

HB4030



100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2017 and 2018

HB4030

by Rep. Will Guzzardi

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

30 ILCS 105/5.878 new
110 ILCS 947/23 new

Amends the Higher Education Student Assistance Act. Requires the Illinois Student Assistance Commission to implement and administer a program to award College Promise grants to Illinois residents seeking an associate degree from a public community college or a bachelor's degree from a public university. Provides that a College Promise grant shall be equal to the cost of tuition and mandatory fees at the public institution attended less all other student aid, subject to appropriation from the College Promise Fund; defines "student aid". Sets forth the terms and conditions of the program. Amends the State Finance Act to create the College Promise Fund as a special fund in the State treasury. Effective immediately.

LRB100 12310 MLM 24912 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The State Finance Act is amended by adding
5 Section 5.878 as follows:

6 (30 ILCS 105/5.878 new)

7 Sec. 5.878. The College Promise Fund.

8 Section 10. The Higher Education Student Assistance Act is
9 amended by adding Section 23 as follows:

10 (110 ILCS 947/23 new)

11 Sec. 23. College Promise program.

12 (a) In this Section:

13 "Continuous enrollment" means a student has attended
14 classes in the fall and spring semester of a single academic
15 year; enrollment in summer semester or intersession terms is
16 not required.

17 "Public institution" means the University of Illinois,
18 Southern Illinois University, Chicago State University,
19 Eastern Illinois University, Governors State University,
20 Illinois State University, Northeastern Illinois University,
21 Northern Illinois University, Western Illinois University, any

1 public community college in this State, or any other public
2 university, college, or community college now or hereafter
3 established or authorized by the General Assembly.

4 "Student aid" means scholarships and grants, other than a
5 College Promise grant, awarded to a student from any source
6 that does not require repayment; "student aid" does not include
7 student loans and work-study awards.

8 (b) The Commission shall implement and administer a
9 program, beginning with the 2017-2018 academic year, to award
10 College Promise grants to all eligible Illinois residents
11 seeking an associate or bachelor's degree, as applicable, from
12 a public institution. The following terms and conditions shall
13 apply to the program:

14 (1) To be eligible for a grant, a student must be
15 admitted to and enrolled full-time, as an Illinois
16 resident, in a public institution in the fall term after
17 receiving a high school diploma or a certificate of high
18 school graduation from an approved high school or a high
19 school equivalency certificate. Exceptions to initial
20 enrollment may be made for extenuating circumstances as
21 provided in rules adopted by the Commission.

22 (2) Students applying for a grant shall complete the
23 College Promise grant application in their initial year of
24 enrollment. Students shall complete the Free Application
25 for Federal Student Aid each academic year in which they
26 seek to receive a grant.

1 (3) To continue to receive a grant, a student must
2 maintain Illinois residency, as well as satisfactory
3 academic progress as determined by rules adopted by the
4 Commission.

5 (4) Each academic year, subject to money appropriated
6 by the General Assembly from the College Promise Fund, a
7 grant shall be equal to the cost of tuition and mandatory
8 fees at the public institution attended less all other
9 student aid. Student aid shall be credited first to the
10 student's tuition and mandatory fees. Each public
11 institution shall annually report its undergraduate
12 tuition rate for Illinois residents and the number of its
13 undergraduates who are Illinois residents to the
14 Commission.

15 (5) A student awarded a grant who has an approved
16 medical or personal leave of absence from a public
17 institution may continue to receive the grant upon resuming
18 the student's education at the public institution so long
19 as the student continues to meet all applicable eligibility
20 requirements under this Section and as adopted by the
21 Commission. The total of all approved leaves of absence may
22 not exceed 6 months.

23 (6) A student is eligible for a grant until the
24 occurrence of the first of the following events:

25 (A) the student has earned an associate degree if
26 attending a public community college or a bachelor's

1 degree if attending a public university; or

2 (B) the sum of the number of years the student has
3 attended the public community college or public
4 university, as applicable, equals 3 years from the date
5 of the student's initial enrollment at the public
6 community college or 6 years from the date of the
7 student's initial enrollment at the public university,
8 exclusive of approved leaves of absence.

9 (7) Except for a medical or personal leave of absence,
10 as approved by the public institution, a student awarded a
11 grant under this Section shall maintain continuous
12 enrollment at the public institution.

13 (c) In awarding grants under this Section, the Commission
14 shall, by rule, develop the selection and renewal criteria for
15 students.

16 (d) The College Promise Fund is created as a special fund
17 in the State treasury. The Fund shall consist of money
18 appropriated by the General Assembly and any gifts, bequests,
19 or donations made to the Fund. All money in the Fund shall only
20 be used, subject to appropriation, by the Commission for the
21 purposes of this Section.

22 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
23 becoming law.