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STATE NEED GRANT

PROGRAM MANUAL

2010-2011

STATE NEED GRANT
Higher Education Coordinating Board Staff

JOHN KLACIK Director of Student Financial Assistance	Phone Fax Email	(360) 753-7851 (360) 704-6251 johnk@hecb.wa.gov
--	-----------------------	---

JULIE JAPHET Assistant Director	Phone Fax Email	(360) 753-7840 (360) 704-6240 juliej@hecb.wa.gov
---	-----------------------	--

CARISSA GLASSBURN Program Manager	Phone Fax Email	(360) 753-7841 (360) 704-6241 carissag@hecb.wa.gov
---	-----------------------	--

VICTOR FERNANDEZ Payment Coordinator	Phone Fax E-Mail	(360) 704-4153 (360) 704-6253 victorf@hecb.wa.gov
--	------------------------	---

JANET CORNELL Receivables Coordinator	Phone Fax E-Mail	(360) 704-4165 (360) 704-6237 janetc@hecb.wa.gov
---	------------------------	--

Board Members

Jesus Hernandez, Chair	Earl Hale
Charley Bingham	Bill Grinstein
Ethelda Burke	Nita Rinehart
Gene Colin	Samual H. Smith
Roberta Greene	Andrew Helm

Don Bennett, Acting Executive Director

Higher Education Coordinating Board

917 Lakeridge Way SW
P.O. Box 43430
Olympia, WA 98504-3430

www.hecb.wa.gov

Portal: <https://fortress.wa.gov/hecb/portal/>

Secure Web site: <https://fortress.wa.gov/hecb/secure>

Agency phone number: (360) 753-7800

Agency fax number: (360) 753-7808

**State Need Grant
Program Manual
2010-2011**

Table of Contents

Program Updates	i
Program Overview.....	iii
SNG Profile	v
SNG Program Timeline.....	vii

Chapter 1 –Student Eligibility Determination

Student Eligibility Requirements	1
Financial Need.....	1
Resident for SNG Purposes	2
Resident for Tuition but not for SNG.....	2
Conflicting Information.....	2
Undergraduate Student	2
Enrolled for at Least Three Credits	2
Eligible Program.....	3
Correspondence and Distance Education	3
Study Abroad Programs	3
Approved Application	3
Opportunity Internship Graduates	4
Income Cutoff.....	4
Disadvantaged	4
Former Foster Youth	4
Unsatisfactory Progress or Denied Status	4
Refund/Repayment	4
Second Associate Degree	4
Five Years Eligibility	5
125% of Program Limit.....	5
Theology Degree	5
Eligibility Monitoring.....	6
HECB Archive Report.....	6
SAP.....	7
Fraudulent Information.....	7
Consistent Policies.....	7

Chapter 2 – Calculating the Award

Income Cutoff	9
Income Cutoff Chart.....	9
Counting Income	10
Expected Family Contribution	10
Professional Judgment.....	10
Family Income Change of 3% or Less	10
Adjustment for More than One Family Member in College	10
Award Amounts by Sector	11
Base Grant Amounts	11
Dependent Care Allowance (DCA).....	11
Adjusting the Award	12
MFI Ranges	12
Part-Time Students	12
Attendance Less than Nine Months	12
Gift Equity Packaging	12
25% Self-Help Requirement	12
Uneven Disbursements Permitted	13
Minimum Awards	13
Other Awarding Considerations.....	14
Fourth Quarter/Third Semester Awards	14
Financial Aid Over-award.....	14
Commuter Students	14
Retroactive Payments	14
Late Applicants	14
Award Rounding	14
Concurrent Award at Two Schools	14
Chapter 30 VA or AmeriCorps Benefits	15
Fractional Last Term	15
Quarter Schools	15
Semester Schools.....	15
Transfer Students.....	15
Award Practices Not Permitted	16
Single Parent and Part-Time Student.....	16
Under-awarding	16

Chapter 3 – Satisfactory Academic Progress

Satisfactory Academic Progress	17
Maximum Timeframe	17
Quantitative Standard	17
Probation.....	17
Clock Hour Schools	17
Denied Status	18
Qualitative Standard	18
Other Conditions of SAP Policy.....	18
Professional Judgment/Appeals	18
Reinstatement.....	18
Student Withdrawals-Repayment Calculations.....	18

Chapter 4 – Reporting Requirements

Interim Report	19
Due Dates	19
Record Layouts.....	19
Awarded	20
Unserved Students	20
Students on Both Lists.....	20
DATA Submissions.....	20
Summary and Detail Records	20
Edits	21
Secure Data Transmission.....	21
Security of Information.....	21
Institutional Student ID.....	21
Reconciliation Report Balance Sheet	21
Year-End Reconciliation of Records Form for Public Schools.....	23
Year-End Reconciliation of Records Form for Less-than-Half-Time Students.....	25
SNG Interim Report Record Layout for Public Schools	27

Chapter 5 – Public Payments

Payment Requests.....	29
Deobligations and Supplemental Requests	29
Disbursement Procedures	29
Enrollment.....	29
Conditions of Award.....	29
Power of Attorney Disbursements	30
Repayment as a Result of Withdrawal	30
In-Repayment Designation	30
Institutional Notification	30
Uncollectible Accounts	30
Re-Award or Return of Repayments.....	31
Temporary Repayment Accounts.....	31
Transfer Students.....	31
Reconciliation of Records	31
Deadlines.....	31
Conditions of Award	33
Repayment Transmittal Form.....	35
Archive Check Report (Includes Associate Degree Data)	37
Archive Check Report (Excludes AA Degree Data)	39
State Need Grant Repayment Policy Requirements	40
General	40
Authority.....	40
Known Last Date of Attendance	40
Unknown Last Date of Attendance	41
No-Show Repayments	41
General Repayment Policies	41

Chapter 6 – Private Payments

Check and EFT Request Procedure.....	43
Required Information.....	43
Institutional Code.....	43
Social Security Number.....	44
Student’s Name.....	44
Family Information.....	44
Enrollment Status.....	44
Amount to be Paid (excluding DCA).....	44
DCA Amount.....	44
Term Payment.....	44
Revised Payments versus supplemental awards.....	44
Check and EFT Request Processing Deadlines.....	44
Electronic Fund Transfer Reimbursement Schools.....	45
HECB Student Directive Form.....	45
Reimbursement Requests.....	45
Overpayments and Student Repayments.....	45
Disbursement Procedures.....	45
Student Disbursement Options.....	45
Conditions of Award Statements.....	46
Power of Attorney Disbursements.....	46
Institutional Responsibility for Checks.....	46
Disbursement in 30 Days.....	46
Procedure for Cancelling SNG Checks.....	46
Repayments as a Result of Withdrawal.....	47
Notification to Student and HECB.....	47
HECB Follow-up.....	47
Current Year Repayments.....	47
Temporary Repayment Accounts.....	47
Transfer Students.....	48
Associate Degrees at Private Institutions.....	48
Additional Notes: Clock Hour Schools.....	48
Payment Periods.....	48
Program Lengths.....	48
Remainder Hours Award Percentages.....	48
Academic Year Cross-Over Programs.....	49
Clock Hour Payment Request Calendar.....	49
Archive Check Report (Includes Associate Degree Data).....	51
Archive Check Report (Excludes AA Degree Data).....	53
Check Cancellation Cover Sheet.....	55
Private Institution EFT Reimbursement Adjustment/Cancellation Report.....	57
Repayment Transmittal Form for Private/Proprietary Institution.....	59
Associate Degree Format for Private Institutions.....	60
Using the On-Line SNG Payment Utility.....	61
Student Directive for Disbursement for State Student Aid.....	68
Grant Repayment Policy Requirements.....	70

Chapter 7 – Transfer Students

HECB Reserve.....71
Definition.....71
Procedures71
Receiving School.....71
Validation Report71
Transfer Fund Reconciliation Report72
Transfer Fund Request Form.....73

Chapter 8 – Institutional Information

Institutional Eligibility.....75
Agreement to Participate76
 Student Budgets76
 Refund Policies / Repayment Policies76
 Satisfactory Progress Policies76
 Notifications.....76
Eligible Out-Of-State Institution76
 Reciprocity Students77
 Student Eligibility77
 Program Operation.....77
 Institutional Reserves77
 Reporting.....77
Program Audits and Records Retention77
 Records Retention77
Institution Codes.....78

Chapter 9 – Rules and Laws.....79

UPDATES FOR 2010-2011

STATE NEED GRANT PROGRAM MANUAL

New Repayment Policy: This policy became **mandatory** in 2009-10, and was created through a collaborative process involving the Student Financial Assistance Workgroup and the financial aid community at large. The Repayment Policy can be found on page 41.

Interim Reporting Changes for Applied Baccalaureate Schools: Detail records for applied baccalaureate awards should have an “A” in front of them on interim report, instead of a “D”. See the file format under the Chapter 4 - Reporting Requirements.

New Self-Help Guidance: The SNG Workgroup finalized new guidance regarding self-help, providing an alternative to the 25% requirement. Refer to the “Self-Help Requirement” heading on page 12.

Opportunity Internships: In spring 2010, a list of eligible Opportunity Internship graduates will be made available to incorporate this new subset of SNG eligible students into your SNG packaging.

Reminders

Former Foster Care Youth priority: Former Foster Care Youth are guaranteed SNG funds; however, each student must continue to demonstrate **financial need**. Please contact the HECB if you do not have sufficient funds in your regular SNG reserves to award students meeting these criteria. Keep in mind that the Foster Youth assurance is not intended as an additional funding source for your school’s foster youth population.

Expanded Electronic Funds Transfers (EFTs) for selected private schools: Twelve private institutions currently participate in the Electronic Funds Transfer reimbursement process. We invite and encourage all private institutions to convert to this expedient and efficient payment method. If you have questions regarding this process, please contact SNG staff.

Less-than-Half-Time Funds: 2007 legislation requires Less-Than-Half-Time funds to be tracked and requested separately. Regular SNG funds cannot be used to fund less-than-half-time students, and reserves from one fund cannot be transferred to the other.

In addition, child support shall be excluded from income calculations for less-than-half-time students.

Accurate Reporting: Please ensure that the served and unserved records submitted on the SNG Interim Report are accurate. The HECB relies on this data to make important decisions regarding the SNG program.

Students Needing Repayment Status Information: Students wanting information about the status of their repayment should be instructed to call the HECB’s billing service, ECSI at 1-888-549-3274).

Note: Instruct students to reference school code 2H. Students with repayments incurred during or before 1997 should be instructed to contact HECB.

State Need Grant Program Overview

State Need Grants are designed to pay a portion of educational costs for needy and disadvantaged students. State Need Grant awards for full-time students range from about \$2,690 to more than \$6,800 per year, depending on the student's educational costs.

Program Purpose

- While rising college costs affect students from all income levels, the lowest-income students are particularly vulnerable. They are less likely to enroll, and more likely to drop out than their more advantaged peers, if financial aid does not offset cost increases.
- To be eligible, a student's family income cannot exceed 70 percent of the state's median family income, currently \$54,500 for a family of four.
- National and Washington state research shows that low-income students can enroll and persist to program completion only if sufficient financial aid – in an appropriate mix of grants, part-time work, and student loans – is available.¹

Benefits to Students

The State Need Grant (SNG) program helps the state's lowest-income undergraduate students pursue degrees, hone skills, or retrain for new careers.

Students may receive State Need Grants for up to five years (10 semesters/15 quarters) or 125 percent of the published length of their programs. Additionally, they can earn a second associate degree if five years have elapsed since the first.

Students can use the grants at participating public and private colleges and universities, community and technical colleges, and private career schools in Washington state.

Benefits to the State

The legislature established the State Need Grant program, declaring that “the higher education of its qualified [residents is] a public purpose of great importance to the welfare and security of this state... and that the benefit to the state in assuring the development of the talents of its qualified [residents] will bring tangible benefits to the state in the future”.

Emerging Issues

The Opportunity Internship Program created during the 2009 legislative session awards one year of State Need Grant funds to high school graduates who complete a qualified internship program while still in high school.

¹“Student Financial Aid and the Persistence of Recipients at Washington Colleges and Universities,” JBL Associates under contract with the Higher Education Coordinating Board, 1996.

STATE NEED GRANT PROFILE

History and Operation

- **1969:** SNG Program was established.
- **1989:** State Need Grant eligibility expanded to include half-time students.
- **2005:** Pilot project expanded State Need Grant eligibility to include students enrolled less than half time in three, four, or five credits.
- Students are **ranked for eligibility** according to family income, once overall financial need has been established using the federal methodology.
- The effective income cutoff and grant amounts are based on available funding and the number of eligible enrolling students.
- Funds come primarily from the state, with federal matching funds representing less than 2 percent of the total.
- Maximum grant amounts vary by type of institution. **Students are automatically considered for State Need Grants once they have completed a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).**
- In fiscal year 2009, the program used about \$209 million in state money, and about \$1.2 million in federal matching funds, to help about 70,000 students go to college.
- Current funding allows for full awards to those at or below 50 percent MFI. Those with incomes between 50 and 70 percent MFI receive a prorated percentage of the maximum amount.

Program Eligibility

To be eligible for State Need Grants, students must meet the following criteria:

- Have demonstrated financial need based on a completed FAFSA.
- Be a Washington state resident.
- Be enrolled as an undergraduate in at least three credits in an eligible program.
- Be making satisfactory progress in their program.
- Be pursuing a certificate, baccalaureate degree (not theology), or first associate degree.

More Information

For more information on the Washington State Need Grant, please visit www.hecb.wa.gov.

STATE NEED GRANT PROFILE

Total, All Institutions		4-Yr Public Institutions	Independent Institutions	Community & Technical Colleges	Private Vocational Schools
Percent of All Recipients	100 %	32 %	6 %	59 %	3 %
Recipients	72,423	22,970	4,707	42,826	2,513
Total State Need Grant Awards	\$195,226,539	\$97,490,134	\$23,002,328	\$70,545,688	\$4,188,389
Average SNG Award	\$2,695	\$4,244	\$4,886	\$1,647	\$1,666
Age					
Under 21	36 %	43 %	48 %	32 %	30 %
21-23	18 %	23 %	19 %	15 %	18 %
24-29	23 %	21 %	19 %	24 %	29 %
30-34	8 %	5 %	6 %	10 %	10 %
35-39	6 %	3 %	4 %	8 %	6 %
40 and Over	9 %	4 %	5 %	12 %	6 %
Median Age	23	21	21	24	24
Gender					
Male	39 %	44 %	34 %	36 %	45 %
Female	61 %	56 %	66 %	64 %	55 %
WA Residency					
Resident	100 %	100 %	100 %	100 %	100 %
Nonresident	0 %	0 %	0 %	0 %	0 %
Fall Term Enrollment Status					
Full-time	71 %	86 %	83 %	61 %	64 %
Part-time	13 %	6 %	10 %	17 %	10 %
Not Enrolled	17 %	8 %	8 %	23 %	26 %
Year in School					
Freshmen	40 %	13 %	18 %	55 %	54 %
Sophomore	33 %	14 %	16 %	45 %	30 %
Junior	16 %	29 %	27 %	0 %	12 %
Senior	16 %	43 %	37 %	0 %	4 %
5th Year/Unclassified	0 %	0 %	1 %	0 %	0 %
Graduate/Prof/Other	0 %	0 %	1 %	0 %	0 %
Race/Ethnicity					
Black/African American	8 %	5 %	6 %	9 %	9 %
Asian	9 %	12 %	8 %	7 %	8 %
Pacific Islander	4 %	9 %	2 %	1 %	1 %
American Indian	3 %	2 %	3 %	4 %	2 %
Spanish/Hispanic	10 %	8 %	15 %	11 %	12 %
White	57 %	49 %	56 %	62 %	59 %
Other	5 %	10 %	3 %	2 %	1 %
Unknown	4 %	4 %	7 %	4 %	8 %
Dependent Students					
Percent of all Students	39 %	53 %	53 %	30 %	29 %
Average Parental Income	\$32,113	\$30,487	\$31,946	\$33,908	\$27,818
Average Family Size	4.00	3.91	4.13	4.08	3.75
Average EFC	\$1,975	\$2,385	\$2,345	\$1,530	\$1,762
Independent Students					
Percent of all Students	61 %	47 %	47 %	70 %	71 %
Average Family Income	\$16,243	\$13,818	\$16,794	\$17,110	\$15,635
Average Family Size	2.21	1.79	2.08	2.37	2.11
Average EFC	\$1,324	\$1,813	\$1,503	\$1,135	\$1,311
Family Demographics					
Married	14 %	11 %	12 %	16 %	14 %
Married with Children	10 %	6 %	8 %	13 %	10 %
Unmarried with Children	18 %	7 %	10 %	24 %	23 %
Separated with Children	2 %	0 %	1 %	3 %	2 %
Average Total Award	\$10,690	\$14,410	\$26,111	\$6,680	\$13,606
Percent of Funds by Type					
Grant	67 %	65 %	66 %	72 %	38 %
Loan	30 %	33 %	31 %	23 %	62 %
Work	3 %	2 %	3 %	5 %	0 %

WASHINGTON STATE NEED GRANT 2010-2011 PROGRAM TIMELINES

May 3, 2010	Requests are mailed to institutions for items to update the “Institutional Agreement to Participate”
June 4, 2010	Last date for private institutions to request payments for 2009-2010 year
June 18, 2010	Last date for public institutions to request payments for 2009-2010 year
July 9, 2010	Reconciliation reports due for 2009-2010 year Schools can begin requesting funds for summer (1st term) and fall terms
August 2010	Updated Archive Check Report with 2009-2010 award data available on HECB Portal*
September 2010	HECB requests staff contact updates from financial aid administrators
November 5, 2010	Fall Interim Reports due
November 2010	LEAP/SLEAP letters mailed to private and proprietary institutions
February 4, 2011	Winter Interim Reports due
February 2011	First Supplemental/Deobligation Survey Round
April 15, 2011	Transfer funds available until this date
April 2011	Second Supplemental/Deobligation Survey Round
May 6, 2011	Spring Interim Reports due
May 2011	State financial aid training and update workshops
June 3, 2011	Private institutions - Final request for funds
July 8, 2011	Reconciliation and Year End Interim Reports due
August 2011	Updated Archive Check Report with 2010-2011 awards available on HECB Portal*
September 2011	HECB requests staff contact updates from financial aid administrators

**Contingent upon receipt of completed Reconciliation of Records from institutions.*

CHAPTER 1

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION

Student Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for State Need Grant (SNG) students must:

- Demonstrate financial need
 - Be a resident of the state of Washington
 - Be an undergraduate
 - Enroll for at least three credits
 - Enroll in an eligible program
 - Submit an approved application (FAFSA)
- OR
- Be an Opportunity Internship graduate

AND, meet at least one of the following criteria:

- An established income cutoff
- The definition of disadvantaged
- Be a former foster care youth

To be eligible for SNG consideration, the student must NOT:

- Be in an unsatisfactory progress or denied status
- Owe a repayment to the SNG or any other state or federal student aid program
- Be pursuing a second Associate degree with assistance of SNG unless five years have elapsed since the first Associate degree
- Have exceeded either of these limits:
 - Five years of SNG term usage
 - 125% of the published length of his or her program
- Be pursuing a theology degree

Financial Need

The student must demonstrate *financial need*, as calculated by the institution, using the Federal Methodology (FM) formula. The student's SNG award, in combination with other forms of aid, may not exceed the calculated need.

Resident for SNG Purposes

While a State Need Grant-eligible student must pay resident tuition and fees, there are some categories of residency that do not qualify for the award. The term *resident for the SNG* is defined in RCW 28B.15.012 (2) (a) through (d), and in Board adopted rules pertaining to residency. (Chapter 9 - Laws and Rules includes the full statute and regulatory text.)

Resident for Tuition, but not for SNG

Since 1994, the Legislature has classified specific groups as residents for tuition and fee purposes at public institutions but has determined that they are NOT eligible for the SNG.

These groups include:

1. **Undocumented Residents.** In 2003, the Legislature provided a means for certain students to become eligible for the payment of resident tuition and fees without regard to U.S. Citizenship. See Chapter 9 for more information on RCW 28B.15.012 (2) (e).
2. **American Indians** - from Washington and Washington area tribes whose permanent residence is in Oregon, Idaho, or Montana.
3. **Military personnel, their spouse and dependents, or National Guard.**

To receive State Need Grant, members of these groups must prove they have established a domicile in Washington state according to RCW 28B.15.012 (2) (a) through (d), and be otherwise eligible for State Need Grant.

Conflicting Information

The HECB requires institutions to resolve any conflicting residency information between their financial aid, admissions, and registration offices. The HECB will periodically compare residency-related data reported on the FAFSA (such as mailing address, state of legal residence, driver's license state) and request that schools either confirm eligibility or resolve conflicting information.

Undergraduate Student

An **undergraduate student** is a student who has not received a baccalaureate or professional degree. An institution may withhold payment of SNG to a student who has earned sufficient credits for, but has not received, a first baccalaureate degree.

Enrolled for at Least Three Credits

A student must be enrolled in a minimum of three quarter credits or equivalent semester credits at a participating postsecondary institution to receive State Need Grant.

Eligible Program

An eligible program is a program at a location approved by the U.S. Department of Education for participation in the Title IV financial aid programs.

The student must be enrolled in an educational program that does one of the following:

1. Leads to a baccalaureate, associate, or undergraduate professional degree.
2. Leads to a postsecondary vocational certificate or degree in a program of at least 600 clock hours, 16 semesters or 24 quarter credit hours. Program completion must prepare the student for gainful employment in a recognized occupation.
3. Be an apprenticeship program that qualifies as an eligible program for graduates of Opportunity Internship programs.

Note: It is permissible to count needed remedial coursework toward the SNG enrollment requirement.

Correspondence and Distance Education

A student may not take more than half of their course load through correspondence courses. There are no restrictions on the number of electronically delivered (online) credits that a SNG recipient may enroll in from an eligible institution.

Study Abroad Programs

Study abroad students are eligible to be considered for SNG if one of the following is true:

- They are enrolled at an eligible institution for a Study Abroad program.
- The institution has agreed to administer the financial aid in conjunction with another institution running the Study Abroad program.

Approved Application

An **Approved Application** is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form, as approved by the U.S. Department of Education.

No Application Fee

No student shall be required to pay a fee to apply for a SNG.

Opportunity Internship Graduates

An ***Opportunity Internship graduate*** is a high school graduate who successfully completed an opportunity internship program while still in high school.

The Opportunity Internship Program allows Opportunity Internship graduates to receive up to one year of SNG towards a postsecondary program of study, including apprenticeships, when used within one year of high school graduation.

Eligibility requirements for Opportunity Internship graduates are different from regular SNG students. Opportunity Internship students do not need to be enrolled half time or complete a FAFSA, and their program does not need to lead to a degree or certificate. Their awards may be used for costs related to supplemental instruction, and other costs associated with apprenticeship programs.

Income Cutoff

The student must have a family income below a specified *income cutoff*, or be a former foster care youth. The cutoff equals a percentage of the state's median family income (MFI) and adjusts with the student's family size. For 2010-2011, the income cutoff is 70 percent of the state's MFI. The chapter on *Calculating Award* describes the income cutoff thresholds.

Disadvantaged

A *disadvantaged student* is one who, by reasons of adverse cultural, educational, environmental, experiential, or familial circumstance, is unlikely to aspire to or enroll in higher education. This may include a dependent student whose parents have not attained a college education and/or whose family income is substantially below the state's median, and who are predetermined to be disadvantaged by participating in a means tested early awareness program designed to prepare him or her for postsecondary education.

Former Foster Youth

A *former foster youth* is defined as someone at least eighteen years of age, but not more than twenty-four years of age, who was a dependent of the Department of Social and Health Services at the time he or she turned eighteen. The student must also demonstrate financial need and meet all other eligibility requirements.

The foster youth SNG assurance is intended for those students who were not identified during packaging because they enrolled later in the year. It is not meant as a supplemental allocation for the foster youth SNG population at an institution.

Unsatisfactory Progress or Denied Status

Unsatisfactory progress means that in a previous term, the student failed to complete at least one-half (50 percent) of the minimum number of credits or clock hours for which the SNG was received and has not yet earned reinstatement. *Denied* may also refer to a student's status when the student has not met the institution's qualitative standard or maximum timeframe policy. See the "Satisfactory Academic Progress" chapter for more information.

Refund/Repayment

All students must certify that they do not owe a refund or repayment for any state or federal student financial aid programs. The student may not be in default on a loan made, insured, or guaranteed under the Perkins, National Direct, or Federal Family Education Loan program, or a loan made through a state conditional loan program.

Second Associate Degree

A student pursuing a second associate degree is only eligible for additional SNG if five years have elapsed since the date the associate degree was conferred. This limitation applies if the student received more than three quarters or two semesters of SNG before the first degree was awarded.

The archive report updates periodically with reported student associate degrees. The archive is available on HECB's Portal: <https://fortress.wa.gov/hecb/portal/>. A student may earn two associate degrees concurrently. Certificates are not included in this limitation.

Five Years Eligibility

A SNG recipient may receive the grant for a maximum of five years. *Five years* means ten semesters, fifteen quarters, or the equivalent combination of the two at a full-time rate of enrollment.

Note: Opportunity Internship graduates are eligible for only one year of SNG funds under the opportunity internship program. *One year* means two semesters, three quarters, or the equivalent combination of the two at a full-time rate of enrollment.

125% of Program Limit

The SNG may not be awarded to a student who has exceeded 125 percent of the published length of his or her program. FAA's may exercise professional judgment to individual student situations when applying the 125 percent rule. These exceptions shall follow the flexibility granted to the FAA in applying the federal 150 percent limitation.

While the actual 125 percent limit cannot be changed, other circumstances can be recognized. For example, the school may do one of the following:

1. Choose the unit of measure that constitutes the published length of time.
2. Exclude remedial coursework up to 30 semester hours or 45 quarter hours.
3. Exclude English as a Second Language course work.
4. Re-start the timeframe after a change of program.
5. Consider other exceptional circumstances as documented by the student.

All use of professional judgment shall be applied judiciously, on a case-by-case basis, and shall be documented in the student's file.

Theology Degree

Students are ineligible to receive state financial aid to pursue a degree in theology. Each institution must determine whether the student is pursuing this type of degree in light of Washington State Constitution, Article 1 § 11, that no "public money or property shall be appropriated for or applied to any religious worship, exercise or instruction".

To apply this constitutional prohibition, the institution may look to Washington Supreme Court decisions that interpret the constitutional provision as prohibiting "that category of instruction that resembles worship and manifests a devotion to religion and religious principles in thought, feeling, belief, and conduct, i.e., instruction that is devotional in nature and designed to induce faith and belief in the student."

Eligibility Monitoring

Once a student receives a State Need Grant award, the institution must monitor continued eligibility. The student must be issued a revised award letter when information is received that changes their SNG award.

The institution is required to verify student eligibility by:

- Checking the HECB Archive report
- Monitoring SAP status
- Reporting fraudulent recipients
- Applying consistent institutional policies

HECB Archive Report

The *archive report* is a tool to assist schools in determining whether or not a student:

- Has exhausted his or her five years of SNG eligibility. The report lists all students who are within two years of meeting the program maximum, and displays the number of quarters of eligibility remaining (QER).
- Owes a repayment on a previously disbursed SNG award.
- Has received a prior associate degree within the past five years and prior to that degree received more than two semesters or three quarters of SNG. The student's next eligible year and term are shown.

It is the institution's responsibility to ensure that all students who receive a SNG have been checked against the final archive report based on the three conditions listed above.

The updated archive report will be available from the HECB in late August. It will contain the updated information on the prior year's SNG recipient exceptions. The file is posted to the secure, password protected portion of the HECB's Portal: <https://fortress.wa.gov/hecb/portal/>.

In the period of time before the HECB issues the archive report, the institution shall use the most recent report available on the Website as a basis for offering awards to students to minimize the need for late repackaging. Current-year archive reports are updated to reflect:

- Private institution payments
- Updated repayment receivables information
- Quarterly associate degree updates
- Quarters of Eligibility Remaining (QER)

NOTE: Check the archive, located in the Portal, before submitting any payment request. Access can be requested by contacting HECB staff.

The downloadable archive record layout is located at the end of the chapters on public and private payments.

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

Institutions are responsible for monitoring and responding to changes in student eligibility. The SAP Chapter discusses procedures for changes in student status that occur after receipt of an award.

Fraudulent Information

Any student who obtains a SNG by means of a willfully false statement or failure to reveal any material fact, condition, or circumstance affecting eligibility will be subject to applicable civil and criminal penalties and repayment of all State Need Grant funds received.

Consistent Policies

Institutional policies shall apply consistently to SNG recipients and federal aid recipients, except when in conflict with SNG regulations (such as maximum timeframe).

CHAPTER 2

CALCULATING THE AWARD

The SNG award amount is determined by the sector attended, the student's rate of enrollment, and the student's family income level.

Income Cutoff

The state's median family income (MFI) cutoff for State Need Grant purposes is at 70% for the 2010-2011 academic year. The chart below provides income cutoffs at 50%, 55%, 60%, 65%, and 70% MFI.

Income Cutoff Chart

Note: Eligible students with family incomes above 50% of the median family income receive a percentage of the full award. See the MFI Range chart below for the corresponding percentage of award.

MFIs for 2010-2011 SNG Program (rounded to nearest \$500)					
Family Size	50%	55%	60%	65%	70%
1	20,000	22,000	24,000	26,500	28,500
2	26,500	29,000	31,500	34,500	37,000
3	32,500	36,000	39,000	42,500	45,500
4	39,000	42,500	46,500	50,500	54,500
5	45,000	49,500	54,000	58,500	63,000
6	51,500	56,500	61,500	66,500	72,000
7	52,500	57,500	63,000	68,000	73,500
8	53,500	59,000	64,500	69,500	75,000
9	55,000	60,000	65,500	71,000	76,500
10	56,000	61,500	67,000	72,500	78,500
11	57,000	63,000	68,500	74,000	80,000
12	58,500	64,000	70,000	75,500	81,500
13	59,500	65,500	71,500	77,000	83,000
14	60,500	66,500	72,500	79,000	85,000
15	62,000	68,000	74,000	80,500	86,500
16	63,000	69,000	75,500	82,000	88,000
17	64,000	70,500	77,000	83,500	89,500
18	65,000	72,000	78,500	85,000	91,500
19	66,500	73,000	79,500	86,500	93,000
20	67,500	74,500	81,000	88,000	94,500

MFI Range	% of Award
0-50%	100%
51%-55%	70%
56%-60%	65%
61%-65%	60%
66%-70%	50%

Note: Because an updated MFI chart is not currently available, we are allowing schools to use the 2009-10 MFI chart for 2010-11 awarding purposes until further notice.

Counting Income

- When calculating a **dependent** student's income, count the parents' adjusted gross income (AGI) and non-taxable income. Do not include the student's income.
- When calculating an **independent** student's income, count the student's AGI and non-taxable income and that of the spouse (if the student is married).
- For both dependent and independent students, if the AGI is not present (i.e., parent/student is not a tax filer), use the sum of all taxable plus non-taxable income.
- The Aid Administrator may (but is not required to) subtract Title IV aid from the base income used for SNG eligibility regardless of whether it was taxed or untaxed.
- Child support income should be excluded from income calculations for Less-than-Half-Time students.

Note: In addition to meeting the income cutoff, the SNG must fit within the student's calculated need after counting in all other need-based resources.

Expected Family Contribution

The "expected family contribution" is the amount that a student or the student's family is expected to contribute to the cost of college based on a federal computation. When calculating the expected family contribution all investments plus any other assets are included.

Professional Judgment

The aid administrator may, using "professional judgment", adjust the resources up or down to more accurately reflect the family's financial situation during the academic year. In general, adjustments shall be consistent with changes made for federal aid. The aid administrator shall document the reason for the variance in the student's file.

Family Income Change of 3% or Less

A student who has received the SNG in the previous year and whose family income has increased by no more than three percent may be eligible to receive the grant in the current year. Discretion is left to the aid administrator. This applies when the student's current family income increases above the income cutoff.

Adjustment for More than One Family Member in College

The aid administrator shall increase the family size by one for every family member in college beyond the first when establishing the MFI cutoff. For example, a family of five with two in college is treated as a family of six on the income cutoff chart; a family of five with three in college is treated as a family of seven.

Award Amounts By Sector

The maximum base grant is calculated based on tuition and fees for each public sector. “Tuition and fees” is defined as tuition, service, and activity fees charged within each public sector of higher education. This figure is determined annually by the HECB.

The base grant award shall not exceed the actual tuition, service and activity fees charged to the eligible student on an annualized basis by more than \$100. This \$100 variance is only allowed in circumstances where a student’s credit or enrollment level would otherwise require an award adjustment to ensure that the award does not exceed the cost of tuition.

For the purposes of the SNG program, the recognized tuition and fees for independent four-year institutions is equal to that used for the public research institutions. The recognized tuition and fees for the private vocational sector is equal to that used for the community and technical colleges.

2010-2011 Base Grant Amounts*

Sector	Median Family Income Range				
	0-50%	51%-55%	55%-60%	61%-65%	66%-70%
Research / Private Four-year	\$7,717	\$5,338	\$4,942	\$4,545	\$3,752
Regional / Applied Baccalaureates	\$5,575	\$3,839	\$3,549	\$3,260	\$2,681
Community & Technical / Private Vocational	\$2,682	\$1,814	\$1,669	\$1,524	\$1,235
2010-2011 Dependent Care Allowance	\$845	\$592	\$549	\$507	\$423

*Annual award amounts are based on the budget as passed by the legislature.

Most award amounts are not divisible by both two and three. For schools whose systems require even disbursements, the per term award may be rounded, up or down, by one dollar. This may not result in more than a two-dollar difference over a three quarter academic year. This procedure is also discussed in this chapter under “Award Rounding.”

Dependent Care Allowance (DCA)

The *Dependent Care Allowance* (DCA) is an addition to the base grant. The student must be eligible to receive at least one dollar of a base grant in order to be considered for the DCA. The allowance is \$845 for a full-time student attending the entire nine-month academic year, and is adjusted by MFI category and enrollment status, regardless of the number of qualifying dependents. Yearly DCA awards should be distributed evenly between terms.

The dependent must be living with the student and be someone other than the student's spouse. Care is defined as assistance provided to the dependent for which the student pays another person (someone outside of the student's household).

To receive the DCA, the student must provide documentation that dependent care expenses are needed. Students who have dependent care needs covered by another agency or entity are not eligible for dependent care through the SNG program. DCA may not exceed the amount the student is required to pay in expenses.

- If the student is married, with both student and spouse attending the same institution, only one DCA (or the equivalent split between them) may be awarded per family.
- Awarding the DCA is left to the discretion of the Financial Aid Administrator (FAA).
- DCA can be awarded as part of a 4th quarter or 3rd semester award.

Adjusting The Award

The maximum value of the award is reduced under six conditions:

MFI Ranges

The value of the SNG award, including DCA, must be reduced incrementally for eligible students according to their MFI range. Refer to the final MFI chart insert at the beginning of this chapter.

Part-Time Students

The total SNG award, including DCA, is reduced for part-time students, based on their enrollment status.

Attendance Less Than Nine Months

Students attending only part of the full nine-month academic year receive a pro-rated share of the total annual award, including the DCA. For example, a student attending one of three quarters may receive one-third of the full year's total SNG award.

Gift Equity Packaging

The FAA may limit the student's award if receipt of the grant, in combination with other gift aid, exceeds the institution's gift equity packaging policy. The packaging policy must be the same as that used to package aid for all other students and may not discriminate against SNG recipients.

Self-Help Requirement

The recipient's aid package at a minimum must consist of self-help equal to the lesser of 25 percent of the student's cost of attendance, or an amount calculated annually by the Board. The Board's calculation to determine the amount a typical student can reasonably earn is as follows:

Multiply the net value of minimum wage (less employer taxes and medical aid) by 12 hours per week. Further multiply by 33 weeks (the number of weeks in an academic year).

Self Help formula:

NET VALUE OF MIN. WAGE X 12 HOURS PER WEEK X 33 WEEKS

Self-help includes:

- Parent and family contributions
- Work Study
- Loans
- AmeriCorps benefits
- VA benefits
- Scholarships
- Conditional Scholarship programs, including TEACH Grants (awarded as conditional loans or loan forgiveness in return for service after graduation)
- Governor's Scholarship for Foster Youth
- Passport to College Promise Scholarship (which has its own self-help requirement)
- Federal GEAR UP Grant
- Academic Competitive Grant (ACG)
- National SMART Grant
- Merit-based aid
- Unmet need

Reduce the SNG award accordingly if the self-help requirement cannot be achieved.

When determining if a source not listed above shall be treated as self-help, please consider whether the level of effort to earn the source equates to the kind of effort necessary to earn other sources such as a merit scholarship based on a substantial period of academic achievement.

As in other areas of professional discretion, aid administrators are encouraged to be both thoughtful and rigorous in their determinations and to document their judgments.

Uneven Disbursements Permitted

Typically awards are disbursed evenly throughout the academic year. The FAA may award a greater proportion of the student's award in one term if the disbursement is justified by the student's costs, (i.e. extensive fees fall term that won't be charged the remainder of the year.) A statement shall be placed in the student's file acknowledging that an exception to even disbursement has been granted.

Minimum Awards

Circumstances relevant to gift equity packaging policies, part-time enrollment, and other factors may reduce a student's award below a practicable limit. The FAA may issue SNG awards as low as one dollar per term. However, the FAA is not required to make a disbursement to a student if the total SNG award is less than \$100 per term.

Other Awarding Considerations

Funds are reserved for students at each institution on the basis of their eligibility for up to three quarters or two semesters of full-time enrollment. However, it is possible for a student to receive additional terms of SNG within the same academic year.

Fourth Quarter/Third Semester Awards

For students receiving a fourth quarter or third semester SNG grant, the value of the additional award is calculated as it would be for any regular term. Students receiving additional terms of SNG will reach the fifteen quarter limit more quickly than students engaged in the common three quarter/two semester enrollment pattern. In this scenario, it is permissible to exceed the annual grant amount.

Financial Aid Over-Award

The SNG should not exceed the student's calculated need. The student will not be considered over-awarded if he or she receives additional funds after the institution awards aid, if the total resources exceed his or her financial need by \$200 or less by the end of the academic year.

Commuter Students

There is no special award consideration for commuter students.

Retroactive Payments

Retroactive payments may be made to an eligible student as long as the payments are made for the current fiscal year. The value of the retroactive payment shall be based on the student's rate of satisfactorily completed credits at the end of the term or when payments are made. The student does not have to be enrolled at the time the retroactive payment is made.

Late Applicants

The FAA may reserve funds for late applicants.

Award Rounding

Major rounding of awards is not permitted. When a calculated award cannot be evenly divided, the preferred practice is to award one dollar more or less than the desired even disbursement in one of the terms. Rounding by more than two dollars per year is not permitted.

Concurrent Award at Two Schools

While it is not encouraged, it is permissible for two schools to disburse separate SNG awards to the same student during the same term. The SNG award at each school shall be calculated in the normal fashion. It is presumed that the student's maintenance costs are considered in the overall award at one school and the second school's award shall not exceed the cost it recognizes for tuition and books. If a school exercises this option, it should do so with the knowledge and cooperation of the second school.

Chapter 30 VA or AmeriCorps Benefits

There are no special adjustments to the calculations of need for students receiving Chapter 30 VA or AmeriCorps benefits. All federal loans received by students with these awards shall count toward meeting the calculation of need for the SNG program.

Fractional Last Term

If a fraction of a term of eligibility is remaining for a student towards the end of their SNG eligibility, a fractional award may be granted. Refer to the formulas below for award calculations, based on quarter school or semester school.

Note: You only need to perform this calculation if the student does not have enough Quarterly Eligibility Remaining (QER) to fully fund the enrollment status. For example, if a student at a quarter school has .38 QER, but is only enrolled less than half-time, the student will only use .25 QER, and therefore, the fractional calculation is not yet necessary.

Fractional award conversion examples:

QER=Quarters of eligibility remaining

SER=Semesters of eligibility remaining

QER x Full-Time Award amount within MFI category

Quarter School Example:

Joe student has .38 QER. The full time award amount within Joe's MFI category is \$851.

The calculation is:

$.38 \times 851 = \$323$ Joe would be eligible for a \$323 dollar award.

Semester Schools:

$QER / 1.5 = SER^*$

SER x Full-Time Award amount within MFI category

*A semester is equal to 1.5 quarters, so for the first step of the formula you must convert the amount of QUARTERS remaining (QER) into SEMESTERS remaining (SER). Do this by dividing the QER by the semester multiplier of 1.5. Then multiply the SER by the full time award amount within the student's MFI category.

Semester School Example:

Joe student has .38 Quarters of Eligibility remaining (QER). The full time award amount within Joe's MFI category is \$1,277. The calculation is:

.38	/	1.5	=	.26
QER		Semester Divider		SER

Now, multiply the SER with the full time award amount within his MFI category.

$.26 \times \$1277 = \332 Joe would be eligible for a \$332 award.

Transfer Students

The HECB reserves transfer funds that can be drawn by a receiving institution for students who are transferring in and who have received SNG from the prior institution in the same academic year. See the "Transfer Students" chapter for details.

Awarding Practices Not Permitted

Single Parents and Part-time Students

All eligible students must be treated equally. No group, such as single parents or part-time students, may be disadvantaged relative to any other group of SNG recipients in its access to the grant.

Under-awarding

It is not permissible to disburse less than 100 percent of an eligible student's calculated SNG award in an attempt to make limited funds stretch farther.

CHAPTER 3

SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

Institutions are responsible for monitoring each recipient's *satisfactory academic progress*, as outlined in WAC 250-20-021 (20) of the SNG rules and the institution's HECB-approved institutional policy.

At the end of each term, participating institutions shall examine the progress of each SNG recipient and determine if the student is:

1. In a satisfactory academic progress condition.
2. On probation.
3. In denied status, therefore ineligible for further aid.

The institution's policy shall also include a process for reinstating ineligible students.

Maximum Timeframe

As stated in the Student Eligibility chapter, SNG recipients must have completed less than 125 percent of the maximum length of their program in order to remain eligible for SNG.

Quantitative Standard

To meet minimum satisfactory progress standards, a student must complete at least one-half of the original amount of credits for which the aid was calculated and disbursed.

Probation

The HECB expects schools to have rigorous policies for measuring progress that limit the number of terms a student can continue to receive a SNG while on probation. The school may make disbursements to a student who is in probationary status.

Clock Hour Schools

Since all hours from the previous payment period must be earned before making additional payments, there is no routinely recognized probationary period for clock-hour students. A school however, may petition the HECB to allow a probationary period.

In petitioning the HECB the school must have a policy that rigorously restricts the number of hours that a student can fail to complete in any one payment period. The policy must also result in the student completing all clock hours for which aid was disbursed by the end of the academic year.

Denied Status

Denied Status means that the student completed less than one-half of the minimum number of credits for which aid was disbursed. Each institution's policy must deny further disbursements of the SNG beyond the conclusion of any term in which the student fails to complete at least 50 percent of the minimum number of credits for which the grant was disbursed.

Qualitative Standard

The institution's satisfactory progress policy must contain a qualitative standard. For purposes of the SNG program, the qualitative standard used to comply with federal satisfactory progress standards is acceptable.

Other conditions of SAP Policy

A student may be denied further SNG disbursements if he or she fails to fulfill any other conditions of the institution's HECB approved satisfactory progress policy.

Professional Judgment/Appeals

The FAA may, on a case-by-case basis, reinstate a student into satisfactory progress in response to that student's extenuating circumstances. The FAA may choose to exercise professional judgment without a specific request to do so from the student. For example, the FAA may decide to grant a student continued access to the SNG if failure in one term is countered by an extensive history of prior success. The student's file must include documentation related to the professional judgment decision.

Reinstatement

Each institution's satisfactory progress policy shall state the conditions a denied status student must meet before being reinstated. For example, the student may have to attend school without financial aid for a specific period of time or may have to show proof that credits have been made up within a designated time period.

Student Withdrawals / Repayment Calculations

See the "Public Payments" or "Private Payments" chapter for required repayment policy information.

CHAPTER 4

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Participating SNG institutions are required to submit eligible SNG student details through various reports. All participating institutions submit quarterly interim reports, a year-end submission for reconciliation purposes, and an annual unit record report. Schools that receive transfer funds will reconcile transfer funds separately.

Interim Report

The “**Interim Report**” is a quarterly data submission that includes student details for every eligible “**served student**” awarded the SNG and every eligible enrolled “**unserved student**” who has not been awarded the SNG due to lack of funding. The Interim Reports are used to manage SNG funding, redistribute de-obligated monies, set the grant amounts and income cutoffs for the succeeding year, and provide the basis for the preliminary reserve distribution. Note: The final Interim Report is the year-end reconciliation and is due July 8, 2011.

Due Dates

Report	Due Dates
Fall Interim Report	November 5, 2010
Winter Interim Report	February 4, 2011
Spring Interim Report	May 6, 2011
Reconciliation Report	July 8, 2011

Record Layouts

The record layouts for the Interim Reports can be found online at:

<https://fortress.wa.gov/hecb/portal/>

Private institutions no longer use the Interim Reporting Tool in the HECB secure site. Instead, edits within the SNG Payment Utility in the Portal must be corrected and unserved lists reviewed by the report due dates. There are no additional data uploads for the private schools for Interim Reporting purposes.

Public institutions must submit the Interim Report in a text file format via the SNG Interim Reporting Tool located on the HECB secure Website. The layout specifications and layout format instructions are at the end of this chapter and on the HECB secure Website under the SNG “Memos/Forms” link.

The reports are split into two separate files:

1. All **Awarded (served)** Students
2. All **Unserved** Students

Each category splits between summary and detail data.

Awarded (Served) Students

Awarded students (also referred to as “served students”) are those who have either received a State Need Grant payment, or who have had SNG funds committed (student has received an award letter) but not yet disbursed at the time of the report.

Unserved Students

Unserved students are those who are eligible to receive the SNG and are enrolled, but cannot be awarded due to the institution’s lack of funds. This includes eligible students who enrolled during a summer period but did not receive the SNG.

If schools use institutional funds due to lack of SNG funding, these students shall be included in the unserved population.

It is important that all students included in the unserved student population be validated as “eligible” and reported to the HECB through the payment utility and interim report processes.

Unserved student data contributes towards the amount of SNG reserves a school will receive in the upcoming year, therefore it is extremely important for schools to accurately report all of their eligible, but unserved students.

For the unserved student file, the institution must report every enrolled SNG eligible student who has not been awarded the SNG due to lack of funding. This should include all eligible students with incomes up to 70 percent of the state’s median income for both served and unserved students.

Unserved student data should be carefully vetted for eligibility and accuracy before submitting data to the HECB. If schools are unable to verify the accuracy of the unserved data, a confidence factor shall be provided to the HECB prior to reconciliation.

Students on Both Lists

A student can be on both the awarded and the unserved lists, but not for the same term. For example, a student who received the SNG for the fall and spring semesters, but did not receive the grant while enrolled in one or both summer sessions can be listed as unserved for those summer sessions.

Data Submissions

Summary and Detail Records

Each file has a *summary record* and a *detail record*. The **summary** record contains basic demographic information that is unlikely to change in the course of the year.

The **detail** record is an accounting of each term’s enrollment, disbursement, and/or award.

The Interim Report must contain a summary and a detail record for every student. A single summary record is reported for each student and a separate detail record is reported for each term during which the eligible student is enrolled. Each student may have up to five detail records per academic year.

Edits

The Interim Reporting Tool rejects data in the form of edits that may or may not be overridden. All edits must be addressed individually, except informational edits.

Secure Data Transmission

No personally identifiable information shall be transmitted to the HECB via email. Public schools must upload Interim Reports to the HECB via the Interim Reporting Tool link in the HECB secure Website.

Security of Information

All schools are expected to treat information on the password-protected HECB Website in accordance with the Electronic Agreement contained in the Institutional Agreement to Participate. Schools and individuals are granted access to the SNG files with the expectation that they protect the confidentiality of this information with the same level of care as they do any other student aid document. Information contained in these files is for the sole purpose of administering the SNG program. This information may not be used for research. If you have questions about the proper use of the information, please call the HECB at (360) 753-7840.

Each school should have one or more financial aid administrator(s) with an HECB-assigned password. If you have forgotten your password, please contact SNG staff at (360) 704-4153.

Institutional Student ID

The Interim Reporting Tool has the ability to add institutional student ID numbers at the end of each record that you upload. These ID's are stored with the rest of your data.

Reconciliation Report Balance Sheet

After the year-end reconciliation report has been submitted (July Interim Report), public institutions may access a balance sheet via the Interim Reporting Tool. Private institutions may use the Summary of Account status in the Portal. Please ensure that your ending balance is \$0.

Note: Awards should be reported as the amount disbursed. If you returned funds for a student and report the **adjusted amount** as the award, your totals will be off by the amount of your cash receipts.

**WASHINGTON STATE NEED GRANT PROGRAM
YEAR-END RECONCILIATION OF RECORDS
FY 2010-2011**

**PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS
DUE DATE: JULY 8, 2011**

Institution Name: _____

Code: _____

1. What is the total Regular SNG dollar amount received from the HECB for 2010-2011?

\$ _____ -

2. What is the total Regular SNG amount your institution expended for the 2010-2011 school year?

\$ _____ -

3. A. Amount to be refunded to the HECB (by EFT, IAP or check payable to the "State of Washington"), or

\$ _____ -

 B. Balance due to the institution to close out 2010-2011.

\$ _____ -

4. This institution has transmitted a Reconciliation of Records (final interim) report which details Regular SNG funds disbursed by student, by term. I certify that these students were eligible for, and received, SNG funds according to the guidelines stated in the 2010-2011 SNG Program Manual.

Signature of Financial Aid Administrator

Date

**WASHINGTON STATE NEED GRANT PROGRAM
YEAR-END RECONCILIATION OF RECORDS
SNG - LESS THAN HALF TIME
FY 2010-2011**

DUE DATE: JULY 8, 2011

Institution Name: _____ Code: _____

1. What is the total LTHT dollar amount received from the Higher Education Coordinating Board for 2010-2011?

\$ _____ -

2. What is the total LTHT amount your institution expended for the 2010-2011 school year? (Report attached.)

\$ _____ -

3. A. Amount to be refunded to HECB (by EFT, IAP or check payable to the "State of Washington"), or

\$ _____ -

B. Balance due to institution to close out LTHT for 2010-2011.

\$ _____ -

4. This institution has transmitted a Reconciliation of Records (final interim) report which details State Need Grant 'Less Than Half Time' funds disbursed by student, by term. I certify that these students were eligible for and received 'Less Than Half Time' State Need Grant funds according to the guidelines stated in the 2010-2011 State Need Grant Program Manual.

Signature of Financial Aid Administrator

Date

STATE NEED GRANT PROGRAM

SNG Interim Report Record Layout for Public Schools

These record layouts represent two separate files; one for served students and one for unserved students. Served students have been awarded SNG. Unserved students are enrolled and eligible for the SNG, but have not been awarded due to insufficient funding. Be sure to report all students whose family incomes are up to 70 percent of the state's median income.

Both files have sections for a detail record and a summary record for each student. The detail record reports the actual and anticipated awards and enrollment status for each recipient. Each term the student receives a payment is reported on the detail record as a separate line. Each term an unserved student is enrolled but is left unserved because of lack of funding is also reported as a separate line.

The summary record contains information such as the student's median family income and family size. Only one line per student is reported on the summary record.

Served Students – Detail Record

Field Name	Length	Description
Record Type	1	“D” for detail or “A” for applied baccalaureate detail
Institution Code	4	Numeric, Four digit HECB assigned code
Transaction date	8	Date this “snapshot” was created. MMDDYYYY.
Social Security Number	9	Numeric, nine digits, no hyphens, cannot be blank or alpha
Amount Awarded and Committed	6	Numeric, six digits, dollars and cents, no decimal point, precede amount with leading zeros if necessary. Example: 078600 = \$786
Term code	1	Numeric, 1=First summer term, 2=Fall, 3=Winter, 4=Spring 5=Last summer term
Revised Payment	1	(blank for public institutions)
Supplemental Payment	1	(blank for public institutions)
Enrollment status code	1	Numeric, 1= Full time, 2=Halftime, 3=3/4 time, 5=1/4 time
DCA Included flag	1	Y or blank space
Payment status	1	Leave Blank
Repayment status	1	Y or blank space
Student ID (optional)	20	Alpha and numeric
Filler	65	Blank spaces
Total Record Length	120	

Served Students – Summary Record

Record Type	1	“S” for Summary
Institution Code	4	Numeric, four digit HECB assigned code
Transaction date	8	Date this “snapshot” was created. MMDDYYYY
Social Security Number	9	Numeric, nine digits, no hyphens, cannot be blank or alpha
Last Name	30	Alpha, Fill with blank spaces to the right of the name
First Name	30	Alpha, Fill with blank spaces to the right of the name
Middle Initial	1	Alpha, one character or blank space
Total Award including DCA	6	Numeric, six digits, dollars and cents, no decimal point, precede amount with leading zeros if necessary. Example: 078600 = \$786
Total DCA	6	Numeric, six digits, dollars and cents, no decimal point, precede amount with leading zeros if necessary. Example: 020600 = \$206
Family Income	8	Numeric, eight digits, dollars and cents, no decimal point, precede amount with leading zeros if necessary. Example: 02100000 = \$21,000.00
Family Size	2	Precede with a leading zero if necessary
Number in College	2	Precede with a leading zero if necessary
Student ID (optional)	13	Alpha and numeric
Total Record Length	120	

STATE NEED GRANT PROGRAM

SNG Interim Report Record Layout for Public Schools

Unserved Students – Detail Record

Field Name	Length	Description
Record Type	1	“D” for detail or “A” for applied baccalaureate detail
Institution Code	4	Numeric, four digit HECB assigned code
Transaction date	8	Date this “snapshot” was created. MMDDYYYY
Social Security Number	9	Numeric, nine digits, no hyphens, cannot be blank or alpha
Term code	1	Numeric, 1=First summer term, 2=Fall, 3=Winter, 4=Spring 5=Last summer term
Enrollment status code	1	Numeric, 1= Full time, 2=Halftime, 3=3/4 time, 5=1/4 time
Student ID (optional)	20	Alpha and numeric
Filler	76	Blank spaces
Total Record Length	120	

Unserved Students – Summary Record

Record Type	1	“S” for Summary
Institution Code	4	Numeric, four digit HECB assigned code
Transaction date	8	Date this “snapshot” was created. MMDDYYYY
Social Security Number	9	Numeric, nine digits, no hyphens, cannot be blank or alpha
Last Name	30	Alpha, fill with blank spaces to the right of the name
First Name	30	Alpha, fill with blank spaces to the right of the name
Middle Initial	1	Alpha, one character or blank space
Family Income	8	Numeric, eight digits, dollars and cents, no decimal point, precede amount with leading zeros if necessary. Example: 02100000 = \$21,000.00
Family Size	2	Precede with a leading zero if necessary
Number in College	2	Precede with a leading zero if necessary
Student ID (optional)	20	Alpha and numeric
Filler	5	Blank spaces
Total Record Length	120	

CHAPTER 5

PUBLIC PAYMENTS

This chapter is for all public colleges, universities, and community and technical colleges. All public schools are expected to generate their own checks or deposits to individual student accounts for State Need Grant recipients.

Payments Requests

Schools must submit monthly payment requests online via the HECB Portal. The amount of monies requested must be disbursed to students within 30 days of receiving the funds. Funds will be delivered to the school within two weeks of receiving the request. The aid director at each school must monitor which institutional staff has permission to submit cash requests.

Less-Than-Half-Time funds must be requested and tracked separately from regular SNG.

Each institution is expected to utilize all initial funds by mid-June of each year. Any funds not disbursed are to be returned to the HECB prior to June 30.

Deobligations and Supplemental Requests

A survey is conducted each spring to determine which schools can deobligate funds or accept supplemental funds.

Deobligations of institutional SNG reserves can be accepted throughout the year. The sooner in the year funds are deobligated, the easier they are to redistribute to schools that need them.

Supplemental funds can be requested at any time but they are disbursed in rounds via a distribution model to make sure schools receive a proportionate share. This model also takes into account the number of served and unserved eligible students reported in the most recent interim report.

Disbursement Procedures

The institution may disburse SNG funds by either providing the student with a direct payment or by crediting the student's account. Public institutions are expected to follow the same SNG disbursement policy that they use for federal aid.

Enrollment

Disbursements may be made only after the school confirms enrollment. Awards must be consistent with enrollment status at the time of disbursement.

Conditions of Award

Prior to disbursement, the institution must inform the SNG recipient of his or her responsibilities to the program through a "Conditions of Award" statement. A template for the statement may be found in this chapter, as well as on the HECB secure Website under the SNG "Memos and Forms" link.

The statement must be presented annually or delivered to the student through paper or electronic means. The conditions of award statement does not need to be signed by the student as long as the school can provide assurances to the HECB that the terms of the SNG award were presented to the student. It is the school's responsibility to maintain documentation that the conditions were presented to the student.

Power of Attorney Disbursements

A student whose off-campus program precludes his or her return to the institution for disbursement of SNG funds must assign Power of Attorney to a responsible person to receive SNG payments on his or her behalf. A copy of the Power of Attorney documentation must be kept in the student's file.

Repayment as a Result of Withdrawal

Repayment is a student responsibility. If a grant recipient leaves school during an academic term in which he or she receives a State Need Grant, the student is required to repay SNG funds according to the HECB's universal repayment policy. ***The State Grant Repayment Policy Requirements are mandatory for all participating SNG institutions.*** A copy of the policy can be found at the end of this chapter.

"In Repayment" Designation

Students in repayment must have Repayment Status marked "Y" on the served student's detail record of the Interim Report.

Institutional Notification

The school is responsible for notifying students that they are in repayment.

Uncollectible accounts

An account is ***uncollectible*** when a student fails to make any repayment within 45 days of repayment notification. All uncollectible repayments of \$50 or more shall be referred to the HECB. **Repayments of less than \$50 should *not* be referred to the HECB.**

If 45 days lapse with no response from the student, the institution shall forward the documented account to the HECB. The institution may hold the account if it continues active collection procedures or if a student is making payments to the institution.

All uncollectible accounts shall be referred to the HECB no later than the end of each academic year.

To refer an **uncollectible** account to the HECB, please use the Repayment Transmittal Form found at the end of this chapter. Repayment Transmittals can also be completed electronically by accessing and submitting the electronic form on the HECB Portal.

If students contact the institution regarding their repayment after it has been referred to HECB, the institution shall direct students to HECB's contracted billing service, ECSI, at 1-888-549-3274. **Instruct them to reference school code 2H.** For debts incurred before the 1997 year, refer the student to HECB SNG staff.

Re-award or Return of Repayments

All SNG funds collected from student repayments may be re-awarded to other SNG eligible students if repayments are received in the same fiscal year as disbursed.

Beginning in May of each year, any repayment monies the HECB receives for the remainder of the academic year go into supplemental funds instead of individual school funds. Funds collected from students after the close of the fiscal year must be returned to the HECB. The return of funds shall be accompanied by a list indicating the student's name, social security number, term and year in which the repayment was incurred, amount of the payment transmitted with this notice, and the outstanding balance.

Temporary Repayment Accounts

Temporary SNG Repayment Accounts (\$1.00 accounts) are created on the HECB system after students are reported in repayment status on the SNG Interim Reports. Served students who are in repayment are flagged with a “Y” in the repayment field. These temporary accounts are created to place students on the archive before an actual repayment transmittal is forwarded to the HECB, thereby preventing students in repayment status from receiving aid at another school.

If the student repays the obligation to the school, it is the school's responsibility to inform the HECB. **If the school does not notify the HECB, then the \$1.00 repayment account will continue to appear on the archive and the student will be ineligible for further SNG disbursements.**

Repayments of less than \$50 should *not* be referred to the HECB.

Transfer Students

Students who receive the SNG award at one school are eligible to receive transfer funds at a different school as long as the transfer is completed within the same academic year. Students must be enrolled at the receiving school before submitting transfer requests to the HECB. The receiving school requests transfer funds on behalf of the incoming student by submitting a Transfer Fund Request Form. For additional information on transfer funds, please refer to the “Transfer Student” chapter.

Reconciliation of Records

State Need Grant records must be reconciled at year end. For reconciliation, the institution must submit a data report detailing each student's receipt of aid on a term-by-term basis. The reconciliation record layout is the same as the layout used for the quarterly Interim Reports. The reporting details may be found at the end of the “Reporting Requirements” chapter.

Deadlines

The year-end **Reconciliation of Records Report** and any unexpended funds must be received by the HECB **no later than July 8, 2011**. This reconciliation deadline is necessary for the HECB to generate the final Archive Report for the following year.

**WASHINGTON STATE NEED GRANT PROGRAM
CONDITIONS OF AWARD**

You are being considered for a Washington State Need Grant (SNG). If you receive this grant, there are five conditions, with which you must comply. If you have questions or find that you cannot comply with these conditions, please see the Financial Aid Administrator (FAA) at the institution you are attending.

1. You do not owe a refund or repayment on a SNG, a Pell Grant, or a Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant, nor are you in default on a loan made, insured, or guaranteed under the Perkins, National Direct, or Federal Family Education Loan programs. In addition, you are not in default on a loan made through a state conditional loan or conditional scholarship program.
2. This grant is awarded to assist in meeting your educational expenses. If you withdraw from classes before the end of the term, repayment of all or part of the grant may be required.
3. You may choose to voluntarily make financial contributions to the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) in recognition of this SNG. All voluntary contributions will be used to provide financial assistance to other students.
4. The offer of a SNG is subject to, and conditioned upon, the availability of funds. The HECB and the institution through which the grant is awarded reserve the right to withdraw, reduce, or modify the grant due to funding limitations or due to changes in circumstances which affect your eligibility for the SNG.
5. You are not pursuing a degree in theology.

**WASHINGTON STATE NEED GRANT PROGRAM
REPAYMENT TRANSMITTAL FORM**

PUBLIC INSTITUTION

Institution Name: _____ **SNG Inst. Code:** _____

Our institution has tried unsuccessfully to contact and receive payment from the following student. The account is considered delinquent, and we are forwarding the account to the Higher Education Coordinating Board for further collection efforts.

Student's Name: _____

Social Security Number: _____

Last Known Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Parent's Information: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Repayment Information (Please complete all fields):

Fiscal Year: _____

Term: _____

Orig. Enrollment Status: _____

Amount Owed: _____

Date Student Notified In Writing of This Repayment: _____

(Please retain copies of these records in student's file)

Reason Student Was Placed In Repayment: _____

Name and Title of Preparer

Date

WASHINGTON STATE NEED GRANT PROGRAM
ARCHIVE CHECK REPORT

* * * INCLUDES ASSOCIATE DEGREE DATA * * *

RECORD FORMAT

SNG Archive file records are listed in alphabetical order by student's last name. File format is ASCII text. Each record is 52 characters in length and is terminated by a carriage return/line feed. Each record layout is as follows:

FIELD NAME	NOTES/COMMENTS
Student Social Security #	Numeric, nine digits, no hyphens
Student LAST Name	Alpha, left justified, blank filled to right
Student FIRST Name	Alpha, left justified, blank filled to right
Student MIDDLE INITIAL	Alpha, may be blank
Institution Code Last school where student received SNG	Numeric, four digits
Repayment Flag If code = 1, student is in repayment	Will be 1 or blank, no alpha
Maximum SNG Flag If code = 2, student received max (15 qtrs) award	Will be 2 or blank, no alpha
Eligibility Flag If code = 3, student < 3 years of eligibility remaining	Will be 3 or blank, no alpha
Quarter Equivalent Remaining (QER) If 4.5 QER, it will appear as 0450 Blank for students in repayment status and/or students has received maximum terms of SNG	Numeric (4 digits), leading zeros
Associate Degree Code If code = 4, student received AA with SNG funds	Will be 4 or blank, no alpha
Fiscal Year Fiscal year that student becomes eligible for SNG while pursuing 2 nd associate degree	Numeric, four digit fiscal year
Term Term that student becomes eligible for SNG funds while enrolled in a 2nd associate degree program	Alpha or numeric F=Fall, W=Winter, S=Spring 1=Summer, first term of fiscal year 2=Summer, last term of fiscal year

SAMPLE VIEW of DOWNLOADED FILE

555982001	MONEY	OWEN	U20401	
333447788	GRANT	NITA	B4320	2
444667789	DONE	ALMOST	2030	30300
111223333	GRATEFUL	WILL	B1020	42005F

DATA REPRESENTS:

Ineligible student, in repayment status
Ineligible, Maximum 15 quarters received
Three quarters eligibility remaining
AA Degree, Ineligible for SNG until Fall 2005.

WASHINGTON STATE NEED GRANT PROGRAM
ARCHIVE CHECK REPORT

***** EXCLUDES AA DEGREE DATA *****

RECORD LAYOUT AND FORMAT

In this **SNG Archive** file, records are listed in alphabetical order by student's last name. File format is ASCII text. Each record is 46 characters in length and is terminated by a carriage return/line feed. Each record layout is as follows:

FIELD NAME	COLUMNS	NOTES/COMMENTS
Student Social Security #	1 - 9	Numeric, nine digits, no hyphens
Student LAST Name	10 - 24	Alpha, left justified, blank filled to right
Student FIRST Name	25 - 34	Alpha, left justified, blank filled to right
Student MIDDLE INITIAL	35	Alpha, maybe blank
Institution Code Last school where student received SNG	36-39	Numeric, four digits
Repayment Flag If code = 1, student in repayment	40	Will be 1 or blank, no alpha
Maximum SNG Flag If code = 2, student received max award	41	Will be 2 or blank, no alpha
Eligibility Flag If code = 3, student < 3 yrs of eligibility remaining	42	Will be 3 or blank, no alpha
Quarter Equivalent Remaining (QER) If 4.5 QER, it will appear as 0450 Blank for students in repayment status and/or for students who received maximum terms of SNG	43 - 46	Numeric, leading zeros or blank

SAMPLE FORMAT

111223333	GRATEFUL	WILL	B1020	30300	3 quarter equivalent remaining (QER)
333447788	GRANT	NITA	B4320	2	Maximum 15 quarters received
555982001	MONEY	OWEN	U20401		Ineligible, in repayment status

State Grant Repayment Policy Requirements

General

State Grant recipients, who withdraw from the institution, are expelled, or otherwise complete zero credits in any given term must repay state grants on a prorated basis.

For the purposes of this policy, "Award" is the amount of state grant for which the student was eligible during the enrollment period, after the school made any required adjustments for need and enrollment level. All monies, whether disbursed to the student account or directly to the student, shall be included in the repayment calculation.

Authority

State Need Grant (WAC 250.20.051(4))

Educational Opportunity Grant (EOG program manual guidance)

Known Last Date of Attendance

If a student's last date of attendance can be verified and is prior to or on 50% of the term, the state grant repayment will be based on the percent of the term **not** completed (or the percent of the scheduled hours remaining in the payment period for clock hour schools).

If the last date of attendance occurs after **50%** of the term, the state grant award is considered 100% earned and no state grant repayment is due.

State grant repayment formula: Known last date of attendance, prior to or on 50% of the term.

1. The percent of state grant earned is calculated by dividing days in attendance by calendar days in term. Scheduled breaks of five or more days should be excluded from the calculation.
2. Subtract the percent of state grant earned from 100%; this equals the percent of unearned state grant.
3. Multiply the percent of unearned state grant by the grant amount.
4. Multiply the amount from step 3 by 50% to determine the state grant repayment due.

Example: Known last date of attendance, prior to or on 50% of the term:

A student is awarded \$400 for a state grant and completed 20% of the term prior to withdrawal. The state grant repayment is calculated as follows:

1. The unearned percentage equals 80% (100% less 20% completed).
2. Unearned aid equals \$320 (80% of \$400 state grant award).
3. The repayment equals \$160 (\$320 X 50% reduction)

Unknown Last Date Of Attendance

If a student attends a portion of a term and withdraws with no verified last date of attendance, the state grant repayment will be 50% of the grant amount with no additional adjustments.

No-Show Repayments

If a state grant recipient never attends courses in the term for which they received a state grant award, the state grant repayment is 100% of the award. If a school is unable to distinguish between a no-show and an unofficial withdrawal, the no-show policy shall apply.

General repayment policies:

1. Repayments are based on the state grant award amount, including enrollment and packaging adjustments.
2. Verified withdrawal dates after 50% of the term equate to 100% earned state grant.
3. Unofficial withdrawals/no known last date of attendance equate to repayment of 50% of the state grant award.
4. No shows are 0% earned and equate to repayment of 100% of the state grant.
5. Official withdrawals or verified last date of attendance repayment calculation:
 - a. State grant award amount multiplied by the percent of unearned state grant multiplied by the 50% reduction equals the state grant repayment due.
6. The 50% reduction applied at the end of the repayment computation addresses un-reimbursable start up education costs and reduces the barrier for students intending to return to school.
7. Repayments of less than \$50 should not be referred to the HECB.
8. Institution repayment refund policy:

Public institutions may choose from the following options:

1. Return the repayment amount directly to the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) and collect from the students.
2. During the current academic year, the institution may collect student repayments and deposit them into their institutional State Grant funds to be awarded to other eligible students.
3. Refer students directly to HECB.

Private institutions that participate in the **check payment process** should refer students directly to HECB.

Private institutions that participate in the **Electronic Fund Transfer process** should return state grant repayments directly to the HECB and collect from the students.

CHAPTER 6

PRIVATE PAYMENTS

Payment Procedures for HECB Generated Checks, Electronic Fund Transfer Reimbursements, Student Repayments, and Reconciliations

The disbursement procedures presented in this chapter are only for those schools that request HECB-generated student check payments and Electronic Fund Transfer Reimbursements.

This chapter applies to:

Art Institute of Seattle	ITT Technical Institute - Seattle
Antioch University	ITT Technical Institute - Spokane
Bastyr University	Northwest University
Clare's Beauty College	Northwest College of Art
Cornish College of the Arts	Northwest Indian College
DigiPen Institute of Technology	Pacific Lutheran University
Divers Institute of Technology	Perry Technical Institute
Everest College	Saint Martin's University
Gene Juarez Academy	Seattle Pacific University
Glen Dow Academy of Hair Design	Seattle University
Gonzaga University	University of Puget Sound
Heritage University	Walla Walla University
Interface College	Whitman College
International Air & Hospitality Academy	Whitworth University

All of the schools listed above may choose from one of two payment methods: the **Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) Reimbursement Method** or **HECB-issued checks** issued to individual students.

The EFT option requires schools to front monies to eligible students, and then request reimbursement from the HECB. Requesting HECB-issued checks does not require funds to be fronted to students; however, the process has a slower turn around and is more labor-intensive.

Once a student is identified as eligible and an award is calculated, the school may request the check or reimbursement. Disbursement may occur after the student enrolls and all required documentation is received by the HECB.

Check and EFT Request Procedure

Payment requests must be submitted through the use of the SNG Payment Utility on the HECB Portal. An institution must confirm a student's SNG eligibility before requesting funds. The file layout specifications and instructions for the SNG Payment Utility are at the end of this chapter.

Required Information

The following information must be provided to order checks or an EFT:

- **Institution Code** – SNG institution codes are listed in this manual, following the table of contents.

- **Social Security Number** – Social security numbers are used to generate payments and monitor the number of terms a student has received the grant. This field must contain nine numeric digits.
- **Student's Name** – Names shall not be abbreviated, nor shall nicknames be used. A middle initial shall be provided if available. If the student has no middle initial, include a blank space.
- **Family Information**- Student's family income, number in family, and number in college.
- **Enrollment Status** - One of these enrollment status codes must be used:
 - 1 = Full Time
 - 2 = Half Time
 - 3 = ¾ Time
 - 5 = Less Than Half Time
- **Amount to be Paid (excluding DCA)** – The amount of the check must be requested in whole dollars only.
- **DCA Amount** – If student qualifies for DCA and receives it as part of the grant.
- **Term Payment** – One of these term payment codes must be used:
 - 1 = Summer, First Term Fiscal Year
 - F = Fall Term
 - W = Winter Quarter
 - S = Spring Term
 - 2 = Summer, Last Term Fiscal Year

Note: The clock hour school payment request calendar is located at the end of this chapter.

- **Revised payments versus supplemental awards**
A **revised payment** replaces an earlier payment drawn for the same term. Reduction in a student's enrollment status, resulting in a reduced grant amount, or warrants not claimed by a student within an acceptable time frame could result in a revised payment. Institutions have thirty days to disburse checks, otherwise the check must be returned to the HECB. The original check must be returned and cancelled by the HECB before a new check can be issued.

A **supplemental award** refers to an additional payment processed for a student for the same term. Retroactive payments are not supplemental awards.

Check and EFT Processing Deadlines

Cash requests may be made on a weekly basis from mid-July through mid-June of the fiscal year. Payments for a new school year will not begin until a school is fully reconciled for the prior year. Cash requests received **by noon** each **Tuesday** will be processed that week.

Checks will be mailed to the institutions within two weeks. Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) reimbursements will be processed upon receipt because the school has fronted their own monies and are being reimbursed.

Electronic Fund Transfer Reimbursement Schools

Schools approved to receive EFTs (Electronic Fund Transfers) shall follow the same cash request procedures as schools requesting individual SNG checks. Schools receiving EFT payments will request a reimbursement after paying eligible students with institutional funds.

HECB Student Directive Form

Private institutions must use the HECB Student Directive Form to record a student's decision on where to apply their financial aid payment. Institutional funds can be deposited directly into a student's account or disbursed in the form of a check. See the end of this chapter for a copy of the student directive.

- Institutions must not coerce or influence the student's choice on where to apply their financial aid payment.
- The directive remains in effect for the duration of the student's continuous enrollment at the institution, excluding approved leaves of absence and summer terms. A new directive is required if the student is not continuously enrolled.
- Institutions must allow students to change their minds at anytime, prior to disbursement, and follow their current directives at all times.
- Institutions must remind students once a year that their current directive is still in place and that they may change it.

Reimbursement Requests

Use the SNG Payment Utility on the Portal to submit the reimbursement request.

The HECB will process the reimbursement request upon receipt. Please allow a **minimum** of five to six business days from the time a request is submitted until funds are reimbursed.

Overpayments and Student Repayments

EFT schools are responsible for repaying the HECB for overpayments resulting from calculation error and for student repayments received at the school. Schools must make payments to the HECB within 30 days of discovering either type of payment is owed.

EFT schools are responsible for collecting their own SNG repayments from students, and cannot transfer collection to the HECB. Schools must notify the HECB immediately after students have paid their balance in full.

Disbursement Procedures

The school must confirm that the student's enrollment status at the time of disbursement matches the enrollment status covered by the check.

Student Disbursement Options

For both HECB and institution-generated SNG payments, each student must have the opportunity to receive a check that may be deposited at his or her own bank or to request that the SNG funds be applied to his or her student account at the institution.

A school may not withhold or delay the disbursement of a HECB-generated SNG check due to any student debt, including tuition, fees, or fines owed the institution.

Conditions of Award Statements

Prior to disbursement, the institution must inform the SNG recipient of his or her responsibilities to the program through a “Conditions of Award” statement. A template of the statement may be found at the end of this chapter.

The statement must be presented or delivered to the student through paper or electronic means each year. The Conditions of Award does not have to be signed by the student as long as the school can provide assurances to the HECB that the terms of the SNG award were presented to the student. It is the school’s responsibility to maintain documentation that the conditions were presented to the student.

Power of Attorney Disbursements

A student whose off-campus program precludes his or her return to the institution for disbursement of SNG funds must assign Power of Attorney to a responsible person to receive SNG payments on his or her behalf. A copy of the Power of Attorney documentation must be kept in the student's file.

Institutional Responsibility for Checks

The institution is responsible for all SNG checks while they are held at the institution. The institution is responsible for notifying the HECB of checks that are lost, stolen, or disbursed to ineligible students.

Disburse in 30 Days

Checks must be disbursed to the student or returned to the HECB within 30 days of receipt by the institution. An extension may be granted on a case-by-case basis by contacting the HECB. It is not acceptable for an institution to retain any check beyond the 30 day period without HECB permission.

Cancelling Awards

Before accessing their funds, if a student does not enroll, withdraws from a program, reduces the enrollment rate, or does not claim his or her check in a 30 day period, funds must be returned to the HECB.

Warrants:

The original warrant must be sent back to HECB for cancellation. A check can be reissued at a later date if necessary.

If the check was already cashed, the institution must send HECB a check for the difference between the amount the student received and the eligible amount.

To return check(s) for cancellation, institutions must complete the SNG Check Cancellation Cover Sheet and send it with the original HECB-generated check(s) to the HECB.

The cover sheet must include the **student’s name, social security number, check number, dollar amount, and a reason for the return.** This form may be found at the end of this chapter as well as on the HECB Portal.

EFT Reimbursements:

If a student does not enroll, withdraws from a program, reduces the enrollment rate, or does not claim funds within the 30 day period, institutions must send a refund check to HECB. The entire amount must be sent back in the event the student does not enroll or is not eligible for the funds. A partial amount can be sent back for students with reduced enrollment. The check must be sent with an EFT Adjustment/Cancellation form found on the HECB Portal.

Repayments as a Result of Withdrawal

Repayment is a student responsibility. If a grant recipient leaves school during an academic term in which he or she receives a SNG, the student is required to repay SNG funds according to the HECB's universal repayment policy. Implementation of the policy is required. A copy of the policy may be found at the end of this chapter.

Notification to Student and HECB

The collection process is managed by the HECB for private/proprietary schools who are not EFT participants and by the private/proprietary schools themselves if they are EFT participants. Non EFT institutions shall advise the student, in writing, of the amount to be repaid, and notify the HECB via a repayment transmittal form and a copy of the correspondence to the student. EFT institutions shall notify the HECB of students owing a SNG repayment via the Adjustment/Cancellation Report. This form is located at the end of this chapter and on the HECB Portal. Documentation of the student's repayment obligation must be kept in the student's file.

HECB Follow-up

SNG checks will not be processed for any student who owes a repayment until the account has been repaid in full. The HECB will advise the institution, in writing or via email, when the student has repaid the obligation in full. EFT institutions are responsible for notifying the HECB when they have received payment in full.

Current Year Repayments

An institution can re-award student repayments to other students if the repayments and awards fall within the current academic year.

Temporary Repayment Accounts

Temporary SNG Repayment Accounts (\$1.00 accounts) are created on the HECB system after students are reported in repayment status on the SNG Interim Reports. Served students in repayment are flagged with a "Y" in the repayment field. These temporary accounts are created to place students on the Archive before an actual repayment transmittal is forwarded to the HECB, therefore preventing students in repayment status from receiving aid at another school.

If the student repays the obligation to the school, it is the school's responsibility to inform the HECB. **If the school does not inform the HECB, then the \$1.00 repayment account will continue to appear on the Archive and the student will be ineligible for further SNG disbursements.**

Repayments of less than \$50 should not be referred to the HECB.

Transfer Students

Students who receive the SNG award at one school are eligible to receive transfer funds at a different school as long as the transfer is completed within the same academic year. Students must be enrolled at the receiving school before submitting transfer requests to the HECB. The receiving school requests transfer funds on behalf of the incoming student by submitting a Transfer Fund Request Form.

If a HECB-generated check is received at the sending school for the same term as transfer funds requested, return it to the HECB. **Do not disburse it to the student.** For additional transfer fund information, please refer to the “Transfer Student” chapter.

Associate Degrees at Private Institutions

Private and proprietary institutions that offer AA degrees **must report new AA degrees quarterly to the HECB via an Excel or .csv file.** AA degree files are to be sent to HECB via the secure message feature in the HECB Portal. The file format for reporting AA degrees is at the end of this chapter.

Additional Notes: Clock Hour Schools

In order to equate the clock hour programs to the credit-hour programs, the following policy makes the annual award amount equitable at both types of institutions.

Payment Periods

1. Payments will be made for 300 clock hour increments within a quarter term payment schedule.
2. Payments may be requested once every ten weeks for individual students. The eligible student may receive up to five payments in one fiscal year.
3. Additional payments shall not be disbursed until the previous payment’s clock hours have been earned/completed. Exceptions may be made based on the institution’s probationary policy (see Chapter III), if that policy was approved as part of the Institutional Agreement to Participate.
4. For a full-time, full-year (900 clock hours) student in good standing, the school is required to submit payment requests for at least three payment periods (equivalent to three quarterly payments). Institutions have the option of distributing more than three payments within an academic year.

Program Lengths

Clock hour programs must be at least 600 hours in length to qualify for SNG awards. The program must offer a minimum of twelve clock hours of instruction per week.

A payment request can be submitted for students nearing completion of their program with between 150 and 299 remaining hours.

Remainder Hours-Award Percentages

75 - 149 hours	=	25% of a full time award
150 - 224 hours	=	50% of a full time award
225 - 299 hours	=	75% of full time award
300+ hours	=	100% of full time award

Academic Year Cross-Over Programs

If a payment falls in the cross-over between academic years, the school can select the academic year in which to request the payment.

Additional clock hours earned beyond a full disbursement that are clocked prior to July 1 of the next academic year may be carried over. For example, if a student earns 980 hours in one academic year and is awarded for two 450 hour terms, the 80 remaining hours may be carried into the next academic year.

Clock Hour Payment Request Calendar

Payment periods are described as periods 1-5. Due to HECB Portal limitations, the payment periods must still be referred to as Fall, Winter, Spring, and Summer (in corresponding terms).

Assign the payment based on when the majority of the enrollment will occur.

Payment Period	Date Range	Term
1	July1 – September 11	Summer 1
2	September 12 – November 22	Fall
3	November 23 – February 5	Winter
4	February 6 – April 18	Spring
5	April 19 – June 30	Summer 2

Table based on ten-week minimum between payment periods, five payment period maximum.

Last Payment Request Date is June 10, 2011.

WASHINGTON STATE NEED GRANT PROGRAM
ARCHIVE CHECK REPORT

* * * INCLUDES ASSOCIATE DEGREE DATA * * *

RECORD FORMAT

SNG Archive records are listed in alphabetical order by student's last name. File format is ASCII text. Each record is 52 characters in length and is terminated by a carriage return/line feed. Each record layout is as follows:

FIELD NAME	NOTES/COMMENTS
Student Social Security #	Numeric, nine digits, no hyphens
Student LAST Name	Alpha, left justified, blank filled to right
Student FIRST Name	Alpha, left justified, blank filled to right
Student MIDDLE INITIAL	Alpha, may be blank
Institution Code Last school where student received SNG	Numeric, four digits
Repayment Flag If code = 1, student is in repayment	Will be 1 or blank, no alpha
Maximum SNG Flag If code = 2, student received max (15 qtrs) award	Will be 2 or blank, no alpha
Eligibility Flag If code = 3, student < 3 years of eligibility remaining	Will be 3 or blank, no alpha
Quarter Equivalent Remaining (QER) If 4.5 QER, it will appear as 0450 Blank for students in repayment status and/or students has received maximum terms of SNG	Numeric (4 digits) , leading zeros
Associate Degree Code If code = 4, student received AA with SNG funds	Will be 4 or blank, no alpha
Fiscal Year Fiscal year that student becomes eligible for SNG while pursuing 2 nd associate degree	Numeric, four digit fiscal year
Term Term that student becomes eligible for SNG funds while enrolled in a 2 nd associate degree program	Alpha or numeric F=Fall, W=Winter, S=Spring 1=Summer, first term of fiscal year 2=Summer, last term of fiscal year

SAMPLE VIEW of DOWNLOADED FILE

555982001	MONEY	OWEN	U20401	
333447788	GRANT	NITA	B4320	2
444667789	DONE	ALMOST	2030	30300
111223333	GRATEFUL	WILL	B1020	42005F

DATA REPRESENTS:

Ineligible student, in repayment status
Ineligible, Maximum 15 quarters received
Three quarters eligibility remaining
AA Degree, Ineligible until Fall 2005

WASHINGTON STATE NEED GRANT PROGRAM
ARCHIVE CHECK REPORT

* * * EXCLUDES AA DEGREE DATA * * *

RECORD LAYOUT AND FORMAT

In this **SNG Archive** file, records are listed in alphabetical order by student's last name. File format is ASCII text. Each record is 46 characters in length and is terminated by a carriage return/line feed. Each record layout is as follows:

FIELD NAME	COLUMNS	NOTES/COMMENTS
Student Social Security #	1 - 9	Numeric, nine digits, no hyphens
Student LAST Name	10 - 24	Alpha, left justified, blank filled to right
Student FIRST Name	25 - 34	Alpha, left justified, blank filled to right
Student MIDDLE INITIAL	35	Alpha, maybe blank
Institution Code Last school where student received SNG	36-39	Numeric, four digits
Repayment Flag If code = 1, student in repayment	40	Will be 1 or blank, no alpha
Maximum SNG Flag If code = 2, student received max award	41	Will be 2 or blank, no alpha
Eligibility Flag If code = 3, student < 3 yrs of eligibility remaining	42	Will be 3 or blank, no alpha
Quarter Equivalent Remaining (QER) If 4.5 QER, it will appear as 0450 Blank for students in repayment status and/or for students who received maximum terms of SNG	43 - 46	Numeric, leading zeros or blank

SAMPLE FORMAT

111223333	GRATEFUL	WILL	B10203	0300	3 Quarter equivalent remaining (QER)
333447788	GRANT	NITA	B4320	2	Maximum 15 quarters received
555982001	MONEY	OWEN	U20401		Ineligible, in repayment status

WASHINGTON STATE NEED GRANT PROGRAM

2010-2011 Check Cancellation Cover Sheet

Date: _____
To: Victor Fernandez, SNG Program
From: _____
Institution Name: _____
Phone: _____

Student	SSN	Amount	Warrant#	Reason for Return

TOTAL: \$0 0

Comments:

Higher Education Coordinating Board
917 Lakeridge Way SW/ PO Box 43430
Olympia, WA 98504-3430
Phone: 360-753-7850

**WASHINGTON STATE NEED GRANT PROGRAM
REPAYMENT TRANSMITTAL FORM**

PRIVATE/PROPRIETARY INSTITUTION

Institution Name: _____

SNG Inst. Code: _____

This is to inform the Higher Education Coordinating Board that the following student has been determined to be in repayment of State Need Grant Funds.

Student's Name: _____

Social Security Number: _____

Last Known Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Parent's Information: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Repayment Information (Complete all fields):

Fiscal Year: _____

Term: _____

Orig. Enroll. Status _____

Amount Owed: _____

Date Student Notified In Writing of This Repayment: _____

(Please retain copies of these records in student's file)

Reason Student Was Placed In Repayment: _____

ASSOCIATE DEGREE FORMAT for PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS
Excel or CSV file format

Field 1	SSN	9 Characters
Field 2	YYYY	4 Characters
Field 3	TERM	1 Character
Field 4	INST CODE	4 Characters

Using the Online SNG Payment Utility

This tool serves as both a payment utility program to request SNG funds, and the interim report.

BASIC STEPS

1. Log on to the HECB Portal.
2. Add your students.
3. Fix 'failed' rows, if any.
4. Approve/Review students (and correct broken rules).
5. Submit Awards To HECB (order checks for selected students by term or requesting reimbursement).

STEP 1: LOG ON TO THE HECB PORTAL

Access the HECB Portal at <https://fortress.wa.gov/hecb/portal>.

Your email address is your username. If you do not know your password, please contact SNG staff.

From the Menu on the left, click on:

SNG

Award Payment Utility

STEP 2: ADD YOUR STUDENTS

There are two options to add students into the Utility; **uploading a file** generated from your internal system, or **hand-entering students** directly into the SNG Utility.

OPTION 1: UPLOADING A FILE

The upload file format has changed. Please see the new file format at the end of these instructions.

Generate your file from data in your internal system and save it to your computer.

Click on '1a Import Awards' on the Utility menu on the left. Use the Browse button to locate your file. After you have selected the file, click on the "Analyze File" button. *(The time it takes to analyze your file will vary in proportion to the number of students. Be aware that this is a time-consuming process and can take up to several minutes, so please refrain from using the back button or clicking any links on the page while this process is running.)*

After the upload completes you will be presented with a summary count of how many rows were uploaded, how many succeeded, and how many failed. *(Failed rows contain formatting errors like letters where numbers should be, an invalid ssn, or if the name provided does not match the ssn provided. These rows are sent to the 'Failed Row Review' process, where you can examine them in more detail and resolve any conflicts.)*

In addition, you will be presented with the following four selections. You MUST select one of these to move forward:

- **Reject file and start over:** Select this if there are too many failed rows and you want to start over again.
- **Save all and import another file:** Select this if you have multiple files to upload and want to get all of the data into the tool before continuing to make payments.
- **Save all and review failed rows:** Select this if you want to review and fix your failed rows before you continue with your request.
- **Save all and go to approval:** Select this if you want to begin processing your successfully uploaded rows first. You can review and fix the failed rows at any time later.

ADDING OR UPDATING STUDENTS VIA FILE UPLOAD:

Please note that you may add or update groups of students at any time using the upload function. However, you must report all data for all terms every time a file is uploaded into the Utility. This means that even if you are only changing a handful of students, you'll need to upload every student you are still planning on paying. Remember to report all of your student data on every upload, because any information that was previously reported but is no longer in the file will be deleted.

DELETING A STUDENT VIA FILE UPLOAD:

If there is a row in the CSV file that doesn't have any award information reported for all terms, then that student will be deleted from the Utility.

HOW TO DELETE SPECIFIC TERM AWARDS VIA FILE UPLOAD:

If an award for a term is left blank in the CSV file, and there was existing data in the Payment Utility for that term, then that info is deleted.

A student may only be deleted if no awards have been paid to that student in the current academic year.

OPTION 2: HAND-ENTERING STUDENTS

Click on '**1b-Add New Student**' on the Utility Menu on the left. Enter the student's social security number. Click 'Find Student'. If data exists for the student at your institution, you may now edit their information. If the student record does not exist, you may create that student by entering their name, family information, and awards.

NOTE: You must enter at least one award, either served or unserved.

Check the 'Served' checkbox if the award for the term is served. Enter unserved awards the same way, leaving the served box unchecked.

*NOTE: The dollar amount for dependent care allowance is listed explicitly, instead of being added into the award amount and simply noted with a "Y" in the DCA field. The award amount entered should **not** include the DCA amount.*

After you've entered family and award information, click 'ADD'. Broken rules, if any, are displayed. Click in any of the fields to update information and click 'ADD', or type in a reason and override the record.

Click 'Approve Students' to select the payments you want to submit to the HECB for payment.

REQUESTING A SUPPLEMENTAL PAYMENT:

Click on 'Search' on the Utility Menu on the left. Enter the SSN of the student you need to request additional funds for, and click 'Search'. Click on the student's last name which will take you to their award detail screen. Click the 'Edit' button at the bottom of the student record, and then enter the correct award amount in the Award field and click 'Add'.

Now proceed to Step 4.

TO REQUEST A REVISED PAYMENT:

To request a revised payment, the original check must be cancelled first, or for EFT schools, funds must be sent back. The Utility will not let you request a revised payment until the original payment is cancelled by HECB.

After the original payment has been cancelled:

Click 'Search' on the Utility Menu on the left. Enter the SSN of the student you need to request a revised payment for, and click 'Search'. Click on the student's last name which will take you to their award detail screen. Click the 'Edit' button at the bottom of the student record, then enter the correct award amount in the Award field and click on 'Add'.

Now proceed to Step 4.

STEP 3: FIX FAILED ROWS, IF ANY

This screen allows you to review the failed rows that were rejected during the file upload process. Each row contains the original raw data, as well as a list of the broken rules.

The rules highlighted in RED must be fixed in order to save the row in the database. The rules highlighted in ORANGE are either warnings or broken rules than you can override.

Click the Edit link next to the row to view and change row information.

If you decide that the row is no longer necessary, click the delete button to remove the student record.

Once the error has been corrected you may submit the student for approval, which simply flags the student as being eligible to have awards created in the next step.

STEP 4: APPROVE/REVIEW STUDENTS (AND CORRECT BROKEN RULES)

Review all uploaded students to verify that the information is correct. This is where you fix additional broken rules (by clicking [Edit](#)). (*Approving a student does not create an award; that is a separate step.*)

Your records will be presented one "screen" at a time. The number of records presented per screen may be changed by clicking on the drop down box next to 'Show'. You may also sort your records by Social Security Number or Name by clicking the SSN or Name links.

Rows with a green "Student is valid" have passed all the rules and are ready for you to approve. For your convenience, we have provided an "Approve All Valid Students" button. If you are confident that the data submitted was reviewed before submitting to the Portal, this will approve every valid record you have uploaded for the selected term, not just the records visible on screen.

(Be aware that this is a time-consuming process and can take up to several minutes, so please refrain from using the back button or clicking any links on the page while this process is running.)

To edit the student and their potential awards, click the [Edit](#) link, or the **!!!**. This will take you to the [Eligible Student Editor](#). Broken rules will be presented, and either needs to be fixed or overridden. Once the corrections have been made, you may return to the Approval screen to edit the next student record.

STEP 5: SUBMIT AWARDS TO HECB (ORDER CHECKS FOR SELECTED STUDENTS BY TERM OR REQUEST A REIMBURSEMENT)

Once a student and their awards have been approved, you can submit a payment or reimbursement request, by term, which is then reviewed and approved by HECB. You no longer need to submit separate requests for regular SNG and Less-Than-Half-Time. The funds still need to be tracked separately, but payment requests can be sent together.

Uncheck any record that you do NOT want to create a payment for at this time. This is the way you defer paying a student for a particular term until a later date. You may always come back to this screen later.

**For your convenience, we have provided a "Check/Uncheck All" button. If you are confident that all payment awards are ready to be paid you can check the "Check/Uncheck All" button and submit all valid awards to the HECB. This tool is also used to uncheck all of the awards for a given term and go in manually and check the ones that are ready to be submitted.

Records that are not currently valid (if any) require additional editing and cannot be selected.

For your convenience, we have provided a "Submit All Valid Payments to HECB for This Term" button. This will approve every valid award for the selected term, not just the ones visible on screen.

AWARDS SELECTED WINDOW:

Please note that there is a window box above your list of students that tells you the dollar amount of how much you are requesting next to 'Awards Selected'. This amount only applies to the term that is selected and what students have a check mark next to their name. If you were to uncheck a student, the dollar amount will change. To see how much you are requesting for a different term, simply click on the drop down window above and select.

AVAILABLE BALANCE:

Another feature in the window box is 'Available Balance.' This is how much you have available before you submit payments on this screen.

Otherwise, you may review and create awards one screen at a time by clicking on the 'Submit This Page Only' button.

PAYMENT SUMMARY:

After awards have been submitted to the HECB, the utility will provide a short summary of what was requested. For your convenience, we provided a 'Show Detail' link to show you details about the students submitted. You may use the Excel option to save the list of students on your computer if you choose.

AUTOMATED CONFIRMATION PAYMENT EMAIL:

Once submitted awards have been processed at the HECB, an automated payment email will be sent providing a list of students that were paid or the amount that was reimbursed. If you do not receive an automated email please contact SNG staff.

GRANT AMOUNTS:

Click on the 'Grant Amounts' link under the Utility menu on the left to view the current year's grant amounts.

This is a web presentation of the paper version of the grant amount chart. It simply shows the maximum grant amount by institution sector, enrollment status, DCA, and MFI. Adjustments from these numbers may still need to be made based on quarters of eligibility remaining, expense distribution, packaging requirements, or any number of other factors mentioned elsewhere in the manual.

SEARCH FOR STUDENTS AND REPORTS:

Click on the 'Search' link under the Utility menu on the left. There are three tabs: Multiple, Reports and Targeted. It will default to the "Multiple" tab.

MULTIPLES tab: enter SSNs or warrant numbers, one on each line. Clicking on the student's last name will prompt you to their detail page. Any award with a light grey font is proposed and has not been sent to the HECB for payment or reimbursement. You also have the option to download reports into Excel.

REPORTS tab: Choose from a list of common reports to download in the original file format. You may also download reports in a search format, which is the same layout you see on the search screen.

TARGETED tab: Allows you to narrow search results by filtering by field. Search by SSN or name, served/unserved, approved/unapproved, submitted and disbursed status, cancelled awards and academic year and term. On the bottom of each search screen are total amounts of awards.

Please not that they are just totals for each page. Any award with a light grey font is proposed and has not been sent to the HECB for payment or reimbursement.

To view total dollar amounts for all pages there is a “Show All” drop down window. Clicking on the student’s last name will take you to the “Eligible Student Editor” page where you may review and edit student information and potential award information.

THE NEW SNG PAYMENT UTILITY EXTRACT FILE FORMAT:

Since this is a replacement for both the desktop payment request tool and the Interim Report tool, the new format contains all the various data elements that those tools required. Thus, there are fields for student and family information as well as payment information for each of the five possible school terms; 28 fields (columns) in all.

A sample excel file may be downloaded from the opening page of the Award Payment Utility.

There is only one student per line, and that student may only appear once per file.

The Comma Separated Values format (CSV) is the only one that the new portal tools will accept. One way (though not the only way) is to use Microsoft Excel.

The file must contain all twenty eight column headings across the top of the spread sheet as the first line. This should be done first before anything else. This will guarantee that the SSN column is formatted as a text column. Otherwise, SSN’s with leading zeros will have those leading zeros dropped when the file is converted to CSV format.

In addition, please note that the amounts for the award and for DCA have been separated into their component parts.

List of headings for the csv file:

The first eight rows are required:	
InstitutionCode	Your four digit assigned HECB institution code
SSN	Nine digits – no hyphens
LastName	Alpha numeric – maximum 75 characters
FirstName	Alpha numeric – maximum 50 characters
MiddleInitial	Alpha numeric – maximum 50 characters
FamilySize	Numeric - positive – 1 through 20
NumberInCollege	Numeric - positive – 1 through 20
FamilyIncome	Numeric - zero or greater – no \$ sign
The following columns only need data if you are requesting an award (served or unserved)) for that term. Otherwise, leave the columns for that term blank. However, at least one term must be filled in.	
Enrollment status: 1=full time, 2=half time, 3=three quarter time, 5=less than half time	
FallAwardAmount	Numeric (award not including dca)
FallDCA	Numeric (dca only amount of the award)
FallEnrollmentStatus	Numeric <u>1,2,3,5</u>
FallAwardIsServed	Alpha “Y” or blank
WinterAwardAmount	Numeric (award not including dca)
WinterDCA	Numeric(dca only amount of the award)
WinterEnrollmentStatus	Numeric <u>1,2,3,5</u>
WinterAwardIsServed	Alpha “Y” or blank
SpringAwardAmount	Numeric (award not including dca)
SpringDCA	Numeric(dca only amount of the award)
SpringEnrollmentStatus	Numeric <u>1,2,3,5</u>
SpringAwardIsServed	Alpha “Y” or blank
Summer1AwardAmount	Numeric (award not including dca)
Summer1DCA	Numeric(dca only amount of the award)
Summer1EnrollmentStatus	Numeric <u>1,2,3,5</u>
Summer1AwardIsServed	Alpha “Y” or blank
Summer2AwardAmount	Numeric (award not including dca)
Summer2DCA	Numeric(dca only amount of the award)
Summer2EnrollmentStatus	Numeric <u>1,2,3,5</u>
Summer2AwardIsServed	Alpha “Y” or blank

After the data has been entered, the file must be saved in what is known as CSV format ("Comma Separated Values").

In excel you click on: **FILE | "Save As"**

The resulting dialog box will have a drop-down list near the bottom labeled **"Save As Type"**

Scroll down the list until you see **"CSV (Comma delimited) (*.csv)"**

Select it. Then save to either your Desktop, or another folder of your choice.

**State of Washington
Higher Education Coordinating Board**

Student Directive for Disbursement of State Student Aid

Return this form to the NAME of Institution Financial Aid Office as soon as possible

Student Name (please print): _____ ID#: _____

You have been awarded student financial aid from the State of Washington. Your designation and signature on this form will document your choice for funds to be applied directly into your student account or to be given directly to you in the form of a check. A state grant recipient has the following two choices:

- Choosing to have the funds deposited to your student account permits the aid to be automatically credited toward expenses you may owe to the school. This option allows faster processing of any refunds of financial aid proceeds that may be due you.
- Choosing to have state financial aid funds given directly to you means that state student aid will not be automatically available to pay for tuition and fees. You are responsible for using the funds to pay for educational expenses including any expense you owe to the school.

Please choose one of these options:

_____ I choose to have state student aid funds applied directly to my student account and automatically credited toward expenses I owe NAME of Institution.

OR

_____ I wish to have state student aid funds given directly to me (not credited to my student account). I understand that I am responsible for all outstanding balances on my student account at NAME of Institution.

Your choice will stay in effect as long as you are enrolled at this school. However, you may change your directive for a future term by informing your Financial Aid Office in writing.

Student Signature

Date

Make sure you check one of the options above and return this form to:

NAME of Institution

Address

Address

Address

State Grant Repayment Policy Requirements

GENERAL

State Grant recipients, who withdraw from the institution, are expelled, or otherwise complete zero credits in any given term must repay state grants on a prorated basis. For the purposes of this policy, "Award" is the amount of state grant for which the student was eligible during the enrollment period, after the school made any required adjustments for need and enrollment level. All monies, whether disbursed to the student account or directly to the student, shall be included in the repayment calculation.

AUTHORITY

State Need Grant (WAC 250.20.051(4))

Educational Opportunity Grant (EOG program manual guidance)

KNOWN LAST DATE OF ATTENDANCE

- If a student's last date of attendance can be verified and is prior to or on 50% of the term, the state grant repayment will be based on the percent of the term not completed (or the percent of the scheduled hours remaining in the payment period for clock hour schools).
- If the last date of attendance occurs after **50%** of the term, the state grant award is considered 100% earned and no state grant repayment is due.

State grant repayment formula: known last date of attendance, prior to or on 50% of the term

1. The percent of state grant earned is calculated by dividing days in attendance by calendar days in term. Scheduled breaks of five or more days should be excluded from the calculation.
2. Subtract the percent of state grant earned from 100%; this equals the percent of unearned state grant.
3. Multiply the percent of unearned state grant by the grant amount.
4. Multiply the amount from step 3 by 50% to determine the state grant repayment due.

Example: Known last date of attendance, prior to or on 50% of the term:

A student is awarded \$400 for a state grant and completed 20% of the term prior to withdrawal. The state grant repayment is calculated as follows:

1. The unearned percentage equals 80% (100% less 20% completed).
2. Unearned aid equals \$320 (80% of \$400 state grant award).
3. The repayment equals \$160 (\$320 X 50% reduction).

UNKNOWN LAST DATE OF ATTENDANCE

If a student attends a portion of a term and withdraws with no verified last date of attendance, the state grant repayment will be 50% of the grant amount with no additional adjustments.

NO-SHOW REPAYMENTS

If a state grant recipient never attends courses in the term for which they received a state grant award, the state grant repayment is 100% of the award. If a school is unable to distinguish between a no-show and an unofficial withdrawal, the no-show policy shall apply.

General repayment policies:

5. Repayments are based on the state grant award amount, including enrollment, and packaging adjustments.
6. Verified withdrawal dates after 50% of the term equate to 100% earned state grant.
7. Unofficial withdrawals/no known last date of attendance equate to repayment of 50% of the state grant award.
8. No shows are 0% earned and equate to repayment of 100% of the state grant.
9. Official withdrawals or verified last date of attendance repayment calculation:
State grant award amount multiplied by the percent of unearned state grant multiplied by the 50% reduction equals the state grant repayment due.
10. The 50% reduction applied at the end of the repayment computation addresses un-reimbursable start up education costs and reduces the barrier for students intending to return to school.
11. Repayments of less than \$50 should not be referred to the HECB.
12. Institution repayment refund policy:

Public institutions may choose from the following options:

1. Return the repayment amount directly to the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) and collect from the students.
2. During the current academic year, the institution may collect student repayments and deposit them into their institutional State Grant funds to be awarded to other eligible students.
3. Refer students directly to HECB.

Private institutions that participate **in the check payment process** should refer students directly to HECB.

Private institutions that participate in the **Electronic Fund Transfer process** should return state grant repayments directly to the HECB and collect from the students.

CHAPTER 7

TRANSFER STUDENTS

HECB Reserve

The HECB administers a transfer fund that enables transferring students to receive the grant at a second school within the same academic year. The originating school does not give up funds to the receiving school, nor does the receiving school have to reserve funds for the transferring student. Monies from the transfer fund are normally available until April 15 of each year, or until funds are depleted, whichever comes first.

Definition

A “**transferring student**” is one who has received at least one State Need Grant disbursement during the academic year in which the transfer occurs. If a student has not already received SNG funds, he or she cannot participate in the transfer fund, regardless of need or eligibility. The receiving institution may consider a student who is not eligible for transfer funds as a first-time applicant for the grant.

The intent of this fund is to assist students transferring during the course of the regular academic year. After completing the spring term, students who plan to transfer to a different school for the summer quarter will be served on a funds-available basis only.

Procedures

The student is responsible for requesting the transfer funds. The receiving school initiates the paperwork to request funds on behalf of the student.

Receiving School

The receiving school confirms the student's eligibility and recalculates the student's award based on the appropriate maximum grant.

The receiving school completes the Transfer Fund Request form (found in this chapter). An electronic version of this form is located on the HECB Portal. To request funds for the transferring student, the receiving school sends the Transfer Fund Request form to the HECB via the document submission tool in the HECB Portal. A sample Transfer Fund Request form is located at the end of this chapter.

The HECB increases the receiving school's reserve by the amount of the request if transfer funds are available.

Upon receipt of the receiving school's Transfer Fund Request form, the HECB verifies the receipt of SNG at the originating school.

The originating school never sends a warrant to the receiving school for disbursement.

NOTE: All undisbursed warrants at private and proprietary schools must be returned promptly to the HECB.

Transfer Fund Reconciliation Report

After the spring interim report is submitted, the HECB sends a reconciliation report to all schools that received SNG transfer students during the current academic year. The schools verify the students received the transfer funds. If the transfer student originally reported to the HECB is not the student who ultimately received the funds, the school either must report the correct recipient or send funds back to HECB. If a regular SNG recipient received the transfer funds, the institution must return the incorrectly used transfer funds to the HECB.

NOTE: The receiving school reimburses the transfer funds to the HECB if the student did not enroll for that specified term.

CHAPTER 8

INSTITUTION INFORMATION

Institutional Eligibility

To be eligible to participate in the SNG program a school must:

1. Be a public university, college, community or technical college operated by the state of Washington, or be a private institution whose home campus is located in the state of Washington and that is accredited by an HECB approved accrediting association.

Certain branch campuses, extensions, or facilities operating within the state of Washington and affiliated with an institution operating in another state may participate under certain circumstances.

Such facilities must:

- Be either a separately accredited institution; or
 - Be operated as a nonprofit college or university delivering on-site classroom instruction to at least seven hundred full-time equivalent students for a minimum of twenty consecutive years within the state of Washington.
2. Be approved by one of the following HECB approved accrediting associations:
 - a. Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities
 - b. Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Higher Education
 - c. New England Association of Schools and Colleges
 - d. North Central Association of Colleges and Schools
 - e. Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
 - f. Western Association of Schools and Colleges
 - g. Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools
 - h. Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training
 - i. Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges of Technology
 - j. Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools
 - k. National Accrediting Commission of Cosmetology Arts and Sciences
 3. Participate in the federal student aid programs.
 4. Demonstrate a continuing administrative capability to steward financial aid programs.
 5. Sign the “Agreement to Participate” and have it endorsed by the HECB.

Agreement to Participate

The "**Agreement to Participate**" documents an institution's promise to abide by all program statutes, rules, and guidelines. The agreement is designed for multiple years of use.

Each year all institutions must submit copies of their student budgets, refund policies, repayment policies, satisfactory progress policies, and if requested, their award packaging policies for HECB approval. Additional supporting documentation may be required.

Student Budgets

Student budgets are examined to determine if the maintenance portion is within ten percent of the Washington Financial Aid Association's (WFAA) maintenance budgets. If the institution's student budgets vary from this standard by more than ten percent, the institution must submit an explanation justifying the variance. Justification shall include evidence of institutional research documenting the variance in student costs from the WFAA standard.

Refund Policies / Repayment Policies

Schools must follow the repayment policy adopted in 2008. The policy has been included at the end of the public payment and private payment chapters.

Satisfactory Progress Policies

Satisfactory progress policies may be specific to SNG recipients and must meet the provisions of WAC 250-20-021(20) and the Satisfactory Progress Chapter of these guidelines.

Notifications

The HECB must be notified as soon as possible of changes at sites or branches that involve SNG eligible students. Any findings (including preliminary ones) or discoveries resulting from an internal or external program review or audit shall be sent directly to the HECB.

Eligible Out-Of-State Institution

An out-of-state institution must meet the following definition in order to participate in the SNG program/award SNG to its students:

An "**eligible out-of-state institution**" is any nonprofit college or university located in another state that has a reciprocity agreement with the state of Washington. If the institution is specifically encompassed within or directly affected by such reciprocity agreement so long as it is accredited by the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges, and agrees to participate in the SNG program in accordance with all applicable rules and regulations. Further details may be found in the SNG WAC 250-20-091.

Reciprocity Students

Students who meet all SNG eligibility criteria and are accepted at an eligible out-of-state institution as defined above, may receive a SNG as long as that they continue attendance under the reciprocity program and remain otherwise eligible for a SNG.

Student Eligibility

In addition to the student eligibility criteria contained in Chapter 1 of this manual, a student must attend an eligible out-of-state institution participating in the HECB reciprocity program in order to receive a SNG. If a student terminates from the reciprocity program mid-year (or mid-term), he or she automatically becomes ineligible for a SNG.

Program Operation

Eligible out-of-state institutions must administer the SNG program in accordance with the SNG Program Manual. Administrative procedures for eligible out-of-state institutions will be the same as those for eligible in-state private institutions (see chapter on Private Payments).

Institution reserves

The annual SNG reserve for each participating institution is determined by a model that factors in the number of served and unserved students in addition to other data reported in the reconciliation report, due each/every July.

Reporting

Due to the limited participation in the SNG program by students attending eligible out-of-state institutions, institutional reporting requirements concerning student socioeconomic and financial aid packaging information may be modified.

Program Audits and Record Retention

The HECB staff shall review institutional administrative practices to verify compliance with rules, regulations, and program guidelines. As outlined in the rules, the burden of proof for a grant recipient's eligibility lies with the institution. Each participating institution must maintain intact and accessible records of student's application, receipt, and expenditure of SNG funds. This includes all accounting records, as well as the original and supporting documents verifying how SNG funds were spent.

The institution must be able to reconstruct the calculations and rationale for the student's grant eligibility and award, if requested by the HECB. An institution may keep records on microfilm or in a computerized format. If the institution keeps its records in computerized format, it must maintain source documents supporting the computer data in either hard copy, imaging software or on microfilm.

If a program review or audit reveals that funds were improperly awarded and disbursed as a result of institutional error or failure to follow the appropriate rules and guidelines, the school must repay the amount of the affected SNG funds to the HECB. The burden for repayment is on the institution, not the student.

Records Retention

Records relating to the SNG program must be maintained in accordance with RCW 40.14. This law requires all documentation substantiating a student's eligibility for, and receipt of, SNG funds be maintained for six years in accordance with the Washington State Record Retention Schedule.

Financial Aid Administrators at public institutions must coordinate their records retention plan and schedule with their institution's records officer.

**WASHINGTON STATE NEED GRANT PROGRAM
INSTITUTION CODES
2010-2011**

1010	University of Washington	4440	Peninsula College
1020	*Washington State University	4370	Pierce College
<hr/>			
2030	Central Washington University	4450	Seattle Central Community College
2040	Eastern Washington University	4480	Shoreline Community College
2050	The Evergreen State College	4490	Skagit Valley College
2060	Western Washington University	4420	South Puget Sound Community College
		4470	South Seattle Community College
		4500	Spokane Community College
		4510	Spokane Falls Community College
		4520	Tacoma Community College
		4530	Walla Walla Community College
3080	Antioch University	4540	Wenatchee Valley College
3090	Bastyr University	4550	Whatcom Community College
3100	*Cornish Institute	4560	Yakima Valley College
3310	*DigiPen Institute of Technology		
3120	*Gonzaga University		
3110	*Heritage University	5700	Bates Technical College
3130	*Northwest University - Kirkland	5710	Bellingham Technical College
3240	*Northwest College of Art - Poulsbo	5720	Clover Park Technical College
3140	*Pacific Lutheran University	5730	Lake Washington Technical College
3150	*Saint Martin's University	5740	Renton Technical College
3160	Seattle Pacific University	5750	Seattle Vocational Institute
3170	Seattle University		
3190	*University of Puget Sound		
3200	Walla Walla University	6820	Art Institute of Seattle
3210	*Whitman College	6810	*Everest College
3220	*Whitworth University	6890	*Clare's Beauty College
		6740	*Divers Institute of Technology
		6780	*Gene Juarez Academy
4300	Bellevue College	6970	Glen Dow Academy
4310	Big Bend Community College	6760	*Interface College
4580	Cascadia Community College	6750	International Air & Hospitality Academy
4320	Centralia College	6700	ITT Technical Institute - Seattle
4330	Clark College	6710	ITT Technical Institute - Spokane
4340	Columbia Basin College	6840	Perry Technical Institute
4350	Edmonds Community College		
4360	Everett Community College		
4380	Grays Harbor College		
4390	Green River Community College		
4400	Highline Community College		
4410	Lower Columbia College		
4460	North Seattle Community College		
4570	Northwest Indian College		
4430	Olympic College		

*Semester payment institutions

CHAPTER 9

LAWS AND RULES

Chapter 28B.92 RCW **State student financial aid program**

RCW Sections

- 28B.92.010 State need grant program established -- Purpose.
- 28B.92.020 State need grant program -- Findings -- Intent.
- 28B.92.030 Definitions.
- 28B.92.040 Board, guidelines in performance of duties.
- 28B.92.050 Powers and duties of board.
- 28B.92.060 State need grant awards.
- 28B.92.070 Persian Gulf veterans -- Limited application of RCW 28B.92.060.
- 28B.92.080 Eligibility for state need grant.
- 28B.92.085 Part-time students -- Review of financial aid policies and procedures.
- 28B.92.090 Aid granted without regard to applicant's race, creed, color, religion, sex, or ancestry.
- 28B.92.100 Theology student denied aid.
- 28B.92.110 Application of award.
- 28B.92.120 Board to determine how funds disbursed.
- 28B.92.130 Grants, gifts, bequests and devises of property.
- 28B.92.140 State educational trust fund -- Deposits -- Expenditures.
- 28B.92.150 Board rules.

28B.92.010

State need grant program established — Purpose.

The purposes of this chapter are to establish the principles upon which the state financial aid programs will be based and to establish the state of Washington state need grant program, thus assisting financially needy or disadvantaged students domiciled in Washington to obtain the opportunity of attending an accredited institution of higher education. State need grants under this chapter are available only to students who are resident students as defined in RCW [28B.15.012](#)(2) (a) through (d).

[2004 c 275 § 34; 1999 c 345 § 2; 1993 sp.s. c 18 § 2; 1969 ex.s. c 222 § 7. Formerly RCW [28B.10.800](#), [28.76.430](#).]

Notes:

Part headings not law -- 2004 c 275: See note following RCW [28B.76.030](#).

Effective date -- 1993 sp.s. c 18: See note following RCW [28B.12.060](#).

Legislative declaration -- 1969 ex.s. c 222: "The legislature hereby declares that it regards the higher education of its qualified domiciliaries to be a public purpose of great importance to the welfare and security of this state and nation; and further declares that the establishment of a student financial aid program, assisting financially needy or disadvantaged students in this state to be a desirable and economical method of furthering this purpose. The legislature has concluded that the benefit to the state in assuring the development of the talents of its qualified domiciliaries will bring tangible benefits to the state in the future.

The legislature further declares that there is an urgent need at present for the establishment of a state of Washington student financial aid program, and that the most efficient and economical way to meet this need is through the plan prescribed in this act." [1969 ex.s. c 222 § 6.]

Severability -- 1969 ex.s. c 222: "If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1969 ex.s. c 222 § 24.]

State educational trust fund -- Established -- Deposits -- Use: RCW [28B.92.140](#)

28B.92.020

State need grant program — Findings — Intent.

(1) The legislature finds that the higher education coordinating board, in consultation with the higher education community, has completed a review of the state need grant program. It is the intent of the legislature to endorse the board's proposed changes to the state need grant program, including:

(a) Reaffirmation that the primary purpose of the state need grant program is to assist low-income, needy, and disadvantaged Washington residents attending institutions of higher education;

(b) A goal that the base state need grant amount over time be increased to be equivalent to the rate of tuition charged to resident undergraduate students attending Washington state public colleges and universities;

(c) State need grant recipients be required to contribute a portion of the total cost of their education through self-help;

(d) State need grant recipients be required to document their need for dependent care assistance after taking into account other public funds provided for like purposes; and

(e) Institutional aid administrators be allowed to determine whether a student eligible for a state need grant in a given academic year may remain eligible for the ensuing year if the student's family income increases by no more than a marginal amount except for funds provided through the educational assistance grant program for students with dependents.

(2) The legislature further finds that the higher education coordinating board, under its authority to implement the proposed changes in subsection (1) of this section, should do so in a timely manner.

(3) The legislature also finds that:

(a) In most circumstances, need grant eligibility should not extend beyond five years or one hundred twenty-five percent of the published length of the program in which the student is enrolled or the credit or clock-hour equivalent; and

(b) State financial aid programs should continue to adhere to the principle that funding follows resident students to their choice of institution of higher education.

[2003 c 19 § 11; 1999 c 345 § 1. Formerly RCW [28B.10.801](#).]

Notes:

Finding -- Intent -- Short title -- Captions not law -- 2003 c 19: See RCW [28B.133.005](#), [28B.133.900](#), and [28B.133.901](#).

28B.92.030

Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Board" means the higher education coordinating board.

(2) "Disadvantaged student" means a post high school student who by reason of adverse cultural, educational, environmental, experiential, familial or other circumstances is unable to qualify for enrollment as a full-time student in an institution of higher education, who would otherwise qualify as a needy student, and who is attending an institution of higher education under an established program designed to qualify the student for enrollment as a full-time student.

(3) "Financial aid" means loans and/or grants to needy students enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a student at institutions of higher education.

(4) "Institution" or "institutions of higher education" means:

(a) Any public university, college, community college, or technical college operated by the state of Washington or any political subdivision thereof; or

(b) Any other university, college, school, or institute in the state of Washington offering instruction beyond the high school level which is a member institution of an accrediting association recognized by rule of the board for the purposes of this section: PROVIDED, That any institution, branch, extension or facility operating within the state of Washington which is affiliated with an institution operating in another state must be a separately accredited member institution of any such accrediting association, or a branch of a member institution of an accrediting association recognized by rule of the board for purposes of this section, that is eligible for federal student financial aid assistance and has operated as a nonprofit college or university delivering on-site classroom instruction for a minimum of twenty consecutive years within the state of Washington, and has an annual enrollment of at least seven hundred full-time equivalent students: PROVIDED FURTHER, That no institution of higher education shall be eligible to participate in a student financial aid program unless it agrees to and complies with program rules and regulations adopted pursuant to RCW [28B.92.150](#).

(5) "Needy student" means a post high school student of an institution of higher education who demonstrates to the board the financial inability, either through the student's parents, family and/or personally, to meet the total cost of board, room, books, and tuition and incidental fees for any semester or quarter. "Needy student" also means an opportunity internship graduate as defined by RCW [28C.18.162](#) who enrolls in a postsecondary program of study as defined in RCW [28C.18.162](#) within one year of high school graduation.

(6) "Placebound student" means a student who (a) is unable to complete a college program because of family or employment commitments, health concerns, monetary inability, or other similar factors; and (b) may be influenced by the receipt of an enhanced student financial aid award to complete a baccalaureate degree at an eligible institution.

[2009 c 238 § 7; 2009 c 215 § 5; 2004 c 275 § 35; 2002 c 187 § 1; 1989 c 254 § 2; 1985 c 370 § 56; 1979 ex.s. c 235 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 132 § 16; 1969 ex.s. c 222 § 8. Formerly RCW [28B.10.802](#), [28.76.440](#).]

Notes:

Reviser's note: (1) The definitions in this section have been alphabetized pursuant to RCW [1.08.015\(2\)\(k\)](#).

(2) This section was amended by 2009 c 215 § 5 and by 2009 c 238 § 7, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW [1.12.025\(2\)](#). For rule of construction, see RCW [1.12.025\(1\)](#).

Findings -- Intent -- 2009 c 238: See note following RCW [28C.18.160](#).

Findings -- Intent -- 2009 c 215: "The legislature finds that a myriad of financial aid programs exist for students at the federal, state, local, community, and institutional levels. These programs enable thousands of students across Washington to access all sectors of higher education, from apprenticeship programs to public and private four and two-year institutions of higher education. The legislature further finds that Washington state is a national leader in the distribution of financial aid to increase college access and affordability, ranking fourth in the nation in 2007 in terms of state student grant aid funding per capita.

It is the intent of the legislature to promote and expand access to state financial aid programs by determining which programs provide the greatest value to the largest number of students, and by fully supporting those programs. Furthermore, it is the intent of the legislature to designate all existing financial aid an opportunity pathway, with the effect of providing students with a clear understanding of available resources to pay for postsecondary education, thereby increasing access to postsecondary education and meeting the needs of local business and industry.

It is the intent of the legislature that the higher education coordinating board, the state board for community and technical colleges, the office of the superintendent of public instruction, the workforce training and education coordinating board, and institutions of higher education coordinate the development of outreach tools, such as a web-based portal for information on all opportunity pathway aid programs. The information should be communicated in a format and manner that provides an ease of understanding for students and their families and include other pertinent information on institutions of higher education, costs, and academic programs. It is also the intent of the legislature for institutions of higher education to incorporate this information in promotional materials to prospective and current students and their families." [2009 c 215 § 1.]

Effective date -- 2009 c 215: "This act takes effect August 1, 2009." [2009 c 215 § 17.]

Part headings not law -- 2004 c 275: See note following RCW [28B.76.030](#).

Intent -- 1989 c 254: "It is the intent of the legislature that nothing in this act shall prevent or discourage an individual from making an effort to repay any state financial aid awarded during his or her collegiate career." [1989 c 254 § 1.]

Effective date -- Severability -- 1975 1st ex.s. c 132: See notes following RCW [28B.76.110](#).

Loan programs for mathematics and science teachers: RCW [28B.15.760](#) through [28B.15.766](#).

28B.92.040

Board, guidelines in performance of duties.

The board shall be cognizant of the following guidelines in the performance of its duties:

- (1) The board shall be research oriented, not only at its inception but continually through its existence.
- (2) The board shall coordinate all existing programs of financial aid except those specifically dedicated to a particular institution by the donor.
- (3) The board shall take the initiative and responsibility for coordinating all federal student financial aid programs to ensure that the state recognizes the maximum potential effect of these programs, and shall design state programs that complement existing federal, state, and institutional programs. The board shall ensure that state programs continue to follow the principle that state financial aid funding follows the student to the student's choice of institution of higher education.
- (4) Counseling is a paramount function of the state need grant and other state student financial aid programs, and in most cases could only be properly implemented at the institutional levels; therefore, state student financial aid programs shall be concerned with the attainment of those goals which, in the judgment of the board, are the reasons for the existence of a student financial aid program, and not solely with administration of the program on an individual basis.
- (5) The "package" approach of combining loans, grants and employment for student financial aid shall be the conceptual element of the state's involvement.
- (6) The board shall ensure that allocations of state appropriations for financial aid are made to individuals and institutions in a timely manner and shall closely monitor expenditures to avoid under or overexpenditure of appropriated funds.

[2004 c 275 § 36; 1999 c 345 § 3; 1995 c 269 § 801; 1969 ex.s. c 222 § 10. Formerly RCW [28B.10.804](#), [28.76.450](#).]

Notes:

Part headings not law -- 2004 c 275: See note following RCW [28B.76.030](#).

Effective date -- 1995 c 269: See note following RCW [9.94A.850](#).

Part headings not law -- Severability -- 1995 c 269: See notes following RCW [13.40.005](#).

28B.92.050

Powers and duties of board.

The board shall have the following powers and duties:

- (1) Conduct a full analysis of student financial aid as a means of:
 - (a) Fulfilling educational aspirations of students of the state of Washington, and
 - (b) Improving the general, social, cultural, and economic character of the state.

Such an analysis will be a continuous one and will yield current information relevant to needed improvements in the state program of student financial aid. The board will disseminate the information yielded by their analyses to all appropriate individuals and agents.

(2) Design a state program of student financial aid based on the data of the study referred to in this section. The state programs will supplement available federal and local aid programs. The state programs of student financial aid will not exceed the difference between the budgetary costs of attending an institution of higher education and the student's total resources, including family support, personal savings, employment, and federal, state, and local aid programs.

(3) Determine and establish criteria for financial need of the individual applicant based upon the consideration of that particular applicant. In making this determination the board shall consider the following:

- (a) Assets and income of the student.
- (b) Assets and income of the parents, or the individuals legally responsible for the care and maintenance of the student.
- (c) The cost of attending the institution the student is attending or planning to attend.
- (d) Any other criteria deemed relevant to the board.

(4) Set the amount of financial aid to be awarded to any individual needy or disadvantaged student in any school year.

(5) Award financial aid to needy or disadvantaged students for a school year based upon only that amount necessary to fill the financial gap between the budgetary cost of attending an institution of higher education and the family and student contribution.

(6) Review the need and eligibility of all applications on an annual basis and adjust financial aid to reflect changes in the financial need of the recipients and the cost of attending the institution of higher education.

[1999 c 345 § 4; 1989 c 254 § 3; 1969 ex.s. c 222 § 11. Formerly RCW [28B.10.806](#), [28.76.460](#).]

Notes:

Intent -- 1989 c 254: See note following RCW [28B.92.030](#).

28B.92.060

State need grant awards.

In awarding need grants, the board shall proceed substantially as follows: PROVIDED, That nothing contained herein shall be construed to prevent the board, in the exercise of its sound discretion, from following another procedure when the best interest of the program so dictates:

(1) The board shall annually select the financial aid award recipients from among Washington residents applying for student financial aid who have been ranked according to:

- (a) Financial need as determined by the amount of the family contribution; and
- (b) Other considerations, such as whether the student is a former foster youth, or is a placebound student who has completed an associate of arts or associate of science degree or its equivalent.

(2) The financial need of the highest ranked students shall be met by grants depending upon the evaluation of financial need until the total allocation has been disbursed. Funds from grants which are declined, forfeited or otherwise unused shall be reawarded until disbursed, except that eligible former foster youth shall be assured receipt of a grant.

(3) A student shall be eligible to receive a state need grant for up to five years, or the credit or clock hour equivalent of five years, or up to one hundred twenty-five percent of the published length of time of the student's program. A student may not start a new associate degree program as a state need grant recipient until at least five years have elapsed since earning an associate degree as a need grant recipient, except that a student may earn two associate degrees concurrently. Qualifications for renewal will include maintaining satisfactory academic progress toward completion of an eligible program as determined by the board. Should the recipient terminate his or her enrollment for any reason during the academic year, the unused portion of the grant shall be returned to the state educational grant fund by the institution according to the institution's own policy for issuing refunds, except as provided in RCW [28B.92.070](#).

(4) In computing financial need, the board shall determine a maximum student expense budget allowance, not to exceed an amount equal to the total maximum student expense budget at the public institutions plus the current average state appropriation per student for operating expense in the public institutions. Any child support payments received by students who are parents attending less than half-time shall not be used in computing financial need.

(5)(a) A student who is enrolled in three to six credit-bearing quarter credits, or the equivalent semester credits, may receive a grant for up to one academic year before beginning a program that leads to a degree or certificate.

(b) An eligible student enrolled on a less-than-full-time basis shall receive a prorated portion of his or her state need grant for any academic period in which he or she is enrolled on a less-than-full-time basis, as long as funds are available.

(c) An institution of higher education may award a state need grant to an eligible student enrolled in three to six credit-bearing quarter credits, or the semester equivalent, on a provisional basis if:

(i) The student has not previously received a state need grant from that institution;

(ii) The student completes the required free application for federal student aid;

(iii) The institution has reviewed the student's financial condition, and the financial condition of the student's family if the student is a dependent student, and has determined that the student is likely eligible for a state need grant; and

(iv) The student has signed a document attesting to the fact that the financial information provided on the free application for federal student aid and any additional financial information provided directly to the institution is accurate and complete, and that the student agrees to repay the institution for the grant amount if the student submitted false or incomplete information.

(6) As used in this section, "former foster youth" means a person who is at least eighteen years of age, but not more than twenty-four years of age, who was a dependent of the department of social and health services at the time he or she attained the age of eighteen.

[2009 c 215 § 4; 2007 c 404 § 2; 2005 c 93 § 3; 2004 c 275 § 37; 1999 c 345 § 5; 1991 c 164 § 4; 1989 c 254 § 4; 1969 ex.s. c 222 § 12. Formerly RCW [28B.10.808](#), [28.76.470](#).]

Notes:

Findings -- Intent -- Effective date -- 2009 c 215: See notes following RCW [28B.92.030](#).

Findings--Intent -- 2005 c 93: See note following RCW [74.13.570](#).

Part headings not law -- 2004 c 275: See note following RCW [28B.76.030](#).

Intent -- 1989 c 254: See note following RCW [28B.92.030](#).

28B.92.070

Persian Gulf veterans — Limited application of RCW 28B.92.060.

Under rules adopted by the board, the provisions of RCW [28B.92.060](#)(3) shall not apply to eligible students, as defined in RCW [28B.10.017](#), and eligible students shall not be required to repay the unused portions of grants received under the state student financial aid program.

[2004 c 275 § 38; 1991 c 164 § 3. Formerly RCW [28B.10.8081](#).]

Notes:

Part headings not law -- 2004 c 275: See note following RCW [28B.76.030](#).

28B.92.080

Eligibility for state need grant.

Except for opportunity internship graduates whose eligibility is provided under RCW [28B.92.084](#), for a student to be eligible for a state need grant a student must:

- (1) Be a "needy student" or "disadvantaged student" as determined by the board in accordance with *RCW [28B.92.030](#) (3) and (4);
- (2) Have been domiciled within the state of Washington for at least one year;
- (3) Be enrolled or accepted for enrollment on at least a half-time basis at an institution of higher education in Washington as defined in **RCW [28B.92.030](#)(1);
- (4) Until June 30, 2011, to the extent funds are specifically appropriated for this purpose, and subject to any terms and conditions specified in the omnibus appropriations act, be enrolled or accepted for enrollment for at least three quarter credits or the equivalent semester credits at an institution of higher education in Washington as defined in **RCW [28B.92.030](#)(1); and
- (5) Have complied with all the rules adopted by the board for the administration of this chapter.

[2009 c 238 § 9; 2007 c 404 § 1; 2004 c 275 § 39; 1999 c 345 § 6; 1989 c 254 § 5; 1969 ex.s. c 222 § 13. Formerly RCW [28B.10.810](#), [28.76.475](#).]

Notes:

Reviser's note: *(1) Due to the alphabetization of RCW [28B.92.030](#) pursuant to RCW [1.08.015](#)(2)(k), subsections (3) and (4) were changed to subsections (5) and (2) respectively.

** (2) Due to the alphabetization of RCW [28B.92.030](#) pursuant to RCW [1.08.015](#)(2)(k), subsection (1) was changed to subsection (4).

Findings -- Intent -- 2009 c 238: See note following RCW [28C.18.160](#).

Part headings not law -- 2004 c 275: See note following RCW [28B.76.030](#).

Intent -- 1989 c 254: See note following RCW [28B.92.030](#).

28B.92.085

Part-time students — Review of financial aid policies and procedures.

Institutions of higher education are encouraged to review their policies and procedures regarding financial aid for students taking a less-than-half-time course load, and to implement policies and procedures providing students taking a less-than-half-time course load with the same access to institutional aid, including tuition waivers, as provided to students enrolled half time or more.

[2007 c 404 § 3.]

28B.92.090

Aid granted without regard to applicant's race, creed, color, religion, sex, or ancestry.

All student financial aid shall be granted by the commission without regard to the applicant's race, creed, color, religion, sex, or ancestry.

[1969 ex.s. c 222 § 14. Formerly RCW [28B.10.812](#), [28.76.480](#).]

28B.92.100

Theology student denied aid.

No aid shall be awarded to any student who is pursuing a degree in theology.

[1969 ex.s. c 222 § 15. Formerly RCW 28B.10.814, 28.76.490.]

28B.92.110

Application of award.

A state financial aid recipient under this chapter shall apply the award toward the cost of tuition, room, board, books, and fees at the institution of higher education attended. An opportunity internship graduate who enters an apprenticeship program may use the award for the costs of related and supplemental instruction provided through an institution of higher education, tools, and other costs associated with the apprenticeship program.

[2009 c 238 § 10; 2004 c 275 § 40; 1969 ex.s. c 222 § 16. Formerly RCW [28B.10.816](#), [28.76.500](#).]

Notes:

Findings -- Intent -- 2009 c 238: See note following RCW [28C.18.160](#).

Part headings not law -- 2004 c 275: See note following RCW [28B.76.030](#).

28B.92.120

Board to determine how funds disbursed.

Funds appropriated for student financial assistance to be granted pursuant to this chapter shall be disbursed as determined by the board.

[2004 c 275 § 41; 1969 ex.s. c 222 § 17. Formerly RCW [28B.10.818](#), [28.76.510](#).]

Notes:

Part headings not law -- 2004 c 275: See note following RCW [28B.76.030](#).

28B.92.130

Grants, gifts, bequests and devises of property.

The board shall be authorized to accept grants, gifts, bequests, and devises of real and personal property from any source for the purpose of granting financial aid in addition to that funded by the state.

[2004 c 275 § 42; 1969 ex.s. c 222 § 18. Formerly RCW [28B.10.820](#), [28.76.520](#).]

Notes:

Part headings not law -- 2004 c 275: See note following RCW [28B.76.030](#).

28B.92.140

State educational trust fund — Deposits — Expenditures.

The state educational trust fund is hereby established in the state treasury. The primary purpose of the trust is to pledge statewide available college student assistance to needy or disadvantaged students, especially middle and high school youth, considered at-risk of dropping out of secondary education who participate in board-approved early awareness and outreach programs and who enter any accredited Washington institution of postsecondary education within two years of high school graduation.

The board shall deposit refunds and recoveries of student financial aid funds expended in prior fiscal periods in such account. The board may also deposit moneys that have been contributed from other state, federal, or private sources.

Expenditures from the fund shall be for financial aid to needy or disadvantaged students. The board may annually expend such sums from the fund as may be necessary to fulfill the purposes of this section, including not more than three percent for the costs to administer aid programs supported by the fund. All earnings of investments of balances in the state educational trust fund shall be credited to the trust fund. Expenditures from the fund shall not be subject to appropriation but are subject to allotment procedures under chapter [43.88](#) RCW.

[1997 c 269 § 1; 1996 c 107 § 1; 1991 sp.s. c 13 § 12; 1985 c 57 § 10; 1981 c 55 § 1. Formerly RCW [28B.10.821](#).]

Notes:

Effective dates -- Severability -- 1991 sp.s. c 13: See notes following RCW [18.08.240](#).

Effective date -- 1985 c 57: See note following RCW [18.04.105](#).

28B.92.150

Board rules.

The board shall adopt rules as may be necessary or appropriate for effecting the provisions of this chapter, in accordance with the provisions of chapter [34.05](#) RCW, the administrative procedure act.

[2004 c 275 § 43; 1999 c 345 § 7; 1973 c 62 § 4; 1969 ex.s. c 222 § 19. Formerly RCW [28B.10.822](#), [28.76.530](#).]

Notes:

Part headings not law -- 2004 c 275: See note following RCW [28B.76.030](#).

Savings -- Severability -- 1973 c 62: See notes following RCW [28B.10.510](#).

Chapter 250-20 WAC

State student financial aid program — need grant and the federal program for state student incentive grant program title 45, code of federal regulations chapter 1, part 192

WAC Sections

250-20-001 Applicability of rules.

250-20-011 Student eligibility.

250-20-013 Institutional eligibility.

250-20-015 Application and agreement to participate.

250-20-021 Program definitions.

250-20-031 Student application procedure.

250-20-037 Reserve of funds.

250-20-041 Award procedure.

250-20-051 Grants disbursement and repayment.

250-20-061 Program administration and audits.

250-20-071 Appeal process.

250-20-081 Suspension or termination of institutional participation.

250-20-091 Eligibility of reciprocity students.

250-20-001

Applicability of rules.

Unless specified, the term "state need grant" applies to both the state need grant program and the federal leveraging educational assistance partnership program. Institutions participating in the state need grant program must comply with the regulations specified in chapter [250-20](#) WAC and conform to all requirements of the leveraging educational assistance partnership program as specified in 34 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 692.

[Statutory Authority: 2813.80 [Chapter [28B.80](#) RCW]. 99-16-015, § 250-20-001, filed 7/23/99, effective 8/23/99. Statutory Authority: RCW [28B.10.800](#) - [[28B.10.822](#). 90-04-067, § 250-20-001, filed 2/5/90, effective 7/1/90. Statutory Authority: RCW [28B.10.806](#). 81-13-038 (Order 2/81, Resolution No. 81-67), § 250-20-001, filed 6/16/81; 79-11-031 (Order 11-79, Resolution No. 80-18), § 250-20-001, filed 10/11/79.]

250-20-011

Student eligibility.

For a student to be eligible for a state need grant he or she must:

- (1) Be a "needy student" as determined by the higher education coordinating board in accordance with RCW [28B.10.802](#). These students must also meet the "income cutoff," be a "former foster youth" or be a "disadvantaged student."
- (2) Be a resident of the state of Washington in accordance with RCW [28B.15.012](#) (2)(a) through (d).
- (3) Be enrolled or accepted for enrollment as an undergraduate student at a participating postsecondary institution.
 - (a) For purposes of need grant eligibility, the student must be enrolled, at time of disbursement, in a course load of at least six credits per quarter or semester (except as specified in WAC [250-20-021](#) less-than-half-time pilot project).
 - (b) A student enrolled less than half time may not receive this grant for the term in question (except as specified in WAC [250-20-021](#) less-than-half-time pilot project), but is eligible for reinstatement or reapplication for a grant upon return to at least a half-time status. Correspondence courses may not comprise more than one-half of the student's minimum credit load for which aid is being considered.
 - (c) Have a high school diploma or its equivalent. Equivalent standards include a general education development certificate or a certificate of completion of a home study program recognized by the student's home state. For a student without a high school diploma or its equivalent, a school may accept a recognized ability-to-benefit test as defined by federal financial aid regulations.
- (4) Maintain satisfactory progress as defined in WAC [250-20-021](#)(19).
- (5) Not be pursuing a degree in theology.
- (6) Not have received a state need grant for more than the equivalent of ten full-time semesters or fifteen full-time quarters or equivalent combination of these two, nor exceed one hundred twenty-five percent of the published length of time of the student's program. A student may not start a new associate degree or certificate program as a state need grant recipient until at least five years have elapsed since earning an associate degree as a need grant recipient, except that a student may earn two associate degrees concurrently. A student shall be deemed to have received an associate degree as a state need grant recipient if the student received state need grant payments in more than three quarters, two semesters, or equivalent clock hours while pursuing an associate degree. Upon receipt of a bachelor's degree or its foreign equivalent, a student is no longer eligible.
- (7) Have submitted the Free Application for Federal Student Aid to receive consideration for a Pell grant (except as specified in WAC [250-20-021](#) less-than-half-time pilot project).
- (8) Certify that he or she does not owe a refund or repayment on a state or federal grant, and is not in default on a loan made, insured, or guaranteed under the Federal Family Education Loan Program, the Federal Perkins Loan

Program, or the Federal Direct Student Loan Program.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter [28B.92](#) RCW. 08-15-156, § 250-20-011, filed 7/22/08, effective 8/22/08. Statutory Authority: Chapter [28B.80](#) RCW. 06-17-046, § 250-20-011, filed 8/8/06, effective 9/8/06; 99-16-015, § 250-20-011, filed 7/23/99, effective 8/23/99; 95-17-045, § 250-20-011, filed 8/11/95, effective 9/11/95; 95-10-007, § 250-20-011, filed 4/24/95, effective 5/25/95; 93-08-010, § 250-20-011, filed 3/25/93, effective 4/25/93. Statutory Authority: RCW [28B.10.800](#) - [\[28B.10.1822\]](#). 90-04-067, § 250-20-011, filed 2/5/90, effective 7/1/90. Statutory Authority: RCW [28B.10.806](#). 87-16-046 (Order 2/87, Resolution No. 87-59), § 250-20-011, filed 7/29/87. Statutory Authority: RCW [28B.10.822](#). 82-15-058 (Order 9-82, Resolution No. 82-52), § 250-20-011, filed 7/20/82. Statutory Authority: RCW [28B.10.806](#). 80-12-028 (Order 5-80, Resolution No. 82-4), § 250-20-011, filed 8/28/80; 80-05-025 (Order 3-80, Resolution No. 80-56), § 250-20-011, filed 4/14/80; 79-11-031 (Order 11-79, Resolution No. 80-18), § 250-20-011, filed 10/11/79; 79-07-021 (Order 5-79, Resolution No. 79-33), § 250-20-011, filed 6/15/79; Order 2-77, § 250-20-011, filed 4/13/77; Order 3-75, § 250-20-011, filed 4/25/75; Order 1-75, § 250-20-011, filed 3/7/75; Order 1-74, § 250-20-011, filed 4/9/74; Order 1-73, § 250-20-011, filed 7/2/73.]

250-20-013

Institutional eligibility.

(1) For an otherwise eligible student to receive a state need grant, the student must be enrolled in an eligible program at a postsecondary institution approved by the higher education coordinating board for participation in the state need grant program. To be eligible to participate, a postsecondary institution must:

(a) Be a postsecondary institution as defined in WAC [250-20-021\(3\)](#).

(b) Participate in the federal Title IV student financial aid programs, including, at a minimum, the Federal Pell Grant program.

(2) In addition, a proprietary institution must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the board:

(a) That it is certified for participation in the federal Title IV student financial aid programs. Institutions which have been limited or suspended from Title IV programs are not eligible to participate in the state need grant program. A proprietary institution that is provisionally certified due to its failure to meet standards of administrative capability or financial responsibility may have its eligibility limited or denied. Institutions will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and may be allowed to participate in a probationary status with conditions including a letter of credit, or other limitations.

(b) That it is capable of properly administering the state need grant program. In making this determination, the board will consider such factors as the institution's:

(i) Adequacy of staffing levels.

(ii) Staff training and experience in administering student financial aid programs and turnover in key personnel.

(iii) Compliance with the standards of administrative capability specified for purposes of federal Title IV program eligibility.

(iv) Pending legal regulatory issues.

(v) Written student complaints.

(vi) Compliance with state aid program regulations and guidelines.

(vii) Ability to maintain electronic systems to support state aid program tracking, payment requests and reporting obligations.

(c) That it is maintaining acceptable performance levels. In making this determination the board will consider such factors as the institution's:

(i) Student completion rate.

(ii) Student placement rate.

(iii) Student loan cohort default rate.

In evaluating completion and placement standards, the board will rely on the standards of the institution's accrediting agency or the standard established between the board and the institution at the time the participation agreement is signed. Multiple year averages will be considered in evaluating these standards. Each participating institution will submit its annual accreditation report to the board.

(d) That it is financially stable and has adequate financial resources to provide the services described in its official publications and statements. Institutions must meet the administrative and financial standards for participation in the federal Title IV programs. In making this determination, the board will consider such factors as:

(i) The school's annual financial statements. The board will not retain copies of confidential financial statements that cannot be exempted from the Public Disclosure Act, chapter [42.56 RCW](#).

(ii) The Department of Education's composite financial score.

(iii) Federal program review findings.

(iv) State reauthorization or relicensing reports.

(v) Accrediting agency show cause or other findings.

(vi) Enrollments by program and intent to terminate an existing program.

(vii) Enrollment trends.

(e) If evaluation of an institution's administrative capability, performance level, or financial strength results in concerns about the institution's participation in the state aid programs, the board may:

(i) Request additional information as well as give the school the opportunity to provide additional clarifying information.

(ii) Place an institution in a probationary status and specify the corrective actions which need to occur.

(iii) Require a letter of credit or bond.

(iv) Limit, suspend, or terminate an institution's participation in accordance with WAC [250-20-081](#).

(3) "Probation" indicates the board has determined that the school has one or more significant deficiencies for which corrective action is required within a specified time period.

(4) The school must renew its eligibility each year under these standards or as requested by the board. A school that has lost eligibility to participate must complete a new application for reconsideration.

(5) Nothing in this section shall prevent the board, in the exercise of its sound discretion, from denying eligibility or terminating the participation of an institution which the board determines is unable to properly administer the program or provide advertised services to its students.

(6) If an institution disagrees with actions taken by the board, the institution can appeal the action per the procedure outlined in WAC [250-20-081](#).

[Statutory Authority: Chapter [28B.92 RCW](#). 08-15-156, § 250-20-013, filed 7/22/08, effective 8/22/08; 07-15-038, § 250-20-013, filed 7/12/07, effective 8/12/07. Statutory Authority: Chapter [28B.80 RCW](#). 06-17-046, § 250-20-013, filed 8/8/06, effective 9/8/06; 95-17-045, § 250-20-013, filed 8/11/95, effective 9/11/95.]

250-20-015

Application and agreement to participate.

A postsecondary institution which wishes to participate in the state need grant program must apply and be approved each year. As a part of the application process, the institution must provide all requested information, in the format specified by the board. Such information will include, but may not be limited to, the following: Name and address of school (including central office and all campus sites), name and address of owner(s), or if a corporation the name and addresses of stockholders holding more than twenty-five percent of the stock and percentage of stock held, the date on which the school officially began instruction if in the last five years, type and date of last accreditation, enrollment information (unless reported to the state of Washington or in the integrated postsecondary education data system), evidence of certification and participation in the Federal Pell Grant program and any other information upon request of the board as needed to determine the institution's eligibility. The institutions must also submit each year, for approval, a copy of its refund/repayment policy, student budgets, gift equity packaging policy and its satisfactory progress policy for state need grant recipients and such other information as may be required to assure proper administration of the program and financial stability. In addition the "agreement to participate" will also indicate the institution's agreement to abide by all program rules, regulations, and guidelines, to maintain and provide all pertinent information, records, and reports requested by the board, and to notify the board within thirty days of any change to information reported on the agreement form.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter [28B.92](#) RCW. 08-15-156, § 250-20-015, filed 7/22/08, effective 8/22/08. Statutory Authority: Chapter [28B.80](#) RCW. 95-17-045, § 250-20-015, filed 8/11/95, effective 9/11/95; 93-08-010, § 250-20-015, filed 3/25/93, effective 4/25/93. Statutory Authority: RCW [28B.10.800](#) - [\[28B.10.1822\]](#). 90-04-067, § 250-20-015, filed 2/5/90, effective 7/1/90. Statutory Authority: RCW [28B.10.806](#). 87-16-046 (Order 2/87, Resolution No. 87-59), § 250-20-015, filed 7/29/87; 79-11-031 (Order 11-79, Resolution No. 80-18), § 250-20-015, filed 10/11/79.]

250-20-021

Program definitions.

(1) The term "needy student" shall mean a post-high school student of an institution of postsecondary education who demonstrates to the higher education coordinating board the financial inability, either parental, familial, or personal, to bear the total cost of education for any semester or quarter. The determination of need shall be made in accordance with federal needs analysis formulas and provisions as recognized and modified by the board.

(2) The term "disadvantaged student" shall mean a student who by reasons of adverse cultural, educational, environmental, experiential, or familial circumstance is unlikely to aspire to, or enroll in, higher education. Generally, this shall mean a dependent student whose parents have not attained a college education and/or whose family income is substantially below the state's median or has participated in a means tested early awareness program designed to qualify him or her for enrollment as a full-time student at a postsecondary institution in the state of Washington.

(3) The term "postsecondary institution" shall mean:

(a) Any public university, college, community college, or vocational-technical institute operated by the state of Washington political subdivision thereof, or any other university, college, school or institute in the state of Washington offering instruction beyond the high school level which is a member institution of an approved accrediting association.

(b) If such institution agrees to participate in the program in accordance with all applicable rules and regulations.

(c) Any institution, branch, extension or facility operating within the state of Washington which is affiliated with an institution operating in another state must be a separately accredited member institution of an approved accrediting association.

(d) The separate accreditation requirement is waived for branch campuses of out-of-state institutions if the branch campus:

(i) Is eligible to participate in federal student aid programs; and

(ii) Has operated as a nonprofit college or university delivering on-site classroom instruction for a minimum of

twenty consecutive years within the state of Washington; and

(iii) Has an annual enrollment of at least seven hundred full-time equivalent students.

(4) The term "approved accrediting association" shall mean the following organizations:

(a) Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities;

(b) Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Higher Education;

(c) New England Association of Schools and Colleges;

(d) North Central Association of Colleges and Schools;

(e) Southern Association of Colleges and Schools;

(f) Western Association of Schools and Colleges;

(g) Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools;

(h) Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training;

(i) Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges of Technology;

(j) Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools;

(k) National Accrediting Commission of Cosmetology Arts and Sciences.

(5) "Washington resident" shall be defined as an individual who satisfies the requirements of RCW [28B.15.012](#) (2)(a) through (d) and board-adopted rules and regulations pertaining to the determination of residency.

(6) "Dependent student" shall mean any post-high school student who does not qualify as an independent student in accordance with WAC [250-20-021](#)(7).

(7) "Independent student" shall mean any student who qualifies as an independent student for the receipt of federal aid. These qualifications include a student who has either:

(a) Reached his or her twenty-fourth birthday before January 1st of the aid year; or

(b) Is a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces; or

(c) Is an orphan or ward of the court; or

(d) Has legal dependents other than a spouse; or

(e) Is a married student or a graduate/professional student; or

(f) Is determined to be independent for the receipt of federal aid on the basis of the professional judgment of the aid administrator.

(8) Definitions of "undergraduate students" will be in accord with definitions adopted for institutional use by the board.

(9) "Student budgets" are determined by institutions and approved by the board. The student budget consists of that amount required to support an individual as a student for nine months and may take into consideration cost factors for maintaining the student's dependents. This should be the amount used to calculate the student's total need for all state and federal funds.

(10) "State need grant cost-of-attendance" is the standard student cost per sector, as developed by the board.

(a) The costs-of-attendance for each sector are calculated by adding together a standard maintenance allowance for books, room, board, transportation and personal items, for all undergraduate students statewide as developed by the Washington Financial Aid Association, and the sector's regular tuition and fees for full-time, resident, undergraduate students.

(b) In no case may the costs-of-attendance exceed the statutory ceiling established by RCW [28B.92.060\(4\)](#). The ceiling is calculated by adding together the same standard maintenance allowance used in determining the state need grant cost-of-attendance, plus the regular tuition and fees charged for a full-time resident undergraduate student at a research university, plus the current average state appropriation per student for operating expenses in all public institutions.

(c) For example, in the 1992-93 academic year, the value of the statutory ceiling is \$13,783. This value is composed of the Washington Financial Aid Association's maintenance budget of \$6,964, plus the regular tuition and fees charged for a resident undergraduate student at a research university of \$2,274, plus the current average state appropriation per student for operating expenses in all public institutions of \$4,545.

(d) The value of each element used in the construction of the statutory ceiling will be updated annually.

(e) The higher education coordinating board will consult with appropriate advisory committees and the representative association of student financial aid administrators, to annually review and adjust the costs-of-attendance. The costs-of-attendance for each sector will be published concurrent with annual guidelines for program administration.

(11) "Family income" is the student's family income for the calendar year prior to the academic year for which aid is being requested.

(a) Income means adjusted gross income and nontaxable income as reported on the federally prescribed application for federal student aid.

(b) For the dependent student family income means parental income.

(c) For the independent student family income means the income of the student and any other adult, if any, reported as part of the student's family.

(d) The institutional aid administrator may adjust the family's income up or down to more accurately reflect the family's financial situation during the academic year. When such adjustments are made they shall be consistent with guidelines for making changes to determine federal student aid eligibility.

(12) "Income cutoff" means the amount of family income below which a student is determined to be eligible for the state need grant.

(a) The cutoff shall be expressed as a percent of the state's median family income. The exact point of cutoff shall be determined each year by the board based on available funding.

(b) The board will endeavor to award students, in order, from the lowest income to the highest income, within the limits of available funding.

(c) At the discretion of the institution's aid administrator, a student who is eligible for a state need grant in a given academic year may be deemed eligible for the ensuing academic year if his or her family income increases by no more than three percent, even if the stated median family income cutoff for grant eligibility is lower than that amount.

(13) "Median family income" is the median income for Washington state, adjusted by family size and reported annually in the federal register.

(14) "Base grant" is the state need grant award for each sector before the addition of a dependent care allowance. The base grant per student will be no less than the published base grant in 1998-1999. The base grant may be further

adjusted according to the student's family income level and rate of enrollment as described in WAC [250-20-041](#).

For certain students who have completed board-approved early awareness and preparation programs such as, GEAR-UP or a Trio program, the base grant will be an amount fixed annually by the board. Generally the base grant, in these cases, will be no less than the current value of the federal PELL grant program.

(15) "Dependent care allowance" is a flat grant amount, to be determined by the board, which is in addition to the eligible student's base grant.

(a) The allowance is awarded to those students who have dependents in need of care. The dependent must be someone (other than a spouse) living with the student.

(b) Care must be that assistance provided to the dependent by someone outside of the student's household and not paid by another agency.

(c) Eligible grant recipients must document their need for the dependent care allowance.

(16) "State need grant award" is the base grant adjusted according to level of family income, plus a dependent care allowance, if applicable.

(17) "Academic year" is that period of time between July 1 and the following June 30 during which a full-time student would normally be expected to complete the equivalent of two semesters or three quarters of instruction.

(18) "Clock hours" means a period of time which is the equivalent of either:

(a) A 50 to 60 minute class, lecture, or recitation; or

(b) A 50 to 60 minute period of faculty-supervised laboratory shop training or internship.

(19) "Gift equity packaging policy" is the institution's policy for assigning gift aid to all needy, eligible students.

(20) "Satisfactory progress" is the student's successful completion of a minimum number of credit or clock hours for each term in which the grant was received. Each school's policy for measuring progress of state need grant recipients must define satisfactory as the student's completion of the minimum number of credit or clock hours for which the aid was disbursed.

(a) The minimum satisfactory progress standard for full-time students is twelve credits per term or 300 clock hours per term. Satisfactory progress for three-quarter time students is nine credits per term or 225 clock hours per term. Satisfactory progress for half-time students is six credits per term or 150 clock hours per term.

(b) Each school's policy must deny further disbursements of the need grant at the conclusion of any term in which he or she fails to complete at least one-half of the minimum number of credits or clock hours for which the aid was disbursed or otherwise fails to fulfill the conditions of the institution's satisfactory progress policy.

(c) The school may make disbursements to a student who is in a probationary status. "Probation" is defined as completion of at least one-half, but less than all of the minimum number of credits for which the aid was calculated and disbursed. The school must have a probation policy, approved by the board, which limits the number of terms in which a student may receive the need grant while in a probationary status.

(d) The school's aid administrator may at any time, using professional judgment exercised on a case-by-case basis, reinstate a student back into a satisfactory progress status, in response to an individual student's extenuating circumstances.

(21) The term "full institutional accreditation" shall mean the status of public recognition that an accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education grants to an educational institution that meets the agency's established standards and requirements. Institutional accreditation applies to the entire institution, indicating that each of an institution's parts is contributing to the achievement of the institution's objectives.

(22) The term "eligible program" for a public or private nonprofit educational institution, shall mean a certificate, associate or baccalaureate degree program; at least a two-year program that is acceptable for full credit toward a bachelor's degree, or a program that provides at least a 15-week undergraduate program of 600 clock hours, 16 semester hours, or 24 quarter hours that leads to a degree or certificate and prepares the student for gainful employment in a recognized occupation. To be an "eligible program," a program must be encompassed within the institution's accreditation and be an eligible program for purposes of the federal Title IV student financial aid programs.

(23) The three "public sectors of higher education" are the research universities, comprehensive universities, and the community and technical colleges.

(24) A "for-profit institution" is a postsecondary educational institution other than a public or private nonprofit institution which provides training for gainful employment in a recognized profession.

(25) A "postsecondary vocational institution" is a public or private nonprofit institution which provides training for gainful employment in a recognized profession.

(26) The "less-than-half-time pilot project" is defined as follows:

(a) The pilot project is authorized for 2007-2011 in chapter 404, Laws of 2007 and is meant to test the feasibility of providing state need grant awards to students who enroll in three, four or five credits.

(b) All rules and guidelines that govern student and school participation in the state need grant program shall apply to pilot project except the following:

(i) The student may enroll for three, four or five credits per term.

(ii) The grant award is equal to one-quarter of the regular base grant amount.

(iii) Students otherwise enrolled in credit bearing coursework may receive the grant for up to one academic year before being accepted into a program that leads to a degree or certificate.

(27) The term "former foster youth" means a person who is at least eighteen years of age, but no more than twenty-four years of age, who was a dependent of the department of social and health services at the time he or she attained the age of eighteen.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter [28B.92](#) RCW. 08-15-156, § 250-20-021, filed 7/22/08, effective 8/22/08. Statutory Authority: Chapter [28B.80](#) RCW. 06-17-046, § 250-20-021, filed 8/8/06, effective 9/8/06. Statutory Authority: Chapter [28B.80](#) RCW and RCW [28B.10.822](#). 02-24-041, § 250-20-021, filed 12/2/02, effective 1/2/03. Statutory Authority: 2813.80 [Chapter [28B.80](#) RCW]. 99-16-015, § 250-20-021, filed 7/23/99, effective 8/23/99. Statutory Authority: Chapter [28B.80](#) RCW. 96-18-024, § 250-20-021, filed 8/27/96, effective 9/27/96; 96-04-019, § 250-20-021, filed 1/30/96, effective 3/1/96; 95-17-045, § 250-20-021, filed 8/11/95, effective 9/11/95; 95-10-007, § 250-20-021, filed 4/24/95, effective 5/25/95; 93-08-010, § 250-20-021, filed 3/25/93, effective 4/25/93. Statutory Authority: RCW [28B.10.800](#) through [28B.10.822](#). 92-11-022, § 250-20-021, filed 5/13/92, effective 6/13/92; 90-04-067, § 250-20-021, filed 2/5/90, effective 7/1/90. Statutory Authority: RCW [28B.10.806](#). 88-10-001 (Order 2/88, Resolution No. 88-11), § 250-20-021, filed 4/21/88; 87-16-046 (Order 2/87, Resolution No. 87-59), § 250-20-021, filed 7/29/87; 86-12-077 (Order 5/86), § 250-20-021, filed 6/4/86. Statutory Authority: RCW [28B.10.822](#). 82-15-058 (Order 9-82, Resolution No. 82-52), § 250-20-021, filed 7/20/82. Statutory Authority: RCW [28B.10.806](#). 81-13-038 (Order 2/81, Resolution No. 81-67), § 250-20-021, filed 6/16/81; 80-05-025 (Order 3-80, Resolution No. 80-56), § 250-20-021, filed 4/14/80; 79-11-031 (Order 11-79, Resolution No. 80-18), § 250-20-021, filed 10/11/79; 79-07-021 (Order 5-79, Resolution No. 79-33), § 250-20-021, filed 6/15/79; 78-05-063 (Order 2-78), § 250-20-021, filed 4/27/78, effective 6/1/78; Order 2-77, § 250-20-021, filed 4/13/77; Order 3-75, § 250-20-021, filed 4/25/75; Order 1-75, § 250-20-021, filed 3/7/75; Order 1-74, § 250-20-021, filed 4/9/74; Order 1-73, § 250-20-021, filed 7/2/73.]

250-20-031

Student application procedure.

- (1) Application for a state grant must be made each year.
- (2) All applications will be ranked anew each year.
- (3) Application for a state need grant is accomplished through a student's application for admission to, and financial aid from, the institution of his or her choice.
- (4) Financial data must be generated in accordance with the method set forth by the higher education coordinating board to assure that information will be consistent on a statewide basis.

The board shall annually specify the student data elements essential for determining state need grant eligibility and shall authorize the forms and processes for collecting and analyzing such data.
- (5) The burden of proof of a grant recipient's eligibility is with the institution. At a minimum:
 - (a) The institution must be able, on request of the board, to reconstruct the calculations and rationale for the student's grant eligibility and award amounts.
 - (b) The financial aid form or comparable financial status documents, with the resulting financial need analysis must be on record in the financial aid office for all grant recipients.
 - (c) The institution must also have on record justification for reawarding a need grant to any student who failed to make satisfactory progress.
- (6) The board shall establish annual criteria by which the eligible student is to be identified, ranked, and awarded. Those criteria shall include the maximum award for each sector and the income cutoff level.
- (7) The institution shall examine the student's aid application to determine overall need and specific state need grant eligibility and the appropriate award, using the board-approved criteria.
- (8) The board will make available to all participating institutions, a list of all students who owe state need grant repayments or have otherwise exhausted their state need grant eligibility. It is the institution's responsibility to ensure that no ineligible student receives a state need grant.
- (9) The financial aid administrator at each institution will be required to sign a statement attesting to the fact that all eligible financial aid applicants within state need grant parameters will be identified and served to the extent funds are available and that financial information will be determined in strict adherence to program guidelines.
- (10) No group of students, such as single parents or part-time students, may be advantaged or disadvantaged in its access to the state need grant by any institutional awarding policy.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter [28B.92](#) RCW. 08-15-156, § 250-20-031, filed 7/22/08, effective 8/22/08. Statutory Authority: 2813.80 [Chapter [28B.80](#) RCW]. 99-16-015, § 250-20-031, filed 7/23/99, effective 8/23/99. Statutory Authority: Chapter [28B.80](#) RCW. 93-08-010, § 250-20-031, filed 3/25/93, effective 4/25/93. Statutory Authority: RCW [28B.10.800](#) - [\[28B.10.1822\]](#). 90-04-067, § 250-20-031, filed 2/5/90, effective 7/1/90. Statutory Authority: RCW [28B.10.806](#). 88-10-001 (Order 2/88, Resolution No. 88-11), § 250-20-031, filed 4/21/88; 87-16-046 (Order 2/87, Resolution No. 87-59), § 250-20-031, filed 7/29/87. Statutory Authority: RCW [28B.10.822](#). 82-15-058 (Order 9-82, Resolution No. 82-52), § 250-20-031, filed 7/20/82; Order 2-77, § 250-20-031, filed 4/13/77; Order 1-76, § 250-20-031, filed 3/11/76; Order 3-75, § 250-20-031, filed 4/25/75; Order 1-75, § 250-20-031, filed 3/7/75; Order 1-74, § 250-20-031, filed 4/9/74; Order 1-73, § 250-20-031, filed 7/2/73.]

250-20-037

Reserve of funds.

(1) The board shall annually reserve funds for the body of students at each institution. The percentage of state need grant funds to be reserved equals the proportion of grant dollars needed to fund the eligible students who are enrolled, as reported on the interim/reconciliation report, at each school compared to the dollars needed to fund all state need grant eligible students enrolled in all participating schools.

(2) The board shall establish methods to reserve state need grant funds for:

- (a) Former foster youth;
- (b) Transfer students; and
- (c) New institutions.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter [28B.92](#) RCW. 08-15-156, § 250-20-037, filed 7/22/08, effective 8/22/08. Statutory Authority: RCW [28B.10.800](#) - [\[28B.10.822\]](#). 90-04-067, § 250-20-037, filed 2/5/90, effective 7/1/90.]

250-20-041

Award procedure.

(1) The institution will offer grants to eligible students from funds reserved by the board. It is the institution's responsibility to ensure that the reserve is not over expended within each academic year.

(2) The state need grant award for an individual student shall be the base grant, appropriate for the sector attended and a dependent care allowance, if applicable, adjusted for the student's family income and rate of enrollment. Each eligible student receiving a grant must receive the maximum grant award for which he or she is eligible, unless such award should exceed the student's overall need or the institution's approved gift equity packaging policy.

(3) The grant amount for students shall be established as follows:

(a) The award shall be based on the representative average tuition, service, and activity fees charged within each public sector of higher education. The average is to be determined annually by the higher education coordinating board. The award for students enrolled in the applied baccalaureate pilot program authorized in RCW [28B.50.810](#) shall be based on the representative tuition and fees used for the comprehensive universities.

(b) Except for the 2003-04 and 2004-05 academic years, the base grant award shall not exceed the actual tuition and fees charged to the eligible student. During the 2003-04 and 2004-05 years the grant award may exceed the tuition charged to the eligible student by fifty dollars.

(c) The base grant award for students attending independent four-year institutions shall be equal to that authorized for students attending the public four-year research institutions. The base grant for students attending private vocational institutions shall be equal to that authorized for students attending the public community and technical colleges.

(4) The total state need grant award shall be reduced for students with family incomes greater than fifty percent of the state's median and for less than full-time enrollment.

(a) Students whose incomes are equal to fifty-one percent to seventy-five percent of the state's median family income shall receive seventy-five percent of the maximum award. Students whose incomes are equal to seventy-six percent to one hundred percent of the state's median family income shall receive fifty percent of the maximum award. Students whose incomes are equal to one hundred one percent to one hundred twenty-five percent of the state's median family income shall receive twenty-five percent of the maximum award.

(b) Eligible students shall receive a prorated portion of their state need grant for any academic period in which they are enrolled at least half-time, as long as funds are available. Students enrolled at a three-quarter time rate, at the time of disbursement, will receive seventy-five percent of their grant. Students enrolled half-time at the time of disbursement

will receive fifty percent of their grant.

(5) Depending on the availability of funds, students may receive the need grant for summer session attendance.

(6) The institution will be expected, insofar as possible, to match the state need grant with other funds sufficient to meet the student's need. Matching moneys may consist of student financial aid funds and/or student self-help.

(7) All financial resources available to a state need grant recipient, when combined, may not exceed the amount computed as necessary for the student to attend a postsecondary institution. The student will not be considered over-awarded if he or she receives additional funds after the institution awards aid, and the total resources exceed his or her financial need by \$200 or less by the end of the academic year.

(8) The institution shall ensure that the recipient's need grant award, in combination with grant aid from all sources, not exceed seventy-five percent of the student's cost-of-attendance. In counting self-help sources of aid, the aid administrator shall include all loans, employment, work-study, scholarships, grants not based on need, family contribution, and unmet need.

(9) The institution will notify the student of receipt of the state need grant.

(10) Any student who has received at least one disbursement and chooses to transfer to another participating institution within the same academic year may request that the receiving institution apply to the board for funds to continue receipt of the grant.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter [28B.92](#) RCW. 08-15-156, § 250-20-041, filed 7/22/08, effective 8/22/08; 07-15-038, § 250-20-041, filed 7/12/07, effective 8/12/07. Statutory Authority: Chapter [28B.80](#) RCW and RCW [28B.10.822](#). 04-08-060, § 250-20-041, filed 4/5/04, effective 5/6/04. Statutory Authority: 2813.80 [Chapter [28B.80](#) RCW]. 99-16-015, § 250-20-041, filed 7/23/99, effective 8/23/99. Statutory Authority: Chapter [28B.80](#) RCW. 95-17-045, § 250-20-041, filed 8/11/95, effective 9/11/95; 93-08-010, § 250-20-041, filed 3/25/93, effective 4/25/93. Statutory Authority: RCW [28B.10.800](#) - [\[28B.10.1822\]](#). 90-04-067, § 250-20-041, filed 2/5/90, effective 7/1/90. Statutory Authority: RCW [28B.10.806](#). 87-16-046 (Order 2/87, Resolution No. 87-59), § 250-20-041, filed 7/29/87. Statutory Authority: RCW [28B.10.822](#). 82-15-058 (Order 9-82, Resolution No. 82-52), § 250-20-041, filed 7/20/82. Statutory Authority: RCW [28B.10.806](#). 80-05-025 (Order 3-80, Resolution No. 80-56), § 250-20-041, filed 4/14/80; 79-11-031 (Order 11-79, Resolution No. 80-18), § 250-20-041, filed 10/11/79; 79-07-021 (Order 5-79, Resolution No. 79-33), § 250-20-041, filed 6/15/79; Order 2-77, § 250-20-041, filed 4/13/77; Order 3-75, § 250-20-041, filed 4/25/75; Order 1-75, § 250-20-041, filed 3/7/75; Order 1-74, § 250-20-041, filed 4/9/74; Order 1-73, § 250-20-041, filed 7/2/73.]

250-20-051

Grants disbursement and repayment.

(1) At intervals designated by the executive director, financial aid administrators from participating independent colleges and proprietary institutions will submit the appropriate cash request or reimbursement form to the higher education coordinating board for each state need grant recipient certifying enrollment and grant eligibility.

(a) Upon receipt of the cash request or reimbursement forms, the higher education coordinating board will forward payments to the appropriate institution for each recipient or directly to the school as reimbursement.

(b) At private and proprietary schools, as long as the student remains eligible for the grant, the payment must be given directly to the student without the institution placing any other condition on receipt of the payment. Institutions which participate in the electronic funds transfer reimbursement program, must follow the requirements of the student directives. The student directive is a board-approved document used to direct the schools in the student's choice of payment method, either a direct deposit or school issued warrant.

(c) All signed receipts and student directives for state need grants are to be retained by the institution. They must be made available for inspection upon request of the board. All unclaimed payments must be returned to the board on or before the date specified by the board each term.

(d) A student-by-student reconciliation must be completed by the institution at the end of each term.

(2) All other institutions may request funds as necessary to make disbursements to students.

- (a) Interim progress reports must be filed with the board as requested.
- (b) A student-by-student reconciliation must be filed with the board at the end of each academic year.
- (3) No institution may disburse nor claim more funds than that amount reserved by the board for the body of students at each institution.
- (4) Should a student recipient withdraw prior to or on fifty percent of the term or prior to completing fifty percent of the scheduled clock hours during the term in which he or she received a state need grant, the student shall be required to repay a portion of the grant amount according to the board-approved repayment policy. This policy is separate and distinct from the federal repayment policy and computation. Beginning in 2009-2010 the board-approved repayment policy shall incorporate the following repayment principles.
- (a) The repayment calculation is based on the portion of the term not completed or the percent of scheduled clock hours not completed.
- (b) A fifty percent reduction is applied to the final repayment calculation for relief of irretrievable costs of attendance. This adjustment is only available to students who officially or unofficially withdraw when the last date of attendance is known.
- (c) If the last known date of attendance occurs after fifty percent of the term, the state need grant award is considered one hundred percent earned and no repayment is due.
- (d) If a state need grant recipient attends a portion of a term and withdraws with no verified last date of attendance, the repayment will be fifty percent of the grant amount with no additional adjustments.
- (e) If a state need grant recipient never attends courses in the term for which they received a state need grant award, the repayment is one hundred percent of the grant amount.
- The institution shall advise the student and the board of amounts to be repaid.
- (5) The board reserves the right, if funds are available, to pay to public institutions an administrative expense allowance for the shared responsibility of administering the program on the board's behalf. The allowance shall be calculated annually as a percentage of the need grant funds disbursed by the institution.
- (6) Funds from grants which are declined, forfeited or otherwise unused shall be reawarded until disbursed, except that eligible former foster youth shall be assured receipt of a grant.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter [28B.92](#) RCW. 08-15-156, § 250-20-051, filed 7/22/08, effective 8/22/08. Statutory Authority: Chapter [28B.80](#) RCW. 93-08-010, § 250-20-051, filed 3/25/93, effective 4/25/93. Statutory Authority: RCW [28B.10.800](#) - [\[28B.10.1822](#). 90-04-067, § 250-20-051, filed 2/5/90, effective 7/1/90. Statutory Authority: RCW [28B.10.806](#). 87-16-046 (Order 2/87, Resolution No. 87-59), § 250-20-051, filed 7/29/87; 79-11-031 (Order 11-79, Resolution No. 80-18), § 250-20-051, filed 10/11/79; 79-07-021 (Order 5-79, Resolution No. 79-33), § 250-20-051, filed 6/15/79; Order 2-77, § 250-20-051, filed 4/13/77; Order 3-75, § 250-20-051, filed 4/25/75; Order 1-75, § 250-20-051, filed 3/7/75; Order 1-74, § 250-20-051, filed 4/9/74; Order 1-73, § 250-20-051, filed 7/2/73.]

250-20-061

Program administration and audits.

- (1) The staff of the higher education coordinating board under the direction of the executive director will manage the administrative functions relative to this program.
- (2) The higher education coordinating board will review institutional administrative practices to determine institutional compliance with rules and regulations and program guidelines. If such a review determines that an institution has failed to comply with program rules and regulations or guidelines, the board pursuant to the procedures of WAC [250-20-081](#) may suspend, terminate or place conditions upon the institution's participation in the program and

require reimbursement to the program for any funds lost or improperly expended.

(3) Any student who has obtained a state need grant through means of a willfully false statement or failure to reveal any material fact, condition, or circumstance affecting eligibility will be subject to applicable civil or criminal penalties.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [28B.10.806](#). 87-16-046 (Order 2/87, Resolution No. 87-59), § 250-20-061, filed 7/29/87; 79-11-031 (Order 11-79, Resolution No. 80-18), § 250-20-061, filed 10/11/79; 79-07-021 (Order 5-79, Resolution No. 79-33), § 250-20-061, filed 6/15/79; 79-02-066 (Order 1-79), § 250-20-061, filed 2/5/79; Order 2-77, § 250-20-061, filed 4/13/77; Order 3-75, § 250-20-061, filed 4/25/75, Order 1-75, § 250-20-061, filed 3/7/75; Order 1-74, § 250-20-061, filed 4/9/74; Order 1-73, § 250-20-061, filed 7/2/73.]

250-20-071

Appeal process.

Should a student question his or her state need grant eligibility or award, the following procedures should be followed:

- (1) The student should direct questions and appeals to the financial aid officer at the institution he or she attends.
- (2) If the student is not satisfied with the response of the institution, he or she should assemble all relevant academic, financial, and personal data and forward it to the higher education coordinating board for review.
- (3) The board's division of student financial aid will review all material submitted and, if possible, will resolve the problem, advising the student of his or her eligibility and generating an award or, if the student is not eligible for a state need grant, advising the student of the reason for denial.
- (4) The higher education coordinating board will convene its review committee to consider the situation of any student whose state need grant eligibility is questionable, or upon the request of the student. If the committee finds the student eligible for state need grant receipt, it will advise the financial aid administrator at the institution the student attends and will recommend to the school that the student's state need grant award be processed immediately. If the review committee finds the student not eligible for state need grant receipt, it will advise the student of the reason for denial.
- (5) If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the review committee, the student's final recourse is submission of his or her case to the executive director of the higher education coordinating board.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter [28B.92](#) RCW. 08-15-156, § 250-20-071, filed 7/22/08, effective 8/22/08. Statutory Authority: RCW [28B.10.800](#) - [28B.10.822](#). 90-04-067, § 250-20-071, filed 2/5/90, effective 7/1/90. Statutory Authority: RCW [28B.10.806](#). 87-16-046 (Order 2/87, Resolution No. 87-59), § 250-20-071, filed 7/29/87; Order 2-77, § 250-20-071, filed 4/13/77; Order 3-75, § 250-20-071, filed 4/25/75.]

250-20-081

Suspension or termination of institutional participation.

Upon receipt of a complaint or other evidence that an institution has failed or is failing to comply with program rules and regulations, the board staff shall notify the institution by mail of the nature of such allegations and conduct a review of the alleged violations.

If preliminary findings indicate that a violation or violations may have occurred or are occurring, the board staff shall attempt, through mediation and conciliation, to effect corrections and/or secure reimbursement from the institution in event any funds were expended out of compliance with the provisions of WAC [250-20-061\(2\)](#).

If no agreement is reached through the mediation and conciliation process, the executive director shall file a formal complaint with the board and notify the institution of the conduct which warrants the complaint. Based upon a finding pursuant to RCW [34.04.170](#), the complaint may include an order for a summary suspension pending proceedings for termination, suspension, reimbursement or other action.

The executive director or a designated hearing officer shall conduct a hearing and make findings and conclusions in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, chapter [34.04](#) RCW. The findings, conclusions and any recommendations for action shall be submitted to the board for final action pursuant to RCW [34.04.110](#). The board may accept or reject, in whole or in part, any recommendations made by the hearing officer, may remand for further findings and/or take any other action the board deems appropriate under the circumstances.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [28B.10.806](#). 87-16-046 (Order 2/87, Resolution No. 87-59), § 250-20-081, filed 7/29/87; 79-11-031 (Order 11-79, Resolution No. 80-18), § 250-20-081, filed 10/11/79.]

250-20-091

Eligibility of reciprocity students.

State need grant eligibility of students attending an out-of-state institution under a reciprocity agreement is covered by the following regulations, which are authorized by chapter 13, Laws of 1980.

(1) A student who meets all state need grant eligibility criteria and who has been accepted at an eligible out-of-state institution, as defined in WAC [250-20-091](#)(2) may receive a state need grant as long as that student continues attendance under the reciprocity program.

(2) "Eligible out-of-state institution" shall mean any nonprofit college or university in another state which has a reciprocity agreement with the state of Washington if the institution is specifically encompassed within or directly affected by such reciprocity agreement so long as it is accredited by the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges, and agrees to participate in the state need grant program in accordance with all applicable rules and regulations.

(3) An out-of-state institution can be determined to be directly affected by a reciprocity agreement if:

(a) The institution is located within twenty-five miles of an institution specifically encompassed within a reciprocity agreement;

(b) Students from the county in which the institution is located are provided, pursuant to a reciprocity agreement, access to Washington institutions at resident tuition and fee rates to the extent authorized by Washington law; and,

(c) The institution demonstrates that, in the previous academic year, headcount enrollment at the institution by Washington residents from areas and categories encompassed by the reciprocity agreement was at least ten percent less than the number of such students enrolled during the 1979-80 academic year.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [28B.10.806](#). 80-12-028 (Order 5-80, Resolution No. 82-4), § 250-20-091, filed 8/28/80.]

Residency Statutes for State Need Grant (excerpt)

RCW 28B.92.010

State need grant program established — Purpose.

The purposes of this chapter are to establish the principles upon which the state financial aid programs will be based and to establish the state of Washington state need grant program, thus assisting financially needy or disadvantaged students domiciled in Washington to obtain the opportunity of attending an accredited institution of higher education. State need grants under this chapter are available only to students who are resident students as defined in RCW 28B.15.012(2) (a) through (d).

[2004 c 275 § 34; 1999 c 345 § 2; 1993 sp.s. c 18 § 2; 1969 ex.s. c 222 § 7. Formerly RCW 28B.10.800, 28.76.430.]

RCW 28B.15.012

Classification as resident or nonresident student — Definitions.

(2) The term "resident student" shall mean:

(a) A financially independent student who has had a domicile in the state of Washington for the period of one year immediately prior to the time of commencement of the first day of the semester or quarter for which the student has registered at any institution and has in fact established a bona fide domicile in this state primarily for purposes other than educational;

(b) A dependent student, if one or both of the student's parents or legal guardians have maintained a bona fide domicile in the state of Washington for at least one year immediately prior to commencement of the semester or quarter for which the student has registered at any institution;

(c) A student classified as a resident based upon domicile by an institution on or before May 31, 1982, who was enrolled at a state institution during any term of the 1982-1983 academic year, so long as such student's enrollment (excepting summer sessions) at an institution in this state is continuous;

(d) Any student who has spent at least seventy-five percent of both his or her junior and senior years in high schools in this state, whose parents or legal guardians have been domiciled in the state for a period of at least one year within the five-year period before the student graduates from high school, and who enrolls in a public institution of higher education within six months of leaving high school, for as long as the student remains continuously enrolled for three quarters or two semesters in any calendar year;

...

Chapter 250-18 WAC

Residency status for higher education

WAC Sections

- 250-18-010 Purpose and applicability.
- 250-18-015 Definitions.
- 250-18-020 Student classification.
- 250-18-025 Classification procedure.
- 250-18-030 Establishment of a domicile.
- 250-18-035 Evidence of financial dependence or independence.
- 250-18-045 Administration of residency status.
- 250-18-050 Appeals process.
- 250-18-055 Recovery of fees for improper classification of residency.
- 250-18-060 Exemptions from nonresident status.

250-18-010

Purpose and applicability.

This chapter is promulgated pursuant to RCW 28B.15.015 by the board to establish the necessary regulations for the administration of residency status in higher education. Institutions shall apply the provisions of the regulations specified in chapter 250-18 WAC for the uniform determination of a student's resident and nonresident status and for recovery of fees for improper classification of residency.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.15.015. 93-20-004, § 250-18-010, filed 9/22/93, effective 10/23/93. Statutory Authority: 1982 1st ex.s. c 37 § 4. 82-19-015 (Order 10-82, Resolution No. 83-1), § 250-18-010, filed 9/8/82.]

250-18-015

Definitions.

- (1) The term "institution" shall mean a public university, college, or community college within the state of Washington.
- (2) The term "domicile" shall denote a person's true, fixed, and permanent home and place of habitation for other than educational purposes. It is the place where he or she intends to remain, and to which he or she expects to return when he or she leaves without intending to establish a new domicile elsewhere.
- (3) The term "reside" shall mean the maintenance and occupancy of a primary residence in the state of Washington.
- (4) The term "financially independent" shall be determined according to WAC 250-18-035.
- (5) The term "dependent" shall mean a person who is not financially independent.
- (6) The term "resident" for tuition and fee purposes shall be determined according to WAC 250-18-020.
- (7) The term "nonresident" for tuition and fee purposes shall be determined according to WAC 250-18-020.
- (8) The term "recovery of fees" shall apply to the amounts due to the institution or the student as a result of improper classification.
- (9) The term "civil service" shall mean Washington state or federal government nonmilitary employment.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.15.015. 03-13-056, § 250-18-015, filed 6/13/03, effective 7/14/03. Statutory Authority: 1982 1st ex.s. c 37 § 4. 82-19-015 (Order 10-82, Resolution No. 83-1), § 250-18-015, filed 9/8/82.]

250-18-020

Student classification.

(1) For a student to be classified as a "resident" for tuition and fee purposes, he or she must prove by evidence of a sufficient quantity and quality to satisfy the institution that he or she:

(a)(i) Has established a bona fide domicile in the state of Washington primarily for purposes other than educational for the period of one year immediately prior to commencement of the first day of the semester or quarter for which he or she has registered at any institution; and

(ii) Is financially independent; or

(b) Is a dependent student, one or both of whose parents or legal guardians have maintained a bona fide domicile in the state of Washington for at least one year immediately prior to commencement of the semester or quarter for which the student has registered at any institution provided that any student who has spent at least seventy-five percent of both his or her junior and senior years in high school in this state, whose parents or legal guardians have been domiciled in the state for a period of at least one year within the five-year period before the student graduates from high school, and who has enrolled in a public institution of higher education within six months of leaving high school, shall be considered a resident only for as long as the student remains continuously enrolled for three quarters or two semesters in any calendar year; or

(c) Is a person who has completed the full senior year of high school and obtained a high school diploma - both at a Washington public or private high school approved under chapter 28A.195 RCW (or who has received the equivalent of a diploma). The person must have lived in Washington at least three years immediately prior to receiving the diploma (or its equivalent), and lived continuously in Washington state after receiving the diploma (or its equivalent) until the time of admittance to an institution of higher education (defined as a public university, college, or community college within the state of Washington). In addition, the person must provide an affidavit to the institution indicating that the individual will file an application to become a permanent resident at the earliest opportunity the individual is eligible to do so. Furthermore, the individual must indicate a willingness to engage in other activities necessary to acquire citizenship, including, but not limited to, citizenship or civics review courses; or

(d) Is a student who is on active military duty stationed in the state, or who is a member of the Washington national guard; or

(e) Is the spouse or dependent of an active duty military person stationed in the state of Washington; or

(f) Is a student who resides in Washington and is the spouse or dependent of a member of the Washington national guard; or

(g) Is a student of an out-of-state institution of higher education who is attending a Washington state institution of higher education pursuant to a home tuition program agreement under RCW 28B.15.725; or

(h) Is a student domiciled for one year in one or a combination of the following states: Idaho, Montana, Oregon, or Washington, and is a member of a federally recognized tribe whose traditional and customary tribal boundaries included portions of the state of Washington, or whose tribe was granted reserved lands within the state of Washington. The official list of federally recognized Washington tribes maintained by the governor's office of Indian affairs shall be used to determine eligibility.

(i) Is a student who is a resident of Oregon residing in Columbia, Gilliam, Hood River, Multnomah, Clatsop, Clackamas, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Wasco, or Washington county. The student must meet the following conditions:

(i) Is eligible to pay resident tuition rates under Oregon laws and has been domiciled in one or more of the designated Oregon counties for at least ninety days immediately prior to enrollment at a community college located in the following Washington counties: Asotin, Benton, Clark, Columbia, Cowlitz, Franklin, Garfield, Klickitat, Pacific, Skamania, Wahkiakum, or Walla Walla; or

(ii) Is a student enrolled for eight credits or less at the Tri-Cities branch or Vancouver branch of Washington State University.

(2) A student shall be classified as a "nonresident" for tuition and fee purposes if he or she does not qualify as a resident student under the provisions of subsection (1) of this section. A nonresident student shall include a student if he or she:

(a) Will be financially dependent for the current year or was financially dependent for the calendar year prior to the year in which application is made and who does not have a parent or legally appointed guardian who has maintained a bona fide domicile in the state of Washington for one year immediately prior to the commencement of the semester or quarter for which the student has registered at an institution;

(b) Attends an institution with financial assistance provided by another state or governmental unit or agency thereof wherein residency in that state is a continuing qualification for such financial assistance, such nonresidency continuing for one year after the completion of the quarter or semester for which financial assistance is provided. Such financial assistance relates to that which is provided by another state, governmental unit or agency thereof for direct or indirect educational purposes and does not include retirements, pensions, or other noneducational related income. A student loan guaranteed by another state or governmental unit or agency thereof on the basis of eligibility as a resident of that state is included within the term "financial assistance;"

(c) Is not a citizen of the United States of America, unless such person holds permanent or temporary resident immigration status, "refugee - parolee," or "conditional entrant" status or is not otherwise permanently residing in the United States under color of law and further meets and complies with all applicable requirements of WAC 250-18-030 and 250-18-035.

(3) A person does not lose a domicile in the state of Washington by reason of residency in any state or country while a member of the civil or military service of this state or of the United States, nor while engaged in the navigation of the waters of this state or of the United States or of the high seas if that person returns to the state of Washington within one year of discharge from said service with the intent to be domiciled in the state of Washington.

(4) Any resident dependent student who remains in this state when such student's parents or legal guardians, having theretofore been domiciled in this state for a period of one year immediately prior to commencement of the first day of the semester or quarter for which the student has registered at any institution, move from this state, shall be entitled to continued classification as a resident student so long as such student is continuously enrolled during the academic year.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.15.015. 06-20-118, § 250-18-020, filed 10/4/06, effective 11/4/06; 03-20-053, § 250-18-020, filed 9/26/03, effective 10/27/03; 03-13-056, § 250-18-020, filed 6/13/03, effective 7/14/03. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.15.015 and 28B.15.0131. 98-08-004, § 250-18-020, filed 3/18/98, effective 4/18/98. Statutory Authority: 28B.15.015. 93-20-004, § 250-18-020, filed 9/22/93, effective 10/23/93. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28B.15 RCW as amended by 1982 1st ex.s. c 37 § 4. 87-21-079 (Order 5-87, Resolution No. 87-60), § 250-18-020, filed 10/21/87; 87-16-048 (Order 3-87, Resolution No. 87-58), § 250-18-020, filed 7/29/87. Statutory Authority: 1982 1st ex.s. c 37 § 4. 83-13-092 (Order 2-83, Resolution No. 83-65), § 250-18-020, filed 6/17/83; 82-19-015 (Order 10-82, Resolution No. 83-1), § 250-18-020, filed 9/8/82.]

250-18-025

Classification procedure.

(1) After a student has registered at any institution as a nonresident, such student's classification shall remain unchanged in the absence of evidence of a sufficient quantity and quality to satisfy the institution to the contrary. The provision of such evidence to the contrary may be initiated by the student or the institution.

(2) Application for a change in classification shall be accepted up to the thirtieth calendar day following the first day of the instruction of the quarter or semester for which application is made. Applications made after that date in any quarter or semester shall be considered to have been filed as of the first day of the subsequent quarter or semester.

(3) Any change in classification, either nonresident to resident, or the reverse, shall be based upon written evidence maintained in the files of the institution.

(4) Approval of an application for resident status shall be made only after satisfaction that the requirements of domicile and independency or dependency have been made in compliance with RCW 28B.15.012 and WAC 250-18-

030 and 250-18-035. Reclassification from nonresident to resident status preliminarily approved sixty days or more prior to the satisfaction of a one-year durational domicile shall be supplemented with additional documented proof of domicile if deemed necessary by the institution prior to final approval.

(5) The burden of proof that a student, parent, or legally appointed guardian has established a domicile in the state of Washington primarily for purposes other than educational lies with the student.

(6) For any student classified as a resident or authorized to pay resident fees or exempted from the payment of the nonresident differential on a basis other than an established domicile in the state of Washington, the fee paying status of such student shall be subject to determination each term on the basis of chapter 28B.15 RCW.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.15.015, 03-13-056, § 250-18-025, filed 6/13/03, effective 7/14/03. Statutory Authority: 1982 1st ex.s. c 37 § 4, 83-13-092 (Order 2-83, Resolution No. 83-65), § 250-18-025, filed 6/17/83; 82-19-015 (Order 10-82, Resolution No. 83-1), § 250-18-025, filed 9/8/82.]

250-18-030

Establishment of a domicile.

The domicile of any person shall be determined according to the individual's overall situation and circumstances and is not determined on the basis of a single factor; nor is a predetermined number of factors required. Institutions shall require evidence of a Washington domicile that is of sufficient quantity and quality to negate the existence of a domicile in a state other than Washington.

A nonresident student who is enrolled for more than six hours per semester or quarter shall be presumed to be in the state of Washington for primarily educational purposes. Such period of enrollment shall not be counted toward the establishment of a bona fide domicile of one year in this state unless such student proves that he or she has, in fact, established a bona fide domicile in this state primarily for purposes other than educational.

To aid the institutions in determining whether a student, parent, legally appointed guardian, or the person having legal custody of a student has established a bona fide domicile in the state of Washington primarily for purposes other than educational, the following factors are to be considered for both the individual and his or her spouse. The weight assigned to any given factor should depend on the ease with which it might be established and the degree to which it demonstrates commitment to domicile as a matter of common sense and as part of the individual's overall circumstances.

(1) Location and duration of registration or payment of taxes or fees on any motor vehicle, mobile home, travel trailer, boat, or any other item or personal property owned or used by the person;

(2) State and duration of any driver's license for the previous one year;

(3) Location and duration of any continuous full-time employment of the previous one year;

(4) Address and other pertinent facts listed on a true and correct copy of federal and state income tax returns for the calendar year prior to the year in which application is made;

(5) Location and duration of any voter registration for the previous one year;

(6) Location and duration of primary residence, evidenced by title, lease agreement, or monthly rental receipts for the previous one year;

(7) Residence status in all secondary and postsecondary schools attended outside the state of Washington;

(8) Location and duration of any checking accounts, savings accounts, and/or safety deposit boxes for the previous one year;

(9) Address listed on selective service registration;

- (10) Location of membership in professional, business, civic or other organizations;
- (11) Receipt of benefits under a public assistance programs;
- (12) State claimed as residence for obtaining eligibility to hold a public office or for judicial actions;
- (13) State claimed as residence for obtaining state hunting or fishing licenses;
- (14) State in which a custodial parent has a child attending public schools.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.15.015, 03-13-056, § 250-18-030, filed 6/13/03, effective 7/14/03. Statutory Authority: 1982 1st ex.s. c 37 § 4, 83-13-092 (Order 2-83, Resolution No. 83-65), § 250-18-030, filed 6/17/83; 82-19-015 (Order 10-82, Resolution No. 83-1), § 250-18-030, filed 9/8/82.]

250-18-035

Evidence of financial dependence or independence.

A person is financially independent if he or she has not been and will not be claimed as an exemption and has not received and will not receive significant financial assistance in any form directly or indirectly from his or her parents, relatives, legal guardians, or others for the current calendar year and for the calendar year immediately prior to the year in which application is made.

(1) To consider a claim that a person is financially independent, the institution may require such documentation as deemed necessary, including but not limited to the following:

(a) That individual's sworn statement.

(b) A true and correct copy of the state and federal income tax return of the person for the calendar year immediately prior to the year in which application is made.

Should a person not have filed a state or federal income tax return because of minimal or no taxable income, documented information concerning the receipt of such nontaxable income may be submitted.

(c) A true and correct copy of the person's W-2 forms filed for the previous calendar year.

(d) Other documented financial resources, which may include but are not limited to the sale of personal or real property, inheritance, trust funds, state or financial assistance, gifts, loans, or statement of earnings of the spouse of a married student.

(e) A true and correct copy of the first and signature page of the state and federal tax returns of the parents, legally appointed guardians, or person or persons having legal custody of the student for the calendar year immediately prior to the year in which application is made.

The extent of the disclosure required concerning the parent's or legal guardian's state and federal tax returns shall be limited to the listing of dependents claimed and the signature of the taxpayer and shall not require disclosure of financial information contained in the returns.

(f) A student whose parents are both deceased or who has been made an official ward of the court may be required to provide documentation attesting to the fact of such circumstances.

(g) Evidence of coverage for medical, life, automobile, and property insurance.

(2) To aid institutions in determining the financial independence of a student whose parents, legally appointed guardian, or person having legal custody of the student do not provide the documentation because of total separation or other reasons from the student, documentation clearly stating the student's status and relationship with his or her parents or legal guardian from a responsible third person, e.g., family physician, lawyer, or social worker may be submitted.

(3) To be considered financially independent, a student must demonstrate by evidence satisfactory to the institution that he or she has met, through his or her income, the expenses associated with college tuition and living for the current calendar year and the calendar year immediately prior to the year in which application is made. Personal loans, PLUS loans (parent loan for undergraduate students), gifts, and cash earnings shall not be counted as income in this calculation. Financial aid grants, scholarships and loans authorized by the financial aid office in the student's name may be considered as personal income.

(4) A trust or other account available to the student shall be considered evidence of financial dependence. If the account was created before the student entered high school, there shall be a rebuttable presumption of dependence.

(5) Information submitted by the student to the institution on the financial aid form may be used to affirm the authenticity of information submitted on an application.

(6) In all cases, the burden of proof that a student is financially independent lies with the student.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.15.015, 03-20-053, § 250-18-035, filed 9/26/03, effective 10/27/03; 03-13-056, § 250-18-035, filed 6/13/03, effective 7/14/03. Statutory Authority: 1982 1st ex.s. c 37 § 4, 82-19-015 (Order 10-82, Resolution No. 83-1), § 250-18-035, filed 9/8/82.]

250-18-045

Administration of residency status.

Administration of residency status shall be the responsibility of the institution's board of trustees or regents in compliance with RCW 28B.15.011 through 28B.15.014 and chapter 250-18 WAC.

Boards of trustees or regents shall designate an institutional official responsible for making decisions on resident and nonresident status of students, and for maintaining records and documentation in support of such decisions.

Institutions shall use a uniform statewide form consistent with the provisions of chapter 250-18 WAC for the determination of change in residence status.

[Statutory Authority: 1982 1st ex.s. c 37 § 4, 82-19-015 (Order 10-82, Resolution No. 83-1), § 250-18-045, filed 9/8/82.]

250-18-050

Appeals process.

Any final institutional determination of classification shall be considered a ruling on a contested case and shall be subject to court review only under procedures prescribed by chapter 34.05 RCW.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.15.015, 93-20-004, § 250-18-050, filed 9/22/93, effective 10/23/93. Statutory Authority: 1982 1st ex.s. c 37 § 4, 82-19-015 (Order 10-82, Resolution No. 83-1), § 250-18-050, filed 9/8/82.]

250-18-055

Recovery of fees for improper classification of residency.

To aid the institutions in the determination of accuracy of statements made by a student, institutions shall require that a student affirm the authenticity of all information and supporting documentation provided by his or her signature thereon.

If erroneous, untrue, or incorrect information submitted results in an improper classification of resident or nonresident status, or if a final determination is reversed through the appeals process, institutions shall recover from the student or refund to the student as the case may be an amount equal to the total difference in tuition and fees had the proper classification been made.

250-18-060

Exemptions from nonresident status.

In accordance with RCW 28B.15.014, certain nonresidents may be exempted from paying the nonresident tuition and fee differential. Exemption from the nonresident tuition and fee differential shall apply only during the term(s) such persons shall hold such appointments or be so employed. To be eligible for such an exemption, a nonresident student must provide documented evidence that he or she does reside in the state of Washington, and:

- (1) Holds a graduate service appointment designated as such by an institution involving not less than twenty hours per week;
- (2) Is employed for an academic department in support of the instructional or research programs involving not less than twenty hours per week;
- (3) Is a faculty member, classified staff member, or administratively exempt employee who resides in the state of Washington and is holding not less than a half-time appointment, or the spouse or dependent child of such a person;
- (4) Is an immigrant having refugee classification from the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service or the spouse or dependent child of such refugee, if the refugee (a) is on parole status, or (b) has received an immigrant visa, or (c) has applied for United States citizenship; or
- (5) Is a dependent of a member of the United States Congress representing the state of Washington.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.15.015. 03-20-053, § 250-18-060, filed 9/26/03, effective 10/27/03. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.15.015 and 28B.15.0131. 98-08-004, § 250-18-060, filed 3/18/98, effective 4/18/98. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.15.015. 93-20-004, § 250-18-060, filed 9/22/93, effective 10/23/93. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28B.15 RCW as amended by 1982 1st ex.s. c 37 § 4. 87-21-079 (Order 5-87, Resolution No. 87-60), § 250-18-060, filed 10/21/87; 87-16-048 (Order 3-87, Resolution No. 87-58), § 250-18-060, filed 7/29/87. Statutory Authority: 1982 1st ex.s. c 37 § 4. 85-20-035 (Order 5-85, Resolution No. 86-2), § 250-18-060, filed 9/24/85; 84-14-024 (Order 3-84, Resolution No. 84-75), § 250-18-060, filed 6/26/84; 82-19-015 (Order 10-82, Resolution No. 83-1), § 250-18-060, filed 9/8/

