



Winter 2022 – 2022 Legislative Session Update

As of 2.9.22

Overview

The 2022 legislative session convened the 60-day supplemental session on Monday the 10th, January 2022.

Some upcoming key dates.

- February 15: Floor Cut-Off from Chamber of Origin
- February 24: Policy Cut-Off from Opposite Chamber

The second major deadline of the 2022 session has passed. On February 7, Thursday, all policy bills must have moved from their respective fiscal committee to their respective chamber Rules Committee for further consideration. The exception are bills that are deemed necessary to implement the budget which are not required to meet this deadline.

As you will see below, several bills included in this summary are moving forward in the process. The bills listed are considered still active Bills that did not meet the latest deadline or meet the exception are not listed. Finally, note bills advancing are not final versions.

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Bills of Interest for ICRC

[HB 1659](#) - *Making higher education more affordable and accessible for students by bridging the gap between cost and need to reduce barriers, improve opportunity, and advance economic security.*

The bill was amended and passed out of the House Appropriations Committee. The amendments delay the bridge grant award amounts in the underlying bill until academic year 2024-25 and establish that for academic years 2022-23 and 2023-24, students receiving the maximum WCG award, but who are not recipients of the College Bound Scholarship must receive a \$500 annual bridge grant award; delay the WCG income eligibility threshold changes in the underlying bill until academic year 2024-25 and establishing the following award levels for academic years 2022-23 and 2023-24; and add a null and void clause. The bill was advanced to the House Rules Committee for further consideration. Current [bill](#).

[HB 1736](#) - *Establishing a state student loan program.*

The bill was amended and passed out of the House Appropriations Committee. The amendments modify the definition of "institution of higher education" to include all institutions eligible to participate in state financial aid programs rather than only the public institutions of higher education; change the amount that may be used for loan origination from \$65 million to \$35 million; require the Washington Student Achievement Council to contract with a credit union to provide loan origination for the Washington Student Loan Program; and add a null and void clause. The bill was advanced to the House Rules Committee for further consideration. Current [bill](#).

[HB 1751](#) - *Concerning hazing prevention and reduction at institutions of higher education.*

The bill was amended and passed out of the House Appropriations Committee. The amendments require each public institution of higher education to establish a hazing prevention committee to promote and address hazing prevention and establishes the composition of the committee; prohibit a student who is a member of a student organization, athletic team, or living group that was affiliated with a hazing violation within the last twelve months to participate in or be a member of the hazing prevention committee; and add a null and void clause. The bill was advanced to the House Rules Committee for further consideration. Current [bill](#).

[HB 1760](#) - *Expanding access to dual credit programs through changes to the current fiscal model, makes permanent the Running Start summer school program*

The bill was amended and passed out of the House Appropriations Committee. The amendments change the Running Start (RS) Program by: (1) Permitting RS students to be funded up to a combined maximum enrollment of 1.6 full-time equivalents (FTEs), rather than 1.2 FTEs, as is currently permitted in the operating budget; (2) Making the RS Program a year-round program by requiring adoption of rules to fund RS students' summer course enrollments; (3) Modifying eligibility for certain high school graduates to continue participating in the RS program by allowing high school graduates who have 15, rather than 5, or fewer college credits to earn before meeting associate degree requirements to earn up to 15, rather than 5, college credits during the summer academic term following their high school graduation; (4) Declaring that RS Programs as a service delivery model, associated funding levels beyond 1.0 FTE per student, and funding for high school graduates enrolled in RS courses, are not part of the state's statutory program of basic education; and (5) Requiring that an annual report to the Legislature on the combined FTE experience of students participating in running start programs include enrollments by high school and participating institution of higher education; remove provisions creating a dual enrollment subsidy program, reducing per college credit fees for eligible college in the high school students, and revising eligibility for the RS Program tuition fee waiver; require that dual credit information provided to students and their parents or legal guardians include information about financial assistance available to reduce dual credit course costs, rather than information about the dual enrollment subsidy program; and add a null and void clause. The bill was advanced to the House Rules Committee for further consideration. Current [bill](#).

[HB 1835](#) - *Creating outreach and completion initiatives to increase postsecondary enrollment*

The bill was amended and passed out of the House Appropriations Committee. The amendments modify the FAFSA and Washington Application for State Financial Aid (WASFA) Outreach and Completion Initiative to a pilot program administered by the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges; require SBCTC to select community or technical colleges to participate in the FAFSA and WASFA Outreach and Completion Pilot Program that are located within educational service districts that are in the bottom two for FAFSA completion rates when combining their respective school districts' FAFSA completion rates over the past three completed academic years prior to the effective date of the bill; specify that the colleges selected to participate in the FAFSA and WASFA Outreach and Completion Pilot Program must employ outreach specialists to work directly with high school located in the corresponding educational service district; make the FAFSA and WASFA Outreach and Completion Pilot Program reporting requirement to the Legislature an annual report; limit the State Library Grant Pilot Program to only those public libraries located within educational service districts that are in the bottom two for FAFSA completion rates when combining their respective school districts' FAFSA completion rates over the past three completed academic years prior to the effective date of the bill; remove the expiration date on the State Library Grant Pilot Program and make the report an annual report; remove the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and the Refugee Cash Assistance programs from the list of public assistance programs that the Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC) may use to confirm income eligibility for the Washington College Grant (WCG) and adds the Essential Needs and Housing Support and Pregnant Women Assistance programs to the list; require WSAC to collaborate with DSHS to facilitate individual-level outreach to individuals receiving benefits through public assistance programs to inform those individuals of their eligibility for the WCG; permit WSAC to use the information received from DSHS to conduct outreach promoting the WCG; Establishes the Washington Career and College Pathways Innovation Challenge Program to allow WSAC to award competitive grants to local and regional partnerships to increase educational attainment; add that the Washington Career and College Pathways Innovation Challenge Program account may retain its portion of interest in the Treasurer's Trust Fund; permit WSAC to solicit and receive gifts, grants, and endowments from public or

private sources for the benefit of the Washington Career and College Pathways Innovation Challenge Program; require WSAC to report to the Legislature each September 1st on the grants awarded under the Washington Career and College Pathways Innovation Challenge Program and add a null and void clause. The bill was advanced to the House Rules Committee for further consideration. Current [bill](#).

[HB 1867](#) - *Concerning dual credit program data.*

The bill was amended and passed out of the House Education Committee. The amendments remove the statewide nonprofit organization with expertise in promoting and supporting science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education from the list of entities required to collaborate on the annual dual credit report; change data disaggregation provisions; eliminate the requirement to report on credit usage and removes the definitions of "credit usage" and "academic performance;" broaden the use of the term "institutions of higher education" by removing a definition that makes the term apply only to public institutions of higher education; add that the report must recommend additional categories of data reporting and recommended; and direct the 2022 report to recommend whether to require: (1) reporting of data related to application of postsecondary credits earned through a dual credit program towards postsecondary credentials and degrees; and (2) comparison of postsecondary credential and degree attainment between students who did or did not participate in a dual credit program, and between students who participated in different dual credit programs. The bill now moves to the House Floor for further consideration. The bill was advanced to the House Rules Committee for further consideration. Current [bill](#).

[SB 5764](#) - *Concerning apprenticeships and higher education.*

The bill was amended and passed out of the Senate Ways and Means Committee. The amendments require the William D. Ruckelshaus Center to review national funding structures for apprenticeship programs for applicability in Washington State and require public institutions of higher education to establish policies for granting as many credits as possible and appropriate, for an apprenticeship's related supplemental instruction, rather than develop course equivalencies. The bill was advanced to the Senate Rules Committee for further consideration. Current [bill](#).

[SB 5534](#) - *Concerning the use of verifiable credentials.*

The bill passed out of the Senate Ways & Means Committee. The bill was not amended. The bill was advanced to the Senate Rules Committee for further consideration. Current [bill](#).

[SB 5789](#) - *Creates the Washington career and college pathways innovation challenge program.*

The bill was amended and passed out of the Senate Ways & Means Committee. The amendments require the student achievement council to consult with representatives of the public two and four-year institutions, the state's ethnic commissions, the Governor's office of Indian affairs, the LGBTQ commission, and the women's commission, in the design and administration of the grant program. Current [bill](#).