RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS—APPLICATIONS.

An Act relating to state schools for the mentally and/or physically deficient; and amending section 72.33.120, chapter 28, Laws of 1959 and RCW 72.33.120.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

SECTION 1. Section 72.33.120, chapter 28, Laws of 1959 and RCW 72.33.120 are each amended to read as follows:

Pursuant to reasonable rules and regulations of the department, acting through the division, the superintendent of a state school, subject to the provisions of section 72.33.070, shall receive a person as a resident who is suitable for care, training, treatment, or education appropriate to mental deficiency and/or physical deficiency, or for observation as to the existence of mental deficiency as defined in section 72.33.020, upon the receipt of a written application submitted in accordance with the following requirements:

(1) In the case of a minor person, the application shall be made by his parents, or by the parent, guardian or agency entitled to custody, which application shall be in the form and manner required by the department and which shall be supported by the affidavit of at least two physicians or clinical psychologists, or one of each profession, certifying that such minor is mentally and/or physically deficient as herein defined and in need of residential care, treatment, training, or education. In the event the minor is entitled to school services, the application shall be accompanied by a report from the county school superintendent and/or the superintendent of the school district in which such minor
resides setting forth the educational services rendered or in need of being rendered to the minor.

(2) In the case of an adult person, the application shall be made by his parents, or by the parent, guardian or agency entitled to custody, which application shall be in the form and manner required by the department and which shall be supported by the affidavit of at least two physicians or clinical psychologists, or one of each profession, certifying that such adult is mentally and/or physically deficient as herein defined and in need of residential care, treatment, training, or education: Provided, That if the superintendent deems the application should be made solely by a guardian, in such cases the application shall be made by the duly appointed, qualified, and acting guardian of such adult person: Provided further, That if the parents or other person or agency entitled to custody of an alleged mentally deficient person are without funds sufficient to defray the costs for the appointment of a guardian for such alleged mentally deficient person, then the prosecuting attorney of the county of the alleged mentally deficient person’s residence, upon the presentation of satisfactory proof of such inability to pay the costs of guardianship, shall institute proceedings at the cost of the county for the appointment of a parent or other suitable person to act as guardian of the person of such alleged mentally deficient person in order to permit the making of application for the admission of such person to a state school.

(3) Persons admitted by voluntary application to state schools as in this section provided shall have equal status and the same priority in admission as minors committed under the following section.

Passed the Senate February 21, 1959.
Passed the House March 8, 1959.
Approved by the Governor March 17, 1959.