

**WASHINGTON STATE  
WORKFORCE TRAINING AND EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD  
MEETING NO. 172  
JULY 31, 2013**

**PRIVATE VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS LEGISLATION**

At the July Retreat, Workforce Board staff will present to the Board possible changes to the Private Vocational Schools Act (PVSA) aimed to increase consumer protection for students.

**Board Action Requested:** For discussion only.

**PRIVATE VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS LEGISLATION  
POSSIBLE CHANGES TO PVSA RCW & WAC**

1. License schools that do not have any self-paid students.
  - RCW 28C.10.060
  
2. Allow agencies or agency paid students to file complaints. This would result in requiring all schools to pay into the Tuition Recovery Trust Fund (TRTF) based on all tuition received – whether from self-pay or public sources. Annual license fees would be higher for some schools, since fee levels are currently based on a sliding scale. Allow Workforce Board to investigate complaints or address concerns that are not just about a monetary loss.
  - RCW 28C.10.120
  - RCW 28C.10.84 (10)
  - RCW 28C.10.120 (1 & 2)
  - WAC 490-105-180 (3a & 3b)
  
3. Strengthen “ability to benefit” clauses to include language about legal residency and criminal backgrounds. These factors could preclude employment even after training is completed for some professions.
  - RCW 28C.10.50 (2e)
  
4. Expand TRTF reimbursement beyond tuition and fees in order to include related expenses such as childcare and transportation.
  - RCW 28C.10.84 (4), (10c)
  - RCW 28C.10.120 (1 & 2)
  
5. When a school closes, reimburse eligible students for the full value of tuition, fees and other expenses incurred while attending the school if comparable training is unavailable.
  - RCW 28C.10.84
  - WAC 490-105-130 (2a)
  
6. Require schools to provide data on all students for use in Career Bridge performance results.
  - RCW 28C.10.050 (2)
  
7. Require programs to meet minimum performance standards as set by the Workforce Board (and defined in WAC). The agency may determine a school is at risk if they fail to meet these standards.
  - RCW 28C.10.50 (2 & 4)
  
8. New unfair business practices to add:
  - School contracts that require students to sign away their rights to a class action lawsuit
  - Using students as unpaid employees
  - Pyramid schemes (example: business coaches)
  - RCW 28C.10.110

9. Remove exemption for Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) schools.
  - RCW 28C.10.030 (8)
  
10. Certain entities which offer courses solely to meet continuing education requirements are currently exempt from licensing (accountancy, nursing care, insurance agents). Consider adding other professional continuing education providers to this exemption.
  - RCW 28C.10.030 (10)
  
11. Remove the cosmetology exemption.
  - RCW 28C.10.010 (9)