

---

**SENATE BILL 5727**

---

**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2019 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Palumbo, Rivers, and Mullet

1 AN ACT Relating to college bound scholarships for students in  
2 dual enrollment programs; amending RCW 28B.118.090, 28A.600.290, and  
3 28A.600.310; reenacting and amending RCW 28B.118.010; and adding a  
4 new section to chapter 28B.118 RCW.

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

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 28B.118.010 and 2018 c 204 s 1 and 2018 c 12 s 1 are  
7 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

8 The office of student financial assistance shall design the  
9 Washington college bound scholarship program in accordance with this  
10 section and in alignment with the state need grant program in chapter  
11 28B.92 RCW unless otherwise provided in this section.

12 (1) "Eligible students" are those students who:

13 (a) Qualify for free or reduced-price lunches. If a student  
14 qualifies in the seventh grade, the student remains eligible even if  
15 the student does not receive free or reduced-price lunches  
16 thereafter;

17 (b) Are dependent pursuant to chapter 13.34 RCW and:

18 (i) In grade seven through twelve; or

19 (ii) Are between the ages of eighteen and twenty-one and have not  
20 graduated from high school; or

1 (c) Were dependent pursuant to chapter 13.34 RCW and were adopted  
2 between the ages of fourteen and eighteen with a negotiated adoption  
3 agreement that includes continued eligibility for the Washington  
4 state college bound scholarship program pursuant to RCW 74.13A.025.

5 (2) Eligible students and the students' parents or guardians  
6 shall be notified of the student's eligibility for the Washington  
7 college bound scholarship program beginning in the student's seventh  
8 grade year. Students and the students' parents or guardians shall  
9 also be notified of the requirements for award of the scholarship.

10 (3)(a) To be eligible for a Washington college bound scholarship,  
11 a student eligible under subsection (1)(a) of this section must sign  
12 a pledge during seventh or eighth grade that includes a commitment to  
13 graduate from high school with at least a C average and with no  
14 felony convictions. The pledge must be witnessed by a parent or  
15 guardian and forwarded to the office of student financial assistance  
16 by mail or electronically, as indicated on the pledge form.

17 (b)(i) Beginning in the 2018-19 academic year, the office of  
18 student financial assistance shall make multiple attempts to secure  
19 the signature of the student's parent or guardian for the purpose of  
20 witnessing the pledge.

21 (ii) If the signature of the student's parent or guardian is not  
22 obtained, the office of student financial assistance may partner with  
23 the school counselor or administrator to secure the parent's or  
24 guardian's signature to witness the pledge. The school counselor or  
25 administrator shall make multiple attempts via all phone numbers,  
26 email addresses, and mailing addresses on record to secure the  
27 parent's or guardian's signature. All attempts to contact the parent  
28 or guardian must be documented and maintained in the student's  
29 official file.

30 (iii) If a parent's or guardian's signature is still not  
31 obtained, the school counselor or administrator shall indicate to the  
32 office of student financial assistance the nature of the unsuccessful  
33 efforts to contact the student's parent or guardian and the reasons  
34 the signature is not available. Then the school counselor or  
35 administrator may witness the pledge unless the parent or guardian  
36 has indicated that he or she does not wish for the student to  
37 participate in the program.

38 (c) A student eligible under subsection (1)(b) of this section  
39 shall be automatically enrolled, with no action necessary by the  
40 student or the student's family, and the enrollment form must be

1 forwarded by the department of social and health services to the  
2 office of student financial assistance by mail or electronically, as  
3 indicated on the form.

4 (4) (a) Scholarships shall be awarded to eligible students  
5 graduating from public high schools, approved private high schools  
6 under chapter 28A.195 RCW, or who received home-based instruction  
7 under chapter 28A.200 RCW.

8 (b) (i) To receive the Washington college bound scholarship, a  
9 student must graduate with at least a "C" average from a public high  
10 school or an approved private high school under chapter 28A.195 RCW  
11 in Washington or have received home-based instruction under chapter  
12 28A.200 RCW, must have no felony convictions, and must be a resident  
13 student as defined in RCW 28B.15.012(2) (a) through (e). A student  
14 who is eligible to receive the Washington college bound scholarship  
15 because the student is a resident student under RCW 28B.15.012(2) (e)  
16 must provide the institution, as defined in RCW 28B.15.012, an  
17 affidavit indicating that the individual will file an application to  
18 become a permanent resident at the earliest opportunity the  
19 individual is eligible to do so and a willingness to engage in any  
20 other activities necessary to acquire citizenship, including but not  
21 limited to citizenship or civics review courses.

22 (ii) For eligible children as defined in subsection (1) (b) and  
23 (c) of this section, to receive the Washington college bound  
24 scholarship, a student must have received a high school equivalency  
25 certificate as provided in RCW 28B.50.536 or have graduated with at  
26 least a "C" average from a public high school or an approved private  
27 high school under chapter 28A.195 RCW in Washington or have received  
28 home-based instruction under chapter 28A.200 RCW, must have no felony  
29 convictions, and must be a resident student as defined in RCW  
30 28B.15.012(2) (a) through (e).

31 (iii) For a student who does not meet the "C" average  
32 requirement, and who completes fewer than two quarters in the running  
33 start program, under chapter 28A.600 RCW, the student's first quarter  
34 of running start course grades must be excluded from the student's  
35 overall grade point average for purposes of determining their  
36 eligibility to receive the scholarship.

37 (5) A student's family income will be assessed upon graduation  
38 before awarding the scholarship.

1 (6) If at graduation from high school the student's family income  
2 does not exceed sixty-five percent of the state median family income,  
3 scholarship award amounts shall be as provided in this section.

4 (a) For students attending two or four-year institutions of  
5 higher education as defined in RCW 28B.10.016, the value of the award  
6 shall be (i) the difference between the student's tuition and  
7 required fees, less the value of any state-funded grant, scholarship,  
8 or waiver assistance the student receives; (ii) plus five hundred  
9 dollars for books and materials.

10 (b) For students attending private four-year institutions of  
11 higher education in Washington, the award amount shall be the  
12 representative average of awards granted to students in public  
13 research universities in Washington or the representative average of  
14 awards granted to students in public research universities in  
15 Washington in the 2014-15 academic year, whichever is greater.

16 (c) For students attending private vocational schools in  
17 Washington, the award amount shall be the representative average of  
18 awards granted to students in public community and technical colleges  
19 in Washington or the representative average of awards granted to  
20 students in public community and technical colleges in Washington in  
21 the 2014-15 academic year, whichever is greater.

22 (7) College bound recipients may receive no more than four full-  
23 time years' worth of scholarship awards, not including Washington  
24 college bound dual enrollment scholarship awards under section 2 of  
25 this act.

26 (8) Institutions of higher education shall award the student all  
27 need-based and merit-based financial aid for which the student would  
28 otherwise qualify. The Washington college bound scholarship is  
29 intended to replace unmet need, loans, and, at the student's option,  
30 work-study award before any other grants or scholarships are reduced.

31 (9) The first scholarships shall be awarded to students  
32 graduating in 2012.

33 (10) The state of Washington retains legal ownership of tuition  
34 units awarded as scholarships under this chapter until the tuition  
35 units are redeemed. These tuition units shall remain separately held  
36 from any tuition units owned under chapter 28B.95 RCW by a Washington  
37 college bound scholarship recipient.

38 (11) The scholarship award must be used within five years of  
39 receipt. Any unused scholarship tuition units revert to the  
40 Washington college bound scholarship account. For a student who

1 receives a scholarship to participate in a dual enrollment program  
2 under section 2 of this act and then receives a scholarship under  
3 subsection (6) of this section upon graduation from high school, the  
4 five-year period does not start until after graduation from high  
5 school and the student receives the scholarship under subsection (6)  
6 of this section.

7 (12) Should the recipient terminate his or her enrollment for any  
8 reason during the academic year, the unused portion of the  
9 scholarship tuition units shall revert to the Washington college  
10 bound scholarship account.

11 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 28B.118  
12 RCW to read as follows:

13 (1) The office of student financial assistance shall create the  
14 Washington college bound dual enrollment scholarship program as a  
15 subprogram of the Washington college bound scholarship in  
16 consultation with the office of the superintendent of public  
17 instruction, the state board for community and technical colleges,  
18 and the institutions of higher education.

19 (2) Eligible students are those students who are eligible for the  
20 Washington college bound scholarship program under RCW 28B.118.010  
21 (1) through (3).

22 (3) College bound scholarships funds shall be awarded to eligible  
23 students who are enrolled in one or more dual credit programs, as  
24 defined in RCW 28B.15.821, such as the college in the high school and  
25 running start programs.

26 (4) The dual enrollment scholarship award amount shall be equal  
27 to the student's fees and textbooks costs to participate in the dual  
28 enrollment program.

29 (a) A student who receives a scholarship to participate in a dual  
30 enrollment program under this section may still receive a college  
31 bound scholarship under RCW 28B.118.010(6) upon high school  
32 graduation, if eligible.

33 (b) For students who receive a dual enrollment scholarship under  
34 this section and then receives a college bound scholarship under RCW  
35 28B.118.010(6), the five-year period under RCW 28B.118.010(11) does  
36 not start until after high school graduation and the student receives  
37 the college bound scholarship under RCW 28B.118.010(6).

1       **Sec. 3.** RCW 28B.118.090 and 2015 c 244 s 6 are each amended to  
2 read as follows:

3       (1) Beginning January 1, 2015, and at a minimum every year  
4 thereafter, the student achievement council and all institutions of  
5 higher education eligible to participate in the college bound  
6 scholarship program shall ensure data needed to analyze and evaluate  
7 the effectiveness of the college bound scholarship program is  
8 promptly transmitted to the education data center created in RCW  
9 43.41.400 so that it is available and easily accessible. The data to  
10 be reported should include but not be limited to:

11       (a) The number of students who sign up for the college bound  
12 scholarship program in seventh or eighth grade;

13       (b) The number of college bound scholarship students who receive  
14 a Washington college bound dual enrollment scholarship under section  
15 2 of this act;

16       (c) The number of college bound scholarship students who graduate  
17 from high school;

18       ~~((e))~~ (d) The number of college bound scholarship students who  
19 enroll in postsecondary education;

20       ~~((d))~~ (e) Persistence and completion rates of college bound  
21 scholarship recipients disaggregated by institutions of higher  
22 education;

23       ~~((e))~~ (f) College bound scholarship recipient grade point  
24 averages;

25       ~~((f))~~ (g) The number of college bound scholarship recipients  
26 who did not remain eligible and reasons for ineligibility;

27       ~~((g))~~ (h) College bound scholarship program costs; and

28       ~~((h))~~ (i) Impacts to the state need grant program.

29       (2) Beginning May 12, 2015, and at a minimum every December 1st  
30 thereafter, the student achievement council shall submit student unit  
31 record data for the college bound scholarship program applicants and  
32 recipients to the education data center.

33       **Sec. 4.** RCW 28A.600.290 and 2015 c 202 s 3 are each amended to  
34 read as follows:

35       (1)(a) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for  
36 this specific purpose and commencing with the 2015-16 school year,  
37 funding may be allocated at an amount per college credit for eleventh  
38 and twelfth grade students or students who have not yet received a  
39 high school diploma or its equivalent and are eligible to be in the

1 eleventh or twelfth grade who are enrolled in college in the high  
2 school courses under this section as specified in the omnibus  
3 appropriations act and adjusted for inflation from the 2015-16 school  
4 year. The maximum annual number of allocated credits per  
5 participating student shall be specified in the omnibus  
6 appropriations act, which must not exceed ten credits. Funding shall  
7 be prioritized in the following order:

8 (i) High schools offering a running start in the high school  
9 program in school year 2014-15. These schools shall only receive  
10 prioritized funding in school year 2015-16;

11 (ii) Students whose residence or the high school in which they  
12 are enrolled is located twenty driving miles or more as measured by  
13 the most direct route from the nearest eligible institution of higher  
14 education offering a running start program, whichever is greater; and

15 (iii) High schools eligible for the small school funding  
16 enhancement in the omnibus appropriations act.

17 (b) (i) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for  
18 this specific purpose and commencing with the 2015-16 school year,  
19 and only after the programs in (a) of this subsection are funded, a  
20 subsidy may be provided per college credit for eleventh and twelfth  
21 grade students or students who have not yet received a high school  
22 diploma or its equivalent and are eligible to be in the eleventh or  
23 twelfth grade who have been deemed eligible for free or reduced-price  
24 lunch and are enrolled in college in the high school courses under  
25 this section as specified in the omnibus appropriations act and  
26 adjusted for inflation from the 2015-16 school year. The maximum  
27 annual number of subsidized credits per participating student shall  
28 be specified in the omnibus appropriations act, which must not exceed  
29 five credits.

30 (ii) Districts wishing to participate in the subsidy program must  
31 apply to the office of the superintendent of public instruction by  
32 July 1st of each year and report the preliminary estimate of eligible  
33 students to receive the subsidy and the total number of projected  
34 credit hours.

35 (iii) The office of the superintendent of public instruction  
36 shall notify districts by September 1st of each school year if the  
37 district's students will receive the subsidy. If more districts apply  
38 than funding is available, the office of the superintendent of public  
39 instruction shall prioritize the district applications. The  
40 superintendent shall develop factors to determine priority including,

1 but not limited to, the number of dual credit opportunities available  
2 for low-income students in the districts.

3 (c) Districts shall remit any allocations or subsidies on behalf  
4 of participating students under (a) and (b) of this subsection to the  
5 participating institution of higher education and those students  
6 shall not be required to pay for the credits.

7 (d) The minimum allocation and subsidy under this section is  
8 sixty-five dollars per quarter credit for credit-bearing  
9 postsecondary coursework. The office of the superintendent of public  
10 instruction, the student achievement council, the state board for  
11 community and technical colleges, and the public baccalaureate  
12 institutions shall review funding levels for the program every four  
13 years beginning in 2017 and recommend changes.

14 (e) Students may pay college in the high school fees with  
15 advanced college tuition payment program tuition units at a rate set  
16 by the advanced college tuition payment program governing body under  
17 chapter 28B.95 RCW.

18 (f) Students may pay college in the high school fees with  
19 Washington college bound dual enrollment scholarship awards under  
20 section 2 of this act.

21 (2) For the purposes of funding students enrolled in the college  
22 in the high school program in accordance with subsection (1) of this  
23 section, college in the high school is defined as a dual credit  
24 program located on a high school campus or in a high school  
25 environment in which a high school student is able to earn both high  
26 school and postsecondary credit by completing postsecondary level  
27 courses with a passing grade.

28 (3) College in the high school programs may include both academic  
29 and career and technical education.

30 (4) College in the high school programs shall each be governed by  
31 a local contract between the district and the participating  
32 institution of higher education, in compliance with the rules adopted  
33 by the superintendent of public instruction under this section.

34 (5) The college in the high school program must include the  
35 provisions in this subsection.

36 (a) The high school and participating institution of higher  
37 education together shall define the criteria for student eligibility.  
38 The institution of higher education may charge tuition fees to  
39 participating students. If specific funding is provided in the  
40 omnibus appropriations act for the per credit allocations and per



1 credit subsidies under subsection (1) of this section, the maximum  
2 per credit fee charged to any enrolled student may not exceed the  
3 amount of the per credit allocation or subsidy.

4 (b) The funds received by the participating institution of higher  
5 education may not be deemed tuition or operating fees and may be  
6 retained by the institution of higher education.

7 (c) Enrollment information on persons registered under this  
8 section must be maintained by the institution of higher education  
9 separately from other enrollment information and may not be included  
10 in official enrollment reports, nor may such persons be considered in  
11 any enrollment statistics that would affect higher education  
12 budgetary determinations.

13 (d) A school district must grant high school credit to a student  
14 enrolled in a program course if the student successfully completes  
15 the course. If no comparable course is offered by the school  
16 district, the school district superintendent shall determine how many  
17 credits to award for the course. The determination shall be made in  
18 writing before the student enrolls in the course. The credits shall  
19 be applied toward graduation requirements and subject area  
20 requirements. Evidence of successful completion of each program  
21 course shall be included in the student's secondary school records  
22 and transcript.

23 (e) A participating institution of higher education must grant  
24 college credit to a student enrolled in a program course if the  
25 student successfully completes the course. The college credit shall  
26 be applied toward general education requirements or degree  
27 requirements at institutions of higher education. Evidence of  
28 successful completion of each program course must be included in the  
29 student's college transcript.

30 (f) Tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grade students or students who  
31 have not yet received a high school diploma or its equivalent and are  
32 eligible to be in the tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grades may  
33 participate in the college in the high school program.

34 (g) Participating school districts must provide general  
35 information about the college in the high school program to all  
36 students in grades nine through twelve and to the parents and  
37 guardians of those students.

38 (h) Full-time and part-time faculty at institutions of higher  
39 education, including adjunct faculty, are eligible to teach program  
40 courses.

1 (6) The superintendent of public instruction shall adopt rules  
2 for the administration of this section. The rules shall be jointly  
3 developed by the superintendent of public instruction, the state  
4 board for community and technical colleges, the student achievement  
5 council, and the public baccalaureate institutions. The association  
6 of Washington school principals must be consulted during the rules  
7 development. The rules must outline quality and eligibility standards  
8 that are informed by nationally recognized standards or models. In  
9 addition, the rules must encourage the maximum use of the program and  
10 may not narrow or limit the enrollment options.

11 (7) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this  
12 section.

13 (a) "Institution of higher education" has the definition in RCW  
14 28B.10.016, and also includes a public tribal college located in  
15 Washington and accredited by the Northwest commission on colleges and  
16 universities or another accrediting association recognized by the  
17 United States department of education.

18 (b) "Program course" means a college course offered in a high  
19 school under the college in the high school program.

20 **Sec. 5.** RCW 28A.600.310 and 2015 c 202 s 4 are each amended to  
21 read as follows:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

36 (d) Students may pay fees under this subsection with Washington  
37 college bound dual enrollment scholarship awards under section 2 of  
38 this act.

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

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

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

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

1 subsection shall be counted for the purpose of meeting enrollment  
2 targets in accordance with terms and conditions specified in the  
3 omnibus appropriations act.

--- **END** ---