

Title	Disability Task Force
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Synopsis:	<p>Disability Task Force</p> <p>Senate Bill 5180 created a task force to develop recommendations that will improve access to postsecondary education for students with disabilities. The task force is composed of 29 individuals representing K-12, postsecondary institutions, citizens, government and non-government organizations. The Council provides staff support for the task force. The task force must submit recommendations to the Governor's Office annually for 3 years.</p>
Guiding questions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can the state make the transition from K-12 to postsecondary education more seamless and successful? • How can K-12 and postsecondary institutions share best practices? • How can school districts, in collaboration with students and families, ensure proper documentation for postsecondary education is completed before students graduate from high school? • How can school districts and postsecondary institutions improve outreach to parents and students about their options in postsecondary education?
Possible council action:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Only <input type="checkbox"/> Approve/Adopt <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Documents and attachments:	<input type="checkbox"/> Brief/Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PowerPoint <input type="checkbox"/> Third-party materials <input type="checkbox"/> Other



WASHINGTON STUDENT
ACHIEVEMENT COUNCIL
EDUCATION › OPPORTUNITY › RESULTS

Council Meeting November 20, 2013

Legislative Task Force to Improve Access for Students with
Disabilities

Background

SB 5180 – 2013 Legislative Session.

- Task force to improve access to postsecondary education for students with disabilities.
- Composed of 29 members appointed by 10 different organizations.
- Requires the Council to staff the task force and submit a report to the Legislature 12/1/2013.



Governor Jay Inslee signing SB 5180
May 14, 2013



2013 Meetings

1st Meeting: 9/16

- Deliverable dates.
- Timeline.
- Number & structure of meetings.
- Discussed bill goals & related issues.

2nd Meeting: 10/15

- Overview of legal statutes governing K-12 & postsecondary education.
- Bill goals, related issues, strategies.

3rd Meeting: 11/8

- Reviewed draft report.
- 2014 Planning.
 - Deliverables.
 - Meeting schedule.

Key Issues:

- Student Transitions
- Documentation
- Outreach

Student Transition

K-12 and postsecondary education are “distinctly different parts of the educational system.”

Lack of meaningful student involvement in IEP (Individualized Education Program).

Lack of communication between K-12 and postsecondary institutions.

Difference in legal requirements and expectations for K-12 vs. postsecondary education.

Equipment and transferability of resources.

Documentation

Postsecondary students must document the need for accommodations.

Students must self-identify.

Accommodations versus curriculum modifications.

College documentation requirements are not always met by K-12 records.

Obtaining documentation can be a financial burden to students.

Outreach

Information directed at students with disabilities is lacking in content and availability.

Current system is difficult to navigate and there is not a comprehensive source of information.

K-12 and postsecondary institution communication is needed to improve strategies.

Gap/deficit of information being passed on to students and parents.

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Preliminary Recommendations

Recommendations

1. On ReadySetGrad.org: include comprehensive information for students with disabilities about transitioning from K-12 to postsecondary.

2. Improve alignment between High School and Beyond Plan and IEP's postsecondary transition plan.

3. K-12 staff should support college and career readiness skills for students with disabilities, and give them opportunities to practice those skills.

Recommendations

4. Allocate more funding for the following purposes:

- Postsecondary evaluations.
- More comprehensive services and accommodations.
- Increased professional development opportunities.
- Postsecondary outreach programs to K-12 classrooms.

5. The Council should develop a statewide Listserv to facilitate communication between K-12 and postsecondary

Next Steps

December 2013: 1st Annual Report

- Background & context.
- Identify issues associated with each goal.
- Principles & values.
- Initial policy recommendations.

December 2014: 2nd Annual Report

- Analysis of issues.
- Planning related to goals.
- Policy recommendations.

December 2015: 3rd Annual Report

- Detailed plan to meet goals.
- Final policy recommendations.

Council Staff Team

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