

1 range maximum for the class to which the employee's position is
2 allocated.

3 (c) For each institution of higher education receiving
4 appropriations under sections 606 through 611 of this act:

5 (i) The only allowable salary increases are those associated with
6 normally occurring promotions and increases related to faculty and
7 staff retention and as provided in Part IX of this act; and

8 (ii) Institutions may provide salary increases from other sources
9 to instructional and research faculty at the universities and The
10 Evergreen State College, exempt professional staff, teaching and
11 research assistants, as classified by the office of financial
12 management, and all other nonclassified staff, but not including
13 employees under chapter 41.80 RCW. Any salary increase granted under
14 the authority of this subsection (4)(c)(ii) shall not be included in
15 an institution's salary base for future state funding. It is the
16 intent of the legislature that state general fund support for an
17 institution shall not increase during the current or any future
18 biennium as a result of any salary increases authorized under this
19 subsection (4)(c)(ii).

20 (5) Fiscal or related staff for institutions receiving
21 appropriations in sections 605 through 611 of this act shall form a
22 technical tuition calculation work group with staff from the office
23 of financial management including the education research and data
24 center, nonpartisan legislative fiscal staff, and staff from
25 legislative evaluation and accountability program. The work group
26 shall determine key elements, definitions, assumptions, and drivers
27 to forecast tuition revenue. By ~~((December 1, 2015))~~ January 8, 2016,
28 the work group shall recommend a single methodology for budget,
29 allotment, and budget scenario modeling purposes. The work group may
30 consult with the caseload forecast council as needed.

31 (6) Within funds appropriated to institutions in sections 603
32 through 608 of this act, teacher preparation programs shall meet the
33 requirements of RCW 28B.10.710 to incorporate information on the
34 culture, history, and government of American Indian people in this
35 state by integrating the curriculum developed and made available free
36 of charge by the office of the superintendent of public instruction
37 into existing programs or courses and may modify that curriculum in
38 order to incorporate elements that have a regionally specific focus.

39 (7) Within funds appropriated to institutions in sections 605
40 through 608 of this act, the institutions shall create a work group

1 to study the benefits, challenges, and best practices surrounding
2 accelerated degree programs. The work group shall include one
3 representative from each institution. Each representative shall be
4 selected by the institution he or she represents. The work group may
5 invite, at its discretion, representatives from other public and
6 private Washington institutions of higher education and agencies to
7 provide advice and expertise.

8 (a) The purpose of the work group is to:

9 (i) Develop a set of institutional best practices to promote
10 students' ability to successfully graduate with a baccalaureate
11 degree within three years of entering a regional university or The
12 Evergreen State College;

13 (ii) Identify challenges or obstacles that prevent wider adoption
14 of accelerated degree program options and university students from
15 participating in three-year or other accelerated programs;

16 (iii) Evaluate how public and private institutions of higher
17 education in other states have engaged in accelerated baccalaureate
18 degree programs; and

19 (iv) Develop recommendations that would effectively increase the
20 overall rate of students achieving their baccalaureate degree within
21 three years.

22 (b) The work group shall report to the appropriate committees of
23 the legislature and the institutions of higher education on its
24 findings and recommendations by December 31, 2016.

25 **Sec. 602.** 2015 3rd sp.s. c 4 s 605 (uncodified) is amended to
26 read as follows:

27 **FOR THE STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGES**

28 General Fund—State Appropriation (FY 2016). (~~(\$626,297,000)~~)
29 \$625,251,000

30 General Fund—State Appropriation (FY 2017). (~~(\$646,381,000)~~)
31 \$666,835,000

32 Community/Technical College Capital Projects

33 Account—State Appropriation. \$17,548,000

34 Education Construction Account—State Appropriation. . . . \$7,109,000

35 Education Legacy Trust Account—State

36 Appropriation. (~~(\$96,108,000)~~)

37 \$96,422,000

38 TOTAL APPROPRIATION. (~~(\$1,386,334,000)~~)