of the family. The plan must include the following information as
11 applicable:

- 12 (1) The student's results on the state assessment;
- 13 (2) If the student is in the transitional bilingual program, the
14 score on his or her Washington language proficiency test II;
- 15 (3) Any credit deficiencies;
- 16 (4) The student's attendance rates over the previous two years;
- 17 (5) The student's progress toward meeting state and local
18 graduation requirements;
- 19 (6) The courses, competencies, and other steps needed to be taken
20 by the student to meet state academic standards and stay on track for
21 graduation;
- 22 (7) Remediation strategies and alternative education options
23 available to students, including informing students of the option to
24 continue to receive instructional services after grade twelve or
25 until the age of twenty-one;
- 26 (8) School district programs, high school courses, and career and
27 technical education options available for students to meet graduation
28 requirements; and
- 29 (9) Available programs offered through skill centers or community
30 and technical colleges, including the college high school diploma
31 options under RCW 28B.50.535.

32 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28A.655.070 and 2015 c 211 s 3 are each amended to
33 read as follows:

- 34 (1) The superintendent of public instruction shall develop
35 essential academic learning requirements that identify the knowledge
36 and skills all public school students need to know and be able to do
37 based on the student learning goals in RCW 28A.150.210, develop
38 student assessments, and implement the accountability recommendations

1 and requests regarding assistance, rewards, and recognition of the
2 state board of education.

3 (2) The superintendent of public instruction shall:

4 (a) Periodically revise the essential academic learning
5 requirements, as needed, based on the student learning goals in RCW
6 28A.150.210. Goals one and two shall be considered primary. To the
7 maximum extent possible, the superintendent shall integrate goal four
8 and the knowledge and skill areas in the other goals in the essential
9 academic learning requirements; and

10 (b) Review and prioritize the essential academic learning
11 requirements and identify, with clear and concise descriptions, the
12 grade level content expectations to be assessed on the statewide
13 student assessment and used for state or federal accountability
14 purposes. The review, prioritization, and identification shall result
15 in more focus and targeting with an emphasis on depth over breadth in
16 the number of grade level content expectations assessed at each grade
17 level. Grade level content expectations shall be articulated over the
18 grades as a sequence of expectations and performances that are
19 logical, build with increasing depth after foundational knowledge and
20 skills are acquired, and reflect, where appropriate, the sequential
21 nature of the discipline. The office of the superintendent of public
22 instruction, within seven working days, shall post on its web site
23 any grade level content expectations provided to an assessment vendor
24 for use in constructing the statewide student assessment.

25 (3)~~((a))~~ In consultation with the state board of education, the
26 superintendent of public instruction shall maintain and continue to
27 develop and revise a statewide academic assessment system in the
28 content areas of reading, writing, mathematics, and science for use
29 in the elementary~~((7))~~ and middle~~((7, and high))~~ school years designed
30 to determine if each student has mastered the essential academic
31 learning requirements identified in subsection (1) of this section.
32 School districts shall administer the assessments under guidelines
33 adopted by the superintendent of public instruction. The academic
34 assessment system may include a variety of assessment methods,
35 including criterion-referenced and performance-based measures.

36 ~~((b) Effective with the 2009 administration of the Washington
37 assessment of student learning and continuing with the statewide
38 student assessment, the superintendent shall redesign the assessment
39 in the content areas of reading, mathematics, and science in all~~

1 ~~grades except high school by shortening test administration and~~
2 ~~reducing the number of short answer and extended response questions.~~

3 ~~(c) By the 2014-15 school year, the superintendent of public~~
4 ~~instruction, in consultation with the state board of education, shall~~
5 ~~modify the statewide student assessment system to transition to~~
6 ~~assessments developed with a multistate consortium, as provided in~~
7 ~~this subsection:~~

8 ~~(i) The assessments developed with a multistate consortium to~~
9 ~~assess student proficiency in English language arts and mathematics~~
10 ~~shall be administered beginning in the 2014-15 school year. The~~
11 ~~reading and writing assessments shall not be administered by the~~
12 ~~superintendent of public instruction or schools after the 2013-14~~
13 ~~school year.~~

14 ~~(ii) The high school assessments in English language arts and~~
15 ~~mathematics in (c)(i) of this subsection shall be used for the~~
16 ~~purposes of earning a certificate of academic achievement for high~~
17 ~~school graduation under the timeline established in RCW 28A.655.061~~
18 ~~and for assessing student career and college readiness.~~

19 ~~(iii) During the transition period specified in RCW 28A.655.061,~~
20 ~~the superintendent of public instruction shall use test items and~~
21 ~~other resources from the consortium assessment to develop and~~
22 ~~administer a tenth grade high school English language arts~~
23 ~~assessment, an end-of-course mathematics assessment to assess the~~
24 ~~standards common to algebra I and integrated mathematics I, and an~~
25 ~~end-of-course mathematics assessment to assess the standards common~~
26 ~~to geometry and integrated mathematics II.)~~

27 (4) If the superintendent proposes any modification to the
28 essential academic learning requirements or, subject to the
29 requirements of section 2 of this act, the statewide assessments,
30 then the superintendent shall, upon request, provide opportunities
31 for the education committees of the house of representatives and the
32 senate to review the assessments and proposed modifications to the
33 essential academic learning requirements before the modifications are
34 adopted.

35 (5) The assessment system shall, subject to the requirements of
36 section 2 of this act, be designed so that the results under the
37 assessment system are used by educators as tools to evaluate
38 instructional practices, and to initiate appropriate educational
39 support for students who have not mastered the essential academic

1 learning requirements at the appropriate periods in the student's
2 educational development.

3 (6) (~~By September 2007,~~) The results for reading and
4 mathematics shall be reported in a format that will allow parents and
5 teachers to determine the academic gain a student has acquired in
6 those content areas from one school year to the next.

7 (7) To assist parents and teachers in their efforts to provide
8 educational support to individual students, the superintendent of
9 public instruction shall provide as much individual student
10 performance information as possible within the constraints of the
11 assessment system's item bank. The superintendent shall also provide
12 to school districts:

13 (a) Information on classroom-based and other assessments that may
14 provide additional achievement information for individual students;
15 and

16 (b) A collection of diagnostic tools that educators may use to
17 evaluate the academic status of individual students. The tools shall
18 be designed to be inexpensive, easily administered, and quickly and
19 easily scored, with results provided in a format that may be easily
20 shared with parents and students.

21 (8) To the maximum extent possible, the superintendent shall
22 integrate knowledge and skill areas in development of the
23 assessments.

24 (9) Assessments for goals three and four of RCW 28A.150.210 shall
25 be integrated in the essential academic learning requirements and
26 assessments for goals one and two.

27 (10) The superintendent shall, subject to the requirements of
28 section 2 of this act, develop assessments that are directly related
29 to the essential academic learning requirements, and are not biased
30 toward persons with different learning styles, racial or ethnic
31 backgrounds, or on the basis of gender.

32 (11) The superintendent shall consider methods to address the
33 unique needs of special education students when developing the
34 assessments under this section.

35 (12) The superintendent shall consider methods to address the
36 unique needs of highly capable students when developing the
37 assessments under this section.

38 (13) The superintendent shall post on the superintendent's web
39 site lists of resources and model assessments in social studies, the
40 arts, and health and fitness.

1 (14) The superintendent shall integrate financial education
2 skills and content knowledge into the state learning standards
3 pursuant to RCW 28A.300.460(2)(d).

4 **Sec. 5.** RCW 28A.230.090 and 2016 c 162 s 2 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) The state board of education shall establish high school
7 graduation requirements or equivalencies for students, except as
8 provided in RCW 28A.230.122 and except those equivalencies
9 established by local high schools or school districts under RCW
10 28A.230.097. The purpose of a high school diploma is to declare that
11 a student is ready for success in postsecondary education, gainful
12 employment, and citizenship, and is equipped with the skills to be a
13 lifelong learner.

14 (a) Any course in Washington state history and government used to
15 fulfill high school graduation requirements shall consider including
16 information on the culture, history, and government of the American
17 Indian peoples who were the first inhabitants of the state.

18 (b) The certificate of (~~academic achievement requirements under~~
19 ~~RCW 28A.655.061 or the certificate of~~) individual achievement
20 requirements under RCW 28A.155.045 are required for qualifying
21 students for graduation from a public high school but are not the
22 only requirements for graduation.

23 (c) Any decision on whether a student has met the state board's
24 high school graduation requirements for a high school and beyond plan
25 shall remain at the local level. Effective with the graduating class
26 of 2015, the state board of education may not establish a requirement
27 for students to complete a culminating project for graduation.

28 (d)(i) The state board of education shall adopt rules to
29 implement the career and college ready graduation requirement
30 proposal adopted under board resolution on November 10, 2010, and
31 revised on January 9, 2014, to take effect beginning with the
32 graduating class of 2019 or as otherwise provided in this subsection
33 (1)(d). The rules must include authorization for a school district to
34 waive up to two credits for individual students based on unusual
35 circumstances and in accordance with written policies that must be
36 adopted by each board of directors of a school district that grants
37 diplomas. The rules must also provide that the content of the third
38 credit of mathematics and the content of the third credit of science
39 may be chosen by the student based on the student's interests and

1 high school and beyond plan with agreement of the student's parent or
2 guardian or agreement of the school counselor or principal.

3 (ii) School districts may apply to the state board of education
4 for a waiver to implement the career and college ready graduation
5 requirement proposal beginning with the graduating class of 2020 or
6 2021 instead of the graduating class of 2019. In the application, a
7 school district must describe why the waiver is being requested, the
8 specific impediments preventing timely implementation, and efforts
9 that will be taken to achieve implementation with the graduating
10 class proposed under the waiver. The state board of education shall
11 grant a waiver under this subsection (1)(d) to an applying school
12 district at the next subsequent meeting of the board after receiving
13 an application.

14 (2)(a) In recognition of the statutory authority of the state
15 board of education to establish and enforce minimum high school
16 graduation requirements, the state board shall periodically
17 reevaluate the graduation requirements and shall report such findings
18 to the legislature in a timely manner as determined by the state
19 board.

20 (b) The state board shall reevaluate the graduation requirements
21 for students enrolled in vocationally intensive and rigorous career
22 and technical education programs, particularly those programs that
23 lead to a certificate or credential that is state or nationally
24 recognized. The purpose of the evaluation is to ensure that students
25 enrolled in these programs have sufficient opportunity to (~~earn a~~
26 ~~certificate of academic achievement,~~) complete the program and earn
27 the program's certificate or credential, and complete other state and
28 local graduation requirements.

29 (c) The state board shall forward any proposed changes to the
30 high school graduation requirements to the education committees of
31 the legislature for review. The legislature shall have the
32 opportunity to act during a regular legislative session before the
33 changes are adopted through administrative rule by the state board.
34 Changes that have a fiscal impact on school districts, as identified
35 by a fiscal analysis prepared by the office of the superintendent of
36 public instruction, shall take effect only if formally authorized and
37 funded by the legislature through the omnibus appropriations act or
38 other enacted legislation.

39 (3) Pursuant to any requirement for instruction in languages
40 other than English established by the state board of education or a

1 local school district, or both, for purposes of high school
2 graduation, students who receive instruction in American sign
3 language or one or more American Indian languages shall be considered
4 to have satisfied the state or local school district graduation
5 requirement for instruction in one or more languages other than
6 English.

7 (4) If requested by the student and his or her family, a student
8 who has completed high school courses before attending high school
9 shall be given high school credit which shall be applied to
10 fulfilling high school graduation requirements if:

11 (a) The course was taken with high school students, if the
12 academic level of the course exceeds the requirements for seventh and
13 eighth grade classes, and the student has successfully passed by
14 completing the same course requirements and examinations as the high
15 school students enrolled in the class; or

16 (b) The academic level of the course exceeds the requirements for
17 seventh and eighth grade classes and the course would qualify for
18 high school credit, because the course is similar or equivalent to a
19 course offered at a high school in the district as determined by the
20 school district board of directors.

21 (5) Students who have taken and successfully completed high
22 school courses under the circumstances in subsection (4) of this
23 section shall not be required to take an additional competency
24 examination or perform any other additional assignment to receive
25 credit.

26 (6) At the college or university level, five quarter or three
27 semester hours equals one high school credit.

28 **Sec. 6.** RCW 28A.230.122 and 2011 c 203 s 1 are each amended to
29 read as follows:

30 (1) A student who fulfills the requirements specified in
31 subsection (3) of this section toward completion of an international
32 baccalaureate diploma programme is considered to have satisfied state
33 minimum requirements for graduation from a public high school, except
34 that:

35 (a) The provisions of (~~RCW 28A.655.061 regarding the certificate~~
36 ~~of academic achievement or~~) RCW 28A.155.045 regarding the
37 certificate of individual achievement apply to students under this
38 section; and

1 (b) The provisions of RCW 28A.230.170 regarding study of the
2 United States Constitution and the Washington state Constitution
3 apply to students under this section.

4 (2) School districts may require students under this section to
5 complete local graduation requirements that are in addition to state
6 minimum requirements before issuing a high school diploma under RCW
7 28A.230.120. However, school districts are encouraged to waive local
8 requirements as necessary to encourage students to pursue an
9 international baccalaureate diploma.

10 (3) To receive a high school diploma under this section, a
11 student must complete and pass all required international
12 baccalaureate diploma programme courses as scored at the local level;
13 pass all internal assessments as scored at the local level;
14 successfully complete all required projects and products as scored at
15 the local level; and complete the final examinations administered by
16 the international baccalaureate organization in each of the required
17 subjects under the diploma programme.

18 **Sec. 7.** RCW 28A.230.125 and 2014 c 102 s 3 are each amended to
19 read as follows:

20 (1) The superintendent of public instruction, in consultation
21 with the four-year institutions as defined in RCW 28B.76.020, the
22 state board for community and technical colleges, and the workforce
23 training and education coordinating board, shall develop for use by
24 all public school districts a standardized high school transcript.
25 The superintendent shall establish clear definitions for the terms
26 "credits" and "hours" so that school programs operating on the
27 quarter, semester, or trimester system can be compared.

28 (2) The standardized high school transcript shall include a
29 notation of whether the student has earned a certificate of
30 individual achievement (~~(or a certificate of academic achievement)~~).

31 (3) The standardized high school transcript may include a
32 notation of whether the student has earned the Washington state seal
33 of biliteracy established under RCW 28A.300.575.

34 **Sec. 8.** RCW 28A.305.130 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 22 s 7 are each
35 amended to read as follows:

36 The purpose of the state board of education is to provide
37 advocacy and strategic oversight of public education; implement a
38 standards-based accountability framework that creates a unified

1 system of increasing levels of support for schools in order to
2 improve student academic achievement; provide leadership in the
3 creation of a system that personalizes education for each student and
4 respects diverse cultures, abilities, and learning styles; and
5 promote achievement of the goals of RCW 28A.150.210. In addition to
6 any other powers and duties as provided by law, the state board of
7 education shall:

8 (1) Hold regularly scheduled meetings at such time and place
9 within the state as the board shall determine and may hold such
10 special meetings as may be deemed necessary for the transaction of
11 public business;

12 (2) Form committees as necessary to effectively and efficiently
13 conduct the work of the board;

14 (3) Seek advice from the public and interested parties regarding
15 the work of the board;

16 (4) For purposes of statewide accountability:

17 (a) Adopt and revise performance improvement goals in reading,
18 writing, science, and mathematics, by subject and grade level, once
19 assessments in these subjects are required statewide; academic and
20 technical skills, as appropriate, in secondary career and technical
21 education programs; and student attendance, as the board deems
22 appropriate to improve student learning. The goals shall be
23 consistent with student privacy protection provisions of RCW
24 28A.655.090(7) and shall not conflict with requirements contained in
25 Title I of the federal elementary and secondary education act of
26 1965, or the requirements of the Carl D. Perkins vocational education
27 act of 1998, each as amended. The goals may be established for all
28 students, economically disadvantaged students, limited English
29 proficient students, students with disabilities, and students from
30 disproportionately academically underachieving racial and ethnic
31 backgrounds. The board may establish school and school district goals
32 addressing high school graduation rates and dropout reduction goals
33 for students in grades seven through twelve. The board shall adopt
34 the goals by rule. However, before each goal is implemented, the
35 board shall present the goal to the education committees of the house
36 of representatives and the senate for the committees' review and
37 comment in a time frame that will permit the legislature to take
38 statutory action on the goal if such action is deemed warranted by
39 the legislature;

1 (b)(i) Identify the scores students must achieve in order to meet
2 the standard on the statewide student assessment (~~((and, for high~~
3 ~~school students, to obtain a certificate of academic achievement))~~).
4 The board shall also determine student scores that identify levels of
5 student performance below and beyond the standard. (~~(The board shall~~
6 ~~consider the incorporation of the standard error of measurement into~~
7 ~~the decision regarding the award of the certificates.)~~) The board
8 shall set such performance standards and levels in consultation with
9 the superintendent of public instruction and after consideration of
10 any recommendations that may be developed by any advisory committees
11 that may be established for this purpose.

12 (ii) (~~By the end of the 2014-15 school year, establish the~~
13 ~~scores students must achieve to meet the standard and earn a~~
14 ~~certificate of academic achievement on the tenth grade English~~
15 ~~language arts assessment and the end of course mathematics~~
16 ~~assessments developed in accordance with RCW 28A.655.070 to be used~~
17 ~~as the state transitions to high school assessments developed with a~~
18 ~~multistate consortium.~~

19 (iii) ~~By the end of the 2014-15 school year, establish the scores~~
20 ~~students must achieve to meet the standard and earn a certificate of~~
21 ~~academic achievement on the high school English language arts~~
22 ~~assessment and the comprehensive mathematics assessment developed~~
23 ~~with a multistate consortium in accordance with RCW 28A.655.070. To~~
24 ~~determine the appropriate score, the state board shall review the~~
25 ~~transition experience of Washington students to the consortium-~~
26 ~~developed assessments, examine the student scores used in other~~
27 ~~states that are administering the consortium-developed assessments,~~
28 ~~and review the scores in other states that require passage of an~~
29 ~~eleventh grade assessment as a high school graduation requirement.~~
30 ~~The scores established by the state board of education for the~~
31 ~~purposes of earning a certificate of academic achievement and~~
32 ~~graduation from high school may be different from the scores used for~~
33 ~~the purpose of determining a student's career and college readiness.~~

34 (iv)) The legislature shall be advised of the initial
35 performance standards for the high school statewide student
36 assessment. Any changes recommended by the board in the performance
37 standards for the high school assessment shall be presented to the
38 education committees of the house of representatives and the senate
39 by November 30th of the school year in which the changes will take
40 place to permit the legislature to take statutory action before the

1 changes are implemented if such action is deemed warranted by the
2 legislature. The legislature shall be advised of the initial
3 performance standards and any changes made to the elementary level
4 performance standards and the middle school level performance
5 standards. The board must provide an explanation of and rationale for
6 all initial performance standards and any changes, for all grade
7 levels of the statewide student assessment. If the board changes the
8 performance standards for any grade level or subject, the
9 superintendent of public instruction must recalculate the results
10 from the previous ten years of administering that assessment
11 regarding students below, meeting, and beyond the state standard, to
12 the extent that this data is available, and post a comparison of the
13 original and recalculated results on the superintendent's web site;

14 (c) Annually review the assessment reporting system to ensure
15 fairness, accuracy, timeliness, and equity of opportunity, especially
16 with regard to schools with special circumstances and unique
17 populations of students, and a recommendation to the superintendent
18 of public instruction of any improvements needed to the system; and

19 (d) Include in the biennial report required under RCW
20 28A.305.035, information on the progress that has been made in
21 achieving goals adopted by the board;

22 (5) Accredite, subject to such accreditation standards and
23 procedures as may be established by the state board of education, all
24 private schools that apply for accreditation, and approve, subject to
25 the provisions of RCW 28A.195.010, private schools carrying out a
26 program for any or all of the grades kindergarten through twelve.
27 However, no private school may be approved that operates a
28 kindergarten program only and no private school shall be placed upon
29 the list of accredited schools so long as secret societies are
30 knowingly allowed to exist among its students by school officials;

31 (6) Articulate with the institutions of higher education,
32 workforce representatives, and early learning policymakers and
33 providers to coordinate and unify the work of the public school
34 system;

35 (7) Hire an executive director and an administrative assistant to
36 reside in the office of the superintendent of public instruction for
37 administrative purposes. Any other personnel of the board shall be
38 appointed as provided by RCW 28A.300.020. The board may delegate to
39 the executive director by resolution such duties as deemed necessary
40 to efficiently carry on the business of the board including, but not

1 limited to, the authority to employ necessary personnel and the
2 authority to enter into, amend, and terminate contracts on behalf of
3 the board. The executive director, administrative assistant, and all
4 but one of the other personnel of the board are exempt from civil
5 service, together with other staff as now or hereafter designated as
6 exempt in accordance with chapter 41.06 RCW; and

7 (8) Adopt a seal that shall be kept in the office of the
8 superintendent of public instruction.

9 **Sec. 9.** RCW 28A.195.010 and 2009 c 548 s 303 are each amended to
10 read as follows:

11 The legislature hereby recognizes that private schools should be
12 subject only to those minimum state controls necessary to insure the
13 health and safety of all the students in the state and to insure a
14 sufficient basic education to meet usual graduation requirements. The
15 state, any agency or official thereof, shall not restrict or dictate
16 any specific educational or other programs for private schools except
17 as hereinafter in this section provided.

18 Principals of private schools or superintendents of private
19 school districts shall file each year with the state superintendent
20 of public instruction a statement certifying that the minimum
21 requirements hereinafter set forth are being met, noting any
22 deviations. After review of the statement, the state superintendent
23 will notify schools or school districts of those deviations which
24 must be corrected. In case of major deviations, the school or school
25 district may request and the state board of education may grant
26 provisional status for one year in order that the school or school
27 district may take action to meet the requirements. The state board of
28 education shall not require private school students to meet the
29 student learning goals, obtain ~~((a certificate of academic
30 achievement, or))~~ a certificate of individual achievement to graduate
31 from high school, ~~((to))~~ master the essential academic learning
32 requirements, or ~~((to))~~ be assessed pursuant to ~~((RCW 28A.655.061))~~
33 section 2 of this act. However, private schools may choose, on a
34 voluntary basis, to have their students master these essential
35 academic learning requirements, take the assessments, and obtain ~~((a
36 certificate of academic achievement or))~~ a certificate of individual
37 achievement. Minimum requirements shall be as follows:

38 (1) The minimum school year for instructional purposes shall
39 consist of no less than one hundred eighty school days or the

1 equivalent in annual minimum instructional hour offerings, with a
2 school-wide annual average total instructional hour offering of one
3 thousand hours for students enrolled in grades one through twelve,
4 and at least four hundred fifty hours for students enrolled in
5 kindergarten.

6 (2) The school day shall be the same as defined in RCW
7 28A.150.203.

8 (3) All classroom teachers shall hold appropriate Washington
9 state certification except as follows:

10 (a) Teachers for religious courses or courses for which no
11 counterpart exists in public schools shall not be required to obtain
12 a state certificate to teach those courses.

13 (b) In exceptional cases, people of unusual competence but
14 without certification may teach students so long as a certified
15 person exercises general supervision. Annual written statements shall
16 be submitted to the office of the superintendent of public
17 instruction reporting and explaining such circumstances.

18 (4) An approved private school may operate an extension program
19 for parents, guardians, or persons having legal custody of a child to
20 teach children in their custody. The extension program shall require
21 at a minimum that:

22 (a) The parent, guardian, or custodian be under the supervision
23 of an employee of the approved private school who is certified under
24 chapter 28A.410 RCW;

25 (b) The planning by the certified person and the parent,
26 guardian, or person having legal custody include objectives
27 consistent with this subsection and subsections (1), (2), (5), (6),
28 and (7) of this section;

29 (c) The certified person spend a minimum average each month of
30 one contact hour per week with each student under his or her
31 supervision who is enrolled in the approved private school extension
32 program;

33 (d) Each student's progress be evaluated by the certified person;
34 and

35 (e) The certified employee shall not supervise more than thirty
36 students enrolled in the approved private school's extension program.

37 (5) Appropriate measures shall be taken to safeguard all
38 permanent records against loss or damage.

39 (6) The physical facilities of the school or district shall be
40 adequate to meet the program offered by the school or district:

1 PROVIDED, That each school building shall meet reasonable health and
2 fire safety requirements. A residential dwelling of the parent,
3 guardian, or custodian shall be deemed to be an adequate physical
4 facility when a parent, guardian, or person having legal custody is
5 instructing his or her child under subsection (4) of this section.

6 (7) Private school curriculum shall include instruction of the
7 basic skills of occupational education, science, mathematics,
8 language, social studies, history, health, reading, writing,
9 spelling, and the development of appreciation of art and music, all
10 in sufficient units for meeting state board of education graduation
11 requirements.

12 (8) Each school or school district shall be required to maintain
13 up-to-date policy statements related to the administration and
14 operation of the school or school district.

15 All decisions of policy, philosophy, selection of books, teaching
16 material, curriculum, except as in subsection (7) of this section
17 provided, school rules and administration, or other matters not
18 specifically referred to in this section, shall be the responsibility
19 of the administration and administrators of the particular private
20 school involved.

21 **Sec. 10.** RCW 28A.600.310 and 2015 c 202 s 4 are each amended to
22 read as follows:

23 (1)(a) Eleventh and twelfth grade students or students who have
24 not yet received the credits required for the award of a high school
25 diploma and are eligible to be in the eleventh or twelfth grades may
26 apply to a participating institution of higher education to enroll in
27 courses or programs offered by the institution of higher education.

28 (b) The course sections and programs offered as running start
29 courses must also be open for registration to matriculated students
30 at the participating institution of higher education and may not be a
31 course consisting solely of high school students offered at a high
32 school campus.

33 (c) A student receiving home-based instruction enrolling in a
34 public high school for the sole purpose of participating in courses
35 or programs offered by institutions of higher education shall not be
36 counted by the school district in any required state or federal
37 accountability reporting if the student's parents or guardians filed
38 a declaration of intent to provide home-based instruction and the
39 student received home-based instruction during the school year before

1 the school year in which the student intends to participate in
2 courses or programs offered by the institution of higher education.
3 Students receiving home-based instruction under chapter 28A.200 RCW
4 and students attending private schools approved under chapter 28A.195
5 RCW shall not be required to meet the student learning goals, obtain
6 ((a certificate of academic achievement or)) a certificate of
7 individual achievement to graduate from high school, or ((to)) master
8 the essential academic learning requirements. However, students are
9 eligible to enroll in courses or programs in participating
10 universities only if the board of directors of the student's school
11 district has decided to participate in the program. Participating
12 institutions of higher education, in consultation with school
13 districts, may establish admission standards for these students. If
14 the institution of higher education accepts a secondary school pupil
15 for enrollment under this section, the institution of higher
16 education shall send written notice to the pupil and the pupil's
17 school district within ten days of acceptance. The notice shall
18 indicate the course and hours of enrollment for that pupil.

19 (2)(a) In lieu of tuition and fees, as defined in RCW 28B.15.020
20 and 28B.15.041:

21 (i) Running start students shall pay to the community or
22 technical college all other mandatory fees as established by each
23 community or technical college and, in addition, the state board for
24 community and technical colleges may authorize a fee of up to ten
25 percent of tuition and fees as defined in RCW 28B.15.020 and
26 28B.15.041; and

27 (ii) All other institutions of higher education operating a
28 running start program may charge running start students a fee of up
29 to ten percent of tuition and fees as defined in RCW 28B.15.020 and
30 28B.15.041 in addition to technology fees.

31 (b) The fees charged under this subsection (2) shall be prorated
32 based on credit load.

33 (c) Students may pay fees under this subsection with advanced
34 college tuition payment program tuition units at a rate set by the
35 advanced college tuition payment program governing body under chapter
36 28B.95 RCW.

37 (3)(a) The institutions of higher education must make available
38 fee waivers for low-income running start students. Each institution
39 must establish a written policy for the determination of low-income
40 students before offering the fee waiver. A student shall be

1 considered low income and eligible for a fee waiver upon proof that
2 the student is currently qualified to receive free or reduced-price
3 lunch. Acceptable documentation of low-income status may also
4 include, but is not limited to, documentation that a student has been
5 deemed eligible for free or reduced-price lunches in the last five
6 years, or other criteria established in the institution's policy.

7 (b) Institutions of higher education, in collaboration with
8 relevant student associations, shall aim to have students who can
9 benefit from fee waivers take advantage of these waivers.
10 Institutions shall make every effort to communicate to students and
11 their families the benefits of the waivers and provide assistance to
12 students and their families on how to apply. Information about
13 waivers shall, to the greatest extent possible, be incorporated into
14 financial aid counseling, admission information, and individual
15 billing statements. Institutions also shall, to the greatest extent
16 possible, use all means of communication, including but not limited
17 to web sites, online catalogues, admission and registration forms,
18 mass email messaging, social media, and outside marketing to ensure
19 that information about waivers is visible, compelling, and reaches
20 the maximum number of students and families that can benefit.

21 (4) The pupil's school district shall transmit to the institution
22 of higher education an amount per each full-time equivalent college
23 student at statewide uniform rates for vocational and nonvocational
24 students. The superintendent of public instruction shall separately
25 calculate and allocate moneys appropriated for basic education under
26 RCW 28A.150.260 to school districts for purposes of making such
27 payments and for granting school districts seven percent thereof to
28 offset program related costs. The calculations and allocations shall
29 be based upon the estimated statewide annual average per full-time
30 equivalent high school student allocations under RCW 28A.150.260,
31 excluding small high school enhancements, and applicable rules
32 adopted under chapter 34.05 RCW. The superintendent of public
33 instruction, participating institutions of higher education, and the
34 state board for community and technical colleges shall consult on the
35 calculation and distribution of the funds. The funds received by the
36 institution of higher education from the school district shall not be
37 deemed tuition or operating fees and may be retained by the
38 institution of higher education. A student enrolled under this
39 subsection shall be counted for the purpose of meeting enrollment

1 targets in accordance with terms and conditions specified in the
2 omnibus appropriations act.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** The following acts or parts of acts are
4 each repealed:

5 (1) RCW 28A.600.405 (Participation in high school completion
6 pilot program—Eligible students—Funding allocations—Rules—
7 Information for students and parents) and 2012 1st sp.s. c 10 s 4 &
8 2007 c 355 s 4;

9 (2) RCW 28A.655.061 (High school assessment system—Certificate of
10 academic achievement—Exemptions—Options to retake high school
11 assessment—Objective alternative assessment—Student learning plans)
12 and 2015 3rd sp.s. c 42 s 2, 2013 2nd sp.s. c 22 s 2, 2011 1st sp.s.
13 c 22 s 2, 2010 c 244 s 1, 2009 c 524 s 5, & 2008 c 321 s 2;

14 (3) RCW 28A.655.063 (Objective alternative assessments—
15 Reimbursement of costs—Testing fee waivers) and 2007 c 354 s 7 & 2006
16 c 115 s 5;

17 (4) RCW 28A.655.065 (Objective alternative assessment methods—
18 Appeals from assessment scores—Waivers and appeals from assessment
19 requirements—Rules) and 2009 c 556 s 19, 2008 c 170 s 205, 2007 c 354
20 s 6, & 2006 c 115 s 1;

21 (5) RCW 28A.655.066 (Statewide end-of-course assessments for high
22 school mathematics) and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 22 s 3, 2011 c 25 s 2, 2009
23 c 310 s 3, & 2008 c 163 s 3; and

24 (6) RCW 28A.655.068 (Statewide high school assessment in science)
25 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 22 s 4 & 2011 1st sp.s. c 22 s 3.

--- END ---