



WASHINGTON STEM ADVOCACY COALITION | [Week 5 Bill Tracker](#)

Washington STEM Priority Bills:

Bill No.	Short Title	Sponsor	Summary	Status
1867	Concerning dual credit program data	Paul	Revises requirements related to an annual dual credit report to the Legislature.	2/8 – Passed House; yeas, 95; nays, 1; absent, 0; excused, 2 2/16 – Public hearing in Senate Early Learning & K-12
5553	Providing data regarding early STEM metrics in the STEM education report card	Wilson	Adds early learning and child care data to the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Education Report Card.	2/8 – Passed Senate; yeas, 29; nays, 20; absent, 0; excused, 0 2/16 – Public hearing in House Children, Youth & Families 2/17 – Possible vote in House Children, Youth & Families

Washington STEM Monitoring:

Bill No.	Short Title	Sponsor	Summary	Status
1153	Increasing language access in public schools	Orwall	Establishes four principles of an effective language access program for culturally responsive, systemic family engagement. Directs the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to implement a Language Access Technical Assistance Program that includes specified activities, which are subject to state funding. Requires school districts, charter schools, the state School for the Blind, and the Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Youth to: (1) collect data on language access and language assistance services; and (2) implement, beginning with the 2022-23 school year, language access programs that meet stated requirements. Requires the Washington State School Directors' Association to update a model policy and procedures for implementing a	2/8 – Passed House; yeas, 83; nays, 13; absent, 0; excused, 2 2/16 – Public hearing in Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education

			<p>language access program for culturally responsive, systemic family engagement.</p> <p>Directs the OSPI to establish the Language Access Advisory Committee to guide and monitor the implementation of this act and to report to the Legislature, the OSPI, and the Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB) on the implementation of the act.</p> <p>Directs the OSPI and the PESB to collaborate to establish credentialing requirements for spoken and sign language interpreters working in public schools to interpret for students' families, students, and communities in educational settings outside the classroom.</p>	
1162	Concerning high school graduation credit and pathway options	Stonier	<p>Reduces the number of credits required for high school graduation from 24 to 20, and applies the revised credit requirements to the graduating class of 2021 and subsequent classes.</p> <p>Establishes an additional graduation pathway option that enables students to meet graduation pathway requirements by completing a performance exhibition meeting specified criteria.</p>	<p>1/21 – Substitute exec'd out of House Education</p> <p>1/26 – Referred to House Rules 2 Review</p>
1611	Advancing equity in programs for highly capable students	Dolan	<p>Authorizes state funding provided for the Highly Capable Program (HiCap Program) to be used by school districts for identifying and providing (instead of only providing) services to highly capable students.</p> <p>Requires school districts to conduct universal screenings to find students who need further assessment for potential HiCap Program placement.</p> <p>Establishes new requirements for the identification and placement of students who may be eligible for HiCap Program services.</p> <p>Modifies related data collection and reporting requirements for the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.</p>	<p>2/9 – Passed House; yeas, 96; nays, 0; absent, 0; excused, 2</p> <p>2/18 – Public hearing in Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education</p>
1659	Making higher education more affordable and accessible for students by bridging the gap between cost and need to reduce barriers, improve opportunity, and advance economic security.	Slatter	<p>Expands the Washington College Grant (WCG) program by modifying the income eligibility thresholds and award levels.</p> <p>Entitles WCG students who are receiving the maximum WCG award to a bridge grant, which is an additional annual stipend for expenses beyond tuition and fees.</p>	<p>2/13 – Passed House; yeas, 83; nays, 15; absent, 0; excused, 0; Referral unknown</p>

1687	Enhancing the college bound scholarship program by increasing opportunities for students to attend community and technical colleges.	Bergquist	Requires only College Bound Scholarship eligible students seeking direct admission to a public or private four-year institution of higher education to graduate with at least a C grade point average.	2/12 – Passed House; yeas, 84; nays, 14; absent, 0; excused, 0; Referral unknown
1723	Closing the digital equity divide by increasing the accessibility and affordability of telecommunications services, devices, and training	Gregerson	<p>Establishes the Washington Broadband Assistance Program to provide low-income persons with reduced rates for eligible voice and broadband services.</p> <p>Creates the Anchor Institution Digital Equity Program for the purpose of providing discounted rates for telecommunications services and discounted telecommunications infrastructure costs to qualifying anchor institutions.</p> <p>Makes modifications to the Community Technology Opportunity Program, including renaming it the Digital Equity Opportunity Program and redefining its purpose to be the advancement of broadband adoption and digital equity.</p> <p>Establishes the Digital Equity Planning Grant Program to provide grants to local governments, institutions of higher education, workforce development councils, or other entities to fund the development of a digital equity plan for a discrete geographic region of the state.</p> <p>Codifies the Digital Equity Forum (Forum) and adds a provision allowing funds to be used to compensate, for any work done in connection with the Forum, additional persons with lived experience navigating barriers to digital connectivity.</p>	2/12 – Passed House; yeas, 68; nays, 30; absent, 0; excused, 0; Referral unknown
1760	Expanding access to dual credit programs	Paul	<p>Lowers dual credit program costs for low-income students, a defined term, by creating a new state subsidy program, among other things.</p> <p>Makes the Running Start Summer School Pilot Program a permanent program and increases both the number of community colleges that may participate and the number of college credits that may be earned.</p> <p>Expands requirements to notify students and their parents or legal guardians about dual credit programs.</p>	2/12 – Passed House; 98; nays, 0; absent, 0; excused, 0; Referral unknown
1805	Concerning the opportunity scholarship program	Paul	Allows the Washington State Opportunity Scholarship Program to accept advanced degree program students who exceed 125 percent	2/10 – Passed House; yeas, 89; nays, 4; absent, 0; excused, 5

			<p>of the state median income if they demonstrate financial need through other factors.</p> <p>Aligns the definition of "resident student" for the Washington State Opportunity Scholarship Program with the Washington College Grant.</p> <p>Includes registered apprenticeships under the Washington State Opportunity Scholarship Program Professional-Technical Degree and Certificate programs.</p> <p>Establishes that the Washington State Opportunity Scholarship Program is automatically renewed until the program length expires, 125 percent of the program length, or the credit or clock-hour equivalent of five years.</p> <p>Establishes that the state match for the Rural County High Employer Demand Jobs Program must be based on donations and pledges received as of the date of the caseload forecast to ensure predictable treatment of the Program in the budget process.</p> <p>Removes the 2.0 grade point average for the Rural County High Employer Demand Jobs Program and instead requires students to meet satisfactory academic progress toward completion of an eligible program.</p>	<p>2/12 – Referred to Senate Higher Education & Workforce Development</p>
1833	Establishing an electronic option for the submission of household income information required for participation in school meals and programs	Berg	<p>Requires the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to initiate and oversee the development and implementation of a statewide electronic repository of household income information that is required for a student's enrollment in, or eligibility for, the National School Lunch Program, the School Breakfast Program, or both.</p> <p>Establishes requirements for the electronic repository and makes its contents exempt from disclosure under the Public Records Act.</p> <p>Establishes related annual reporting requirements for the OSPI.</p>	<p>2/10 – Passed House; yeas, 92; nays, 4; absent, 0; excused, 2</p> <p>2/18 – Public hearing in Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education</p>
1835	Creating outreach and completion initiatives to increase postsecondary enrollment	Hansen	<p>Requires the Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC) to conduct a statewide marketing campaign to promote the Washington College Grant.</p>	<p>2/11 – Passed House; yeas, 88; nays, 8; absent, 0; excused, 2</p>

			<p>Establishes a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and Washington Application for State Financial Aid (WASFA) Outreach and Completion Initiative between public institutions of higher education and high schools.</p> <p>Establishes two grant programs, one through public libraries and one through community-based organizations, to conduct community outreach to increase FAFSA and WASFA completion rates.</p> <p>Makes changes to the Washington College Grant program to determine a student's financial need eligibility based on whether they are receiving benefits through a public assistance program.</p>	2/14 – Referred to Senate Higher Education & Workforce Development
1890	Concerning the children and youth behavioral health work group	Callan	<p>Creates a strategic plan advisory group under the children and youth behavioral health work group for the purpose of developing a behavioral health strategic plan for children, young adults, and families.</p> <p>Modifies the children and youth behavioral health work group by adding a member, allowing up to six meetings per year, and allowing stipends up to \$200 per day for members with lived experience.</p>	<p>2/10 – Passed House; yeas, 87; nays, 7; absent, 0; excused, 4</p> <p>2/15 – Public hearing in Senate Behavioral Health Subcommittee to Health & Long Term Care</p> <p>2/18 – Possible vote in Senate Committee on Behavioral Health Subcommittee to Health & Long Term Care</p>
2007	Establishing a nurse educator loan repayment program under the Washington health corps	Slatter	Establishes the Nurse Educator Loan Repayment Program under the umbrella of the Washington Health Corps.	2/13 – Passed House; yeas, 97; nays, 1; absent, 0; excused, 0; Referral unknown
2019	Increasing educational and training opportunities for careers in retail	Boehnke	Requires the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board to consult and engage with stakeholders to identify and make recommendations on strategies to increase education and training for retail workers.	<p>2/2 – Passed House; yeas, 94; nays, 2; absent, 0; excused, 2</p> <p>2/7 – Referred to Senate Higher Education & Workforce Development</p>
2078	Establishing the outdoor school for all program	Rule	<p>Establishes the Outdoor School for All Program (Program) to provide fifth and sixth grade students with opportunities to attend residential or day outdoor school experiences.</p> <p>Requires the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to administer the Program, allocate grants to eligible school districts and outdoor school providers, and partner with state environmental agencies for components of its implementation.</p>	2/12 – Passed House; yeas, 92; nays, 6; absent, 0; excused, 0; Referral unknown

			Companion: SB 5925	
5497	Extending voting authority to student members on the state board of education	Wilson	<p>Grants voting privileges to student members of the State Board of Education.</p> <p>Modifies the quorum requirement from eight voting members to nine members.</p>	<p>2/8 – Passed Senate; yeas, 28; nays, 21; absent, 0; excused, 0</p> <p>2/11 – Referred to House Education</p>
5563	Concerning enrollment stabilization funding to address enrollment declines due to the COVID-19 pandemic	Wellman	<p>Provides proportional enrollment stabilization amounts in the 2021-22 school year if a local education agency's combined state revenue generated in the 2021-22 school year is less than what its combined state revenue would be using 2019-20 enrollment amounts.</p> <p>Authorizes the use of 2019-20 enrollment values to calculate enrichment levy limits in the 2023 and 2024 calendar years and to calculate local effort assistance in the 2022 and 2023 calendar years</p>	<p>2/7 – Substitute exec'd out of Senate Ways & Means; Now awaiting floor action</p>
5600	Concerning the sustainability and expansion of state registered apprenticeship programs.	Keiser	<p>Requires the Washington State Apprenticeship and Training Council (Apprenticeship Council) to establish sector-based subcommittees to promote industry collaboration and review curricula for apprenticeship programs, and requires the Governor to establish a committee to develop apprenticeship programs for state agencies.</p> <p>Requires apprenticeship programs seeking approval to provide a plan for future sustainability to demonstrate that, within ten years of approval, the program will be financially sustainable, independent of any state funds provided to start the program.</p> <p>Requires the Apprenticeship Council, when evaluating applications for new apprenticeship programs, to consider whether graduating apprentices will earn a living wage, the availability of a career ladder to graduating apprentices, or the existence of non-wage benefits as factors in the approval process.</p> <p>Establishes several grants for technology and remote learning infrastructure modernization, wrap-around support services for apprentices, and updating necessary equipment in apprenticeship programs.</p>	<p>2/12 – Passed House; yeas, 39; nays, 10; absent, 0; excused, 0</p> <p>2/17 – Public hearing in House College & Workforce Development</p>

5657	Concerning computer science instruction in state long-term juvenile institutions	Wellman	<p>Requires each school district operating an institutional education program for youth in state long-term juvenile institutions to provide an opportunity to access an elective computer science course, subject to appropriations.</p> <p>Provides that if a district cannot provide a computer science course that is fully aligned with state learning standards due to facility or technology security limitations, the district must adapt the course to align with as many standards as possible.</p> <p>Requires each district to annually report data regarding institutional computer science courses.</p>	<p>2/8 – Passed Senate; yeas, 49; nays, 0; absent, 0; excused, 0</p> <p>2/17 – Public hearing in House Education</p>
5761	Concerning employer requirements for providing wage and salary information to applicants for employment	Randall	<p>Modifies the requirements to provide wage information to require employers to disclose in job postings the hourly or salary compensation, or a range, and a general description of all of the benefits and other compensation, rather than providing wage and salary information only upon request of an applicant after the initial job offer.</p> <p>Removes the requirement that if no wage scale or salary range exists, the employer must provide the minimum wage or salary expectation prior to posting the position, making a position transfer, or making the promotion.</p>	<p>2/9 – Passed Senate; yeas, 27; nays, 21; absent, 0; excused, 1</p> <p>2/16 – Public hearing in House Labor & Workplace Standards</p>
5764	Concerning apprenticeships and higher education	Randall	<p>Aligns the maximum Washington College Grant for full-time apprentices (WCG-A) to the maximum award for full-time students attending two-year institutions.</p> <p>Requires the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges to study and report on further developing and improving opportunities for apprentices to receive credit towards degrees.</p> <p>Requires access to the financial aid offices at the community and technical colleges, or verification of access to the WCG-A by the Washington Student Achievement Council, for apprentices by the 2025-26 school year.</p> <p>Requires credit or course equivalencies to be established for registered apprenticeship programs by the 2025-26 school year.</p>	<p>2/10 – Passed Senate; yeas, 48; nays, 0; absent, 0; excused, 1</p> <p>2/17 – Public hearing in House College & Workforce Development</p>
5789	Creating the Washington career and college pathways innovation challenge program	Randall	Creates the Washington Career and College Pathways Innovation Challenge Program (program) to award grants to local and regional	2/11 – Passed House; yeas, 49; nays, 0; absent, 0; excused, 0

			<p>entities for programs with the objective of meeting state educational attainment goals.</p> <p>Directs the Student Achievement Council (Council) to administer the program based on a competitive grant process.</p> <p>Permits the Council to solicit and receive gifts, grants, and endowments from public or private sources in support of the program.</p> <p>Repeals the Washington Fund for Innovation and Quality.</p>	2/16 – Public hearing in House College & Workforce Development
5847	Providing information to public service employees about the public service loan forgiveness program	Liias	<p>Requires the Student Loan Advocate (Advocate) to create and provide information on the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program to public service employees (employees) annually.</p> <p>Requires the Office of Financial Management to develop a program for public service employers (employers) to certify employment for the purposes of PSLF.</p> <p>Requires employers to provide information created by the Advocate to employees as least annually.</p> <p>Establishes a calculation for part-time academic employees' duties outside of assigned in-class teaching to be counted towards full-time employment for the purposes of PSLF.</p>	<p>2/10 – Passed Senate; yeas, 37; nays, 12; absent, 0; excused, 0</p> <p>2/16 – Public hearing in House College & Workforce Development</p>

Dead bills:

Bill No.	Short Title	Sponsor	Summary	Status
1329	Concerning public meeting accessibility and participation	Wicks	<p>Encourages public agencies to provide for remote access to meetings of their governing bodies, and to record and post recordings of meetings online for at least six months.</p> <p>Requires governing bodies to provide an opportunity for public comment at or before every regular meeting at which final action is taken, except in emergency situations.</p>	1/14 – Referred to House State Government & Elections

			<p>Allows the public comment requirement to be satisfied by accepting oral testimony at a meeting, or by providing an opportunity for written testimony to be submitted prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Requires governing bodies, upon the request of an individual who, because of disability, limited mobility, or other reason, will find physical attendance at a meeting difficult, to provide an opportunity for remote oral comment for that individual if doing so feasible and if oral public comment from other members of the public will be accepted at the meeting.</p>	
1536	Establishing regional apprenticeship programs through educational service districts	Maycumber	<p>Requires each educational service district (ESD) to establish regional apprenticeship programs (programs) in two or more industries or professions.</p> <p>Directs the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to allocate funding for two full-time equivalent certificated instructional staff per ESD to oversee the programs.</p> <p>Allows student enrollments in the programs to be funded up to 1.2 fulltime equivalents.</p>	<p>1/21 – Public hearing in House Education</p> <p>2/3 – No action taken during executive session</p>
1601	Expanding the students experiencing homelessness and foster youth pilot program	Leavitt	<p>Changes the Homeless and Foster Care Students Pilot Program to a permanent program.</p> <p>Allows any community and technical college to participate in the Homeless and Foster Care Students Pilot Program</p>	<p>1/13 – Exec’d out of House College & Workforce Development</p> <p>1/17 – Referred to House Appropriations</p>
1722	Concerning the acceleration of broadband deployment	Boehnke	<p>Requires cities and counties to allow microtrenching for the installation of underground fiber, unless the installation would inconvenience the public right-of-way or adversely affect public health, safety, and welfare.</p>	1/26 – Public hearing in House Local Government
1807	Addressing the protection of quality civic education and academic discourse	Walsh	<p>Requires each public school to annually provide to each student in K-8 a mandatory stand-alone, age-appropriate, year-long course in civic education that supports students' functional understanding of nine topics, and specifies additional requirements related to discussing civic education topics.</p> <p>Directs the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to make publicly available, a list of K-8 civic education curricula.</p>	1/25 - Public hearing in House Education

			Prohibits certain public education employees from being required to participate in any form of training, certification, or continuing education that involves specified propositions or assertions.	
1840	Improving diversity, equity, and mental health at the community and technical colleges	Ortiz-Self	<p>Establishes the Task Force on Improving Equity and Diversity at the Community and Technical Colleges.</p> <p>Expands the Mental Health Counseling and Services Pilot Program to an additional four colleges and extends the expiration date by one additional year.</p>	<p>1/27 – Substitute exec'd out of House College & Workforce Development</p> <p>1/31 – Referred to House Appropriations</p>
5719	Concerning dual credit costs	Mullet	<p>Directs the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to create and administer a grant program to cover up to \$35 per credit of the per credit tuition fee for College in the High School program courses, subject to appropriation.</p> <p>Removes language requiring Running Start students to pay mandatory fees to institutions of higher education.</p> <p>Allows institutions of higher education to charge Running Start students reasonable fees for textbook costs.</p>	<p>1/21 – Substitute exec'd out of Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education</p> <p>1/24 – Referred to Senate Ways & Means</p>
5925	Establishing the outdoor school for all program	Hunt	<p>Establishes the outdoor school for all program, subject to appropriations, that provides outdoor school experiences for fifth and sixth grade students in public schools.</p> <p>Directs the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to administer the program and award two types of grants to eligible school districts and outdoor school providers starting in the 2022-23 school year.</p> <p>Includes this program as one of the outdoor-based activities that student participation in may be considered instructional days.</p> <p>Companion: HB 2078</p>	<p>1/24 – Public hearing in Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education</p>