

**HB 2021-S - DIGEST**

(SUBSTITUTED FOR - SEE 2ND SUB)

Declares that it is the intent of the legislature: (1) 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;

(2) To designate all existing financial aid an opportunity fund, 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;

(3) 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 the institutions of higher education coordinate the development of outreach tools, such as a web-based portal for information on all opportunity fund aid programs;

(4) For institutions of higher education to incorporate this information in promotional materials to prospective and current students and their families;

(5) To consolidate the educational opportunity grant program over a period of two years;

(6) To change eligibility requirements of the Washington scholars program; and

(7) To redirect any cost savings gained through changes in eligibility criteria to the Washington scholars program to the state work-study program.

Repeals chapter 28B.101 RCW (educational opportunity grant program--placebound), effective August 1, 2011.