

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**ENGROSSED SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5670**

Chapter 159, Laws of 2024

68th Legislature  
2024 Regular Session

RUNNING START PROGRAM—SUMMER FOLLOWING 10TH GRADE

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 6, 2024

Passed by the Senate February 2, 2024  
Yeas 48 Nays 0

DENNY HECK

**President of the Senate**

Passed by the House February 29, 2024  
Yeas 92 Nays 1

LURIE JINKINS

**Speaker of the House of  
Representatives**

Approved March 18, 2024 3:27 PM

JAY INSLEE

**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Sarah Bannister, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **ENGROSSED SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5670** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

SARAH BANNISTER

**Secretary**

FILED

March 19, 2024

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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ENGROSSED SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5670

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Passed Legislature - 2024 Regular Session

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2023 Regular Session

**By** Senate Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Hawkins, Randall, Holy, Kuderer, Nguyen, Nobles, Saldaña, and L. Wilson)

READ FIRST TIME 02/24/23.

1 AN ACT Relating to summer running start for rising juniors;  
2 amending RCW 28A.600.310 and 28A.600.320; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature believes it is in the best  
5 interest of the state to create opportunities to help ease students  
6 into running start prior to their 11th grade academic year. Affirming  
7 the opportunity for running start during the summer term following  
8 the 10th grade academic year will improve access to higher education  
9 opportunities and increase the likelihood of postsecondary degree  
10 attainment.

11 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.600.310 and 2023 c 350 s 2 are each amended to  
12 read as follows:

13 (1) Every school district must allow eligible students as  
14 described in subsection (2) of this section to participate in the  
15 running start program.

16 (2) (~~Student~~) In addition to the eligibility provided for in  
17 subsection (6) of this section, student eligibility for the running  
18 start program is as follows: Eleventh and 12th grade students or  
19 students who have not yet received the credits required for the award  
20 of a high school diploma and are eligible to be in the 11th or 12th

1 grade, including students receiving home-based instruction under  
2 chapter 28A.200 RCW and students attending private schools approved  
3 under chapter 28A.195 RCW, may apply to a participating institution  
4 of higher education to enroll in courses or programs offered by the  
5 institution of higher education.

6 (3) Students receiving home-based instruction under chapter  
7 28A.200 RCW enrolling in a public high school for the sole purpose of  
8 participating in courses or programs offered by institutions of  
9 higher education shall not be counted by the school district in any  
10 required state or federal accountability reporting if the student's  
11 parents or guardians filed a declaration of intent to provide home-  
12 based instruction and the student received home-based instruction  
13 during the school year before the school year in which the student  
14 intends to participate in courses or programs offered by the  
15 institution of higher education.

16 (4) Participating institutions of higher education, in  
17 consultation with school districts, may establish admission standards  
18 for eligible students. If the institution of higher education accepts  
19 a secondary school student for enrollment under this section, the  
20 institution of higher education shall send written notice to the  
21 student and the student's school district within 10 days of  
22 acceptance. The notice shall indicate the course and hours of  
23 enrollment for that student.

24 (5) The course sections and programs offered as running start  
25 courses must be open for registration to matriculated students at the  
26 participating institution of higher education and may not be a course  
27 consisting solely of high school students offered at a high school  
28 campus.

29 (6) Rising 11th grade students, defined as students who have  
30 completed their 10th grade year and not yet begun their 11th grade  
31 year, may enroll for up to 10 quarter credits, or the semester  
32 equivalent, during the summer academic term.

33 (7)(a) In lieu of tuition and fees, as defined in RCW 28B.15.020  
34 and 28B.15.041:

35 (i) Running start students shall pay to the community or  
36 technical college all other mandatory fees as established by each  
37 community or technical college and, in addition, the state board for  
38 community and technical colleges may authorize a fee of up to 10  
39 percent of tuition and fees as defined in RCW 28B.15.020 and  
40 28B.15.041; and

1 (ii) All other institutions of higher education operating a  
2 running start program may charge running start students a fee of up  
3 to 10 percent of tuition and fees as defined in RCW 28B.15.020 and  
4 28B.15.041 in addition to technology fees.

5 (b) The fees charged under this subsection (~~((+6))~~) (7) shall be  
6 prorated based on credit load.

7 (c) Students may pay fees under this subsection (~~((+6))~~) (7) with  
8 advanced college tuition payment program tuition units at a rate set  
9 by the advanced college tuition payment program governing body under  
10 chapter 28B.95 RCW.

11 (~~((+7))~~) (8)(a) The institutions of higher education must make  
12 available fee waivers for low-income running start students. A  
13 student shall be considered low income and eligible for a fee waiver  
14 upon proof that the student meets federal eligibility requirements  
15 for free or reduced-price school meals. Acceptable documentation of  
16 low-income status may also include, but is not limited to,  
17 documentation that a student has been deemed eligible for free or  
18 reduced-price lunches in the last five years, or other criteria  
19 established in the institution's policy.

20 (b)(i) By the beginning of the 2020-21 school year, school  
21 districts, upon knowledge of a low-income student's enrollment in  
22 running start, must provide documentation of the student's low-income  
23 status, under (a) of this subsection, directly to institutions of  
24 higher education.

25 (ii) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this  
26 specific purpose, the office of the superintendent of public  
27 instruction, in consultation with the Washington student achievement  
28 council, shall develop a centralized process for school districts to  
29 provide students' low-income status to institutions of higher  
30 education to meet the requirements of (b)(i) of this subsection.

31 (c) Institutions of higher education, in collaboration with  
32 relevant student associations, shall aim to have students who can  
33 benefit from fee waivers take advantage of these waivers.  
34 Institutions shall make every effort to communicate to students and  
35 their families the benefits of the waivers and provide assistance to  
36 students and their families on how to apply. Information about  
37 waivers shall, to the greatest extent possible, be incorporated into  
38 financial aid counseling, admission information, and individual  
39 billing statements. Institutions also shall, to the greatest extent  
40 possible, use all means of communication, including but not limited

1 to websites, online catalogues, admission and registration forms,  
2 mass email messaging, social media, and outside marketing to ensure  
3 that information about waivers is visible, compelling, and reaches  
4 the maximum number of students and families that can benefit.

5 ~~((+8))~~ (9) The student's school district shall transmit to the  
6 institution of higher education an amount per each full-time  
7 equivalent college student at statewide uniform rates for vocational  
8 and nonvocational students. The superintendent of public instruction  
9 shall separately calculate and allocate moneys appropriated for basic  
10 education under RCW 28A.150.260 to school districts for purposes of  
11 making such payments and for granting school districts seven percent  
12 thereof to offset program related costs. The calculations and  
13 allocations shall be based upon the estimated statewide annual  
14 average per full-time equivalent high school student allocations  
15 under RCW 28A.150.260, excluding small high school enhancements, and  
16 applicable rules adopted under chapter 34.05 RCW. The superintendent  
17 of public instruction, participating institutions of higher  
18 education, and the state board for community and technical colleges  
19 shall consult on the calculation and distribution of the funds. The  
20 funds received by the institution of higher education from the school  
21 district shall not be deemed tuition or operating fees and may be  
22 retained by the institution of higher education. A student enrolled  
23 under this subsection shall be counted for the purpose of meeting  
24 enrollment targets in accordance with terms and conditions specified  
25 in the omnibus appropriations act.

26 ~~((+9))~~ (10) This section governs school operation and management  
27 under RCW 28A.710.040 and 28A.715.020 and applies to charter schools  
28 established under chapter 28A.710 RCW and state-tribal education  
29 compact schools established under chapter 28A.715 RCW to the same  
30 extent as it applies to school districts.

31 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.600.320 and 2009 c 524 s 4 are each amended to  
32 read as follows:

33 A school district shall provide general information about the  
34 program to all pupils in grades ~~((ten))~~ 10, ~~((eleven))~~ 11, and  
35 ~~((twelve))~~ 12 and the parents and guardians of those pupils,  
36 including information about the opportunity to enroll in the program  
37 through online courses available at community and technical colleges  
38 and other state institutions of higher education, enrollment  
39 opportunities during the summer academic term, and including the

1 college high school diploma options under RCW 28B.50.535. To assist  
2 the district in planning, a pupil shall inform the district of the  
3 pupil's intent to enroll in courses at an institution of higher  
4 education for credit. Students are responsible for applying for  
5 admission to the institution of higher education.

Passed by the Senate February 2, 2024.

Passed by the House February 29, 2024.

Approved by the Governor March 18, 2024.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 19, 2024.

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