

ESHB 1875 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Human Services, Mental Health & Housing

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "Sec. 1. RCW 74.08A.250 and 2013 c 39 s 27 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, as used in this
6 chapter, "work activity" means:

7 (1) Unsubsidized paid employment in the private or public sector;

8 (2) Subsidized paid employment in the private or public sector,
9 including employment through the state or federal work-study program
10 for a period not to exceed twenty-four months;

11 (3) Work experience, including:

12 (a) An internship or practicum, that is paid or unpaid and is
13 required to complete a course of vocational training or to obtain a
14 license or certificate in a high-demand occupation, as determined by
15 the employment security department. No internship or practicum shall
16 exceed twelve months; or

17 (b) Work associated with the refurbishing of publicly assisted
18 housing, if sufficient paid employment is not available;

19 (4) On-the-job training;

20 (5) Job search and job readiness assistance;

21 (6) Community service programs, including a recipient's voluntary
22 service at a child care or preschool facility licensed under chapter
23 43.215 RCW or an elementary school in which his or her child is
24 enrolled;

25 (7) Vocational educational training, not to exceed ~~((twelve))~~
26 twenty-four months with respect to any individual;

27 (8) Job skills training directly related to employment;

28 (9) Education directly related to employment, in the case of a
29 recipient who has not received a high school diploma or a high school
30 equivalency certificate as provided in RCW 28B.50.536;

1 (10) Satisfactory attendance at secondary school or in a course
2 of study leading to a high school equivalency certificate as provided
3 in RCW 28B.50.536, in the case of a recipient who has not completed
4 secondary school or received such a certificate;

5 (11) The provision of child care services to an individual who is
6 participating in a community service program;

7 (12) Internships, that shall be paid or unpaid work experience
8 performed by an intern in a business, industry, or government or
9 nongovernmental agency setting;

10 (13) Practicums, which include any educational program in which a
11 student is working under the close supervision of a professional in
12 an agency, clinic, or other professional practice setting for
13 purposes of advancing their skills and knowledge;

14 (14) Services required by the recipient under RCW 74.08.025(3)
15 and 74.08A.010(4) to become employable;

16 (15) Financial literacy activities designed to be effective in
17 assisting a recipient in becoming self-sufficient and financially
18 stable; and

19 (16) Parent education services or programs that support
20 development of appropriate parenting skills, life skills, and
21 employment-related competencies.

22 **Sec. 2.** RCW 74.08A.341 and 2012 c 217 s 1 are each amended to
23 read as follows:

24 The department of social and health services shall operate the
25 Washington WorkFirst program authorized under RCW 74.08A.210 through
26 74.08A.330, 43.330.145, 43.215.545, and 74.25.040, and chapter 74.12
27 RCW within the following constraints:

28 (1) The program shall be operated within amounts appropriated by
29 the legislature and consistent with policy established by the
30 legislature to achieve self-sufficiency through work and the
31 following additional outcomes:

32 (a) Recipients' economic status is improving through wage
33 progression, job retention, and educational advancement;

34 (b) Recipients' status regarding housing stability, medical and
35 behavioral health, and job readiness is improving;

36 (c) The well-being of children whose caretaker is receiving
37 benefits on their behalf is improving with respect to child welfare
38 and educational achievement.

1 (2)(a) The department shall create a budget structure that allows
2 for more transparent tracking of program spending. The budget
3 structure shall outline spending for the following: Temporary
4 assistance for needy family grants, working connections child care,
5 WorkFirst activities and administration of the program.

6 (b) Each biennium, the department shall establish a biennial
7 spending plan, using the budget structure created in (a) of this
8 subsection, for this program and submit the plan to the legislative
9 fiscal committees and the legislative-executive WorkFirst oversight
10 task force no later than July 1st of every odd-numbered year,
11 beginning on July 1, 2013. The department shall update the
12 legislative fiscal committees and the task force on the spending plan
13 if modifications are made to the plan previously submitted to the
14 legislature and the task force for that biennium.

15 (c) The department also shall provide expenditure reports to the
16 fiscal committees of the legislature and the legislative-executive
17 WorkFirst oversight task force beginning September 1, 2012, and on a
18 quarterly basis thereafter. If the department determines, based upon
19 quarterly expenditure reports, that expenditures will exceed funding
20 at the end of the fiscal year, the department shall take those
21 actions necessary to ensure that services provided under this chapter
22 are available only to the extent of and consistent with
23 appropriations in the operating budget and policy established by the
24 legislature following notification provided in (b) of this
25 subsection.

26 (3) No more than fifteen percent of the temporary assistance for
27 needy families block grant, the federal child care funds, and
28 qualifying state expenditures may be spent for administrative
29 purposes. For purposes of this subsection, "administrative purposes"
30 does not include expenditures for information technology and
31 computerization needed for tracking and monitoring required by P.L.
32 104-193.

33 (4) The department shall expend funds appropriated for work
34 activities, as defined in RCW 74.08A.250, or for other services
35 provided to WorkFirst recipients, as authorized under RCW 74.08A.290.
36 The vocational education training work activity, as defined in RCW
37 74.08A.250, is subject to the availability of amounts appropriated
38 for this purpose.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 43.131
2 RCW to read as follows:

3 The definition of "work activity" related to the length of
4 vocational educational training a WorkFirst participant may receive
5 as established under section 1 of this act shall be terminated on
6 August 1, 2021, as provided in section 4 of this act.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 43.131
8 RCW to read as follows:

9 The following acts or parts of acts, as now existing or hereafter
10 amended, are each repealed, effective August 1, 2022:

11 Section 1, chapter ..., Laws of 2016 (section 1 of this act)."

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12 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "program;" strike the
13 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 74.08A.250 and
14 74.08A.341; adding new sections to chapter 43.131 RCW; and providing
15 an effective date."

EFFECT: Adds the requirement that the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee conduct a sunset review by August 1, 2021, on the time limit extension from 12 months to 24 months for purposes of vocational education training for WorkFirst participants. The new language is repealed in 2022. Chapter law reference is changed from 2015 to 2016.

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