

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## ESSB 5702

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**Brief Description:** Expanding the students experiencing homelessness and foster youth pilot program.

**Sponsors:** Senate Committee on Higher Education & Workforce Development (originally sponsored by Senators Trudeau, Nobles, Dhingra, Hunt, Lias, Lovelett, Nguyen, Pedersen, Saldaña, Valdez and Wilson, C.).

**Senate Committee on Higher Education & Workforce Development**  
**Senate Committee on Ways & Means**  
**House Committee on Appropriations**

**Background:** Students Experiencing Homelessness and Foster Youth Pilot Program. In 2019, the Legislature established pilot programs to provide assistance and accommodations to students experiencing homelessness and to students who were in foster care when they graduated from high school.

The participating community and technical colleges (CTCs) and four-year institutions must provide accommodations to homeless students and students who were in foster care at high school graduation. The accommodations may include:

- access to laundry facilities, storage, locker rooms and showers, and technology;
- reduced-price meals or meal plans;
- access to short-term housing or housing assistance, especially during seasonal breaks; and
- case management services.

In 2021, the program was expanded from two to four public four-year institutions. The pilot was also expanded at CTCs, for eight total. The pilot program's expiration date was extended to July 1, 2024, from July 1, 2023. In 2022, the pilot program was further expanded to include six public four-year institutions and all CTCs.

**Summary:** The students experiencing homelessness and foster youth program (Program) is no longer a pilot program with participation limited to eight CTC and four public four-year institutions. Subject to appropriation, all CTCs and public four-year institutions are eligible

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to participate.

The expiration date for the pilot program is eliminated.

**Votes on Final Passage:**

Senate	46	3	
House	60	38	(House amended)
House	59	39	
Senate	42	7	(Senate concurred)

**Effective:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed. However, the bill is null and void unless funded in the budget.