
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5572

State of Washington 62nd Legislature 2011 Regular Session

By Senate Higher Education & Workforce Development (originally sponsored by Senators Kilmer, Becker, Shin, Haugen, Hobbs, and Conway)

READ FIRST TIME 02/21/11.

1 AN ACT Relating to the running start program; amending RCW
2 28A.600.310; creating a new section; and providing an expiration date.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that there is
5 tremendous value in the running start program. The legislature further
6 finds that some community and technical colleges are resource-
7 constrained and have record enrollments. As a result, it may be
8 difficult for some tuition-paying college students to complete
9 certificates and degrees. The legislature intends to mitigate the
10 challenges college students are facing by temporarily allowing the
11 colleges to establish policies to manage running start enrollments.

12 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.600.310 and 2009 c 450 s 8 are each amended to
13 read as follows:

14 (1) Eleventh and twelfth grade students or students who have not
15 yet received the credits required for the award of a high school
16 diploma and are eligible to be in the eleventh or twelfth grades may
17 apply to a participating institution of higher education to enroll in
18 courses or programs offered by the institution of higher education. A

1 student receiving home-based instruction enrolling in a public high
2 school for the sole purpose of participating in courses or programs
3 offered by institutions of higher education shall not be counted by the
4 school district in any required state or federal accountability
5 reporting if the student's parents or guardians filed a declaration of
6 intent to provide home-based instruction and the student received home-
7 based instruction during the school year before the school year in
8 which the student intends to participate in courses or programs offered
9 by the institution of higher education. Students receiving home-based
10 instruction under chapter 28A.200 RCW and students attending private
11 schools approved under chapter 28A.195 RCW shall not be required to
12 meet the student learning goals, obtain a certificate of academic
13 achievement or a certificate of individual achievement to graduate from
14 high school, or to master the essential academic learning requirements.
15 However, students are eligible to enroll in courses or programs in
16 participating universities only if the board of directors of the
17 student's school district has decided to participate in the program.
18 Participating institutions of higher education, in consultation with
19 school districts, may establish admission standards for these students.
20 An institution of higher education with an enrollment in excess of
21 appropriations for full-time equivalent students may establish policies
22 to manage the number of running start students accepted for enrollment
23 or in a specific program of study at that institution if the running
24 start students comprise more than twelve percent of the full-time
25 equivalent enrollments. If the institution of higher education accepts
26 a secondary school pupil for enrollment under this section, the
27 institution of higher education shall send written notice to the pupil
28 and the pupil's school district within ten days of acceptance. The
29 notice shall indicate the course and hours of enrollment for that
30 pupil.

31 (2) In lieu of tuition and fees, as defined in RCW 28B.15.020 and
32 28B.15.041, running start students shall pay to the community or
33 technical college all other mandatory fees as established by each
34 community or technical college; and all other institutions of higher
35 education operating a running start program may charge technology fees.
36 The fees charged shall be prorated based on credit load.

37 (3) The institutions of higher education must make available fee
38 waivers for low-income running start students. Each institution must

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

9 (4) The pupil's school district shall transmit to the institution
10 of higher education an amount per each full-time equivalent college
11 student at statewide uniform rates for vocational and nonvocational
12 students. The superintendent of public instruction shall separately
13 calculate and allocate moneys appropriated for basic education under
14 RCW 28A.150.260 to school districts for purposes of making such
15 payments and for granting school districts seven percent thereof to
16 offset program related costs. The calculations and allocations shall
17 be based upon the estimated statewide annual average per full-time
18 equivalent high school student allocations under RCW 28A.150.260,
19 excluding small high school enhancements, and applicable rules adopted
20 under chapter 34.05 RCW. The superintendent of public instruction, the
21 higher education coordinating board, and the state board for community
22 and technical colleges shall consult on the calculation and
23 distribution of the funds. The funds received by the institution of
24 higher education from the school district shall not be deemed tuition
25 or operating fees and may be retained by the institution of higher
26 education. A student enrolled under this subsection shall be counted
27 for the purpose of meeting enrollment targets in accordance with terms
28 and conditions specified in the omnibus appropriations act.

29 (5) The state board for community and technical colleges, in
30 collaboration with the other institutions of higher education that
31 participate in the running start program and the office of the
32 superintendent of public instruction, shall identify, assess, and
33 report on alternatives for providing ongoing and adequate financial
34 support for the program. Such alternatives shall include but are not
35 limited to student tuition, increased support from local school
36 districts, and reallocation of existing state financial support among
37 the community and technical college system to account for differential
38 running start enrollment levels and impacts. The state board for

1 community and technical colleges shall report the assessment of
2 alternatives to the governor and to the appropriate fiscal and policy
3 committees of the legislature by September 1, 2010.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Section 2 of this act expires July 1, 2015.

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