

# SB1809



## 101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2019 and 2020

SB1809

Introduced 2/15/2019, by Sen. Donald P. DeWitte

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

110 ILCS 947/35

Amends the Higher Education Student Assistance Act. With regard to the Monetary Award Program, provides that, beginning with the 2019-2020 academic year, an applicant who is otherwise eligible for grant assistance under the Program may receive grant assistance for an additional academic year after receiving a baccalaureate degree or the equivalent of 135 semester credit hours if he or she (i) enrolls in a State-approved educator preparation program and (ii) within 7 years after receiving a Professional Educator License, teaches in this State for a minimum of 5 years. Provides that if at any time a person fails to meet these requirements, he or she must repay the amount of additional assistance received to the Commission. Effective immediately.

LRB101 09676 AXK 54775 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 Higher Education Student Assistance Act is  
5 amended by changing Section 35 as follows:

6 (110 ILCS 947/35)

7 Sec. 35. Monetary award program.

8 (a) The Commission shall, each year, receive and consider  
9 applications for grant assistance under this Section. Subject  
10 to a separate appropriation for such purposes, an applicant is  
11 eligible for a grant under this Section when the Commission  
12 finds that the applicant:

13 (1) is a resident of this State and a citizen or  
14 permanent resident of the United States; and

15 (2) in the absence of grant assistance, will be  
16 deterred by financial considerations from completing an  
17 educational program at the qualified institution of his or  
18 her choice.

19 (b) The Commission shall award renewals only upon the  
20 student's application and upon the Commission's finding that  
21 the applicant:

22 (1) has remained a student in good standing;

23 (2) remains a resident of this State; and

1           (3) is in a financial situation that continues to  
2 warrant assistance.

3           (c) All grants shall be applicable only to tuition and  
4 necessary fee costs. The Commission shall determine the grant  
5 amount for each student, which shall not exceed the smallest of  
6 the following amounts:

7           (1) subject to appropriation, \$5,468 for fiscal year  
8 2009, \$5,968 for fiscal year 2010, and \$6,468 for fiscal  
9 year 2011 and each fiscal year thereafter, or such lesser  
10 amount as the Commission finds to be available, during an  
11 academic year;

12           (2) the amount which equals 2 semesters or 3 quarters  
13 tuition and other necessary fees required generally by the  
14 institution of all full-time undergraduate students; or

15           (3) such amount as the Commission finds to be  
16 appropriate in view of the applicant's financial  
17 resources.

18           Subject to appropriation, the maximum grant amount for  
19 students not subject to subdivision (1) of this subsection (c)  
20 must be increased by the same percentage as any increase made  
21 by law to the maximum grant amount under subdivision (1) of  
22 this subsection (c).

23           "Tuition and other necessary fees" as used in this Section  
24 include the customary charge for instruction and use of  
25 facilities in general, and the additional fixed fees charged  
26 for specified purposes, which are required generally of

1 nongrant recipients for each academic period for which the  
2 grant applicant actually enrolls, but do not include fees  
3 payable only once or breakage fees and other contingent  
4 deposits which are refundable in whole or in part. The  
5 Commission may prescribe, by rule not inconsistent with this  
6 Section, detailed provisions concerning the computation of  
7 tuition and other necessary fees.

8 (d) Except as otherwise provided in this Section, no ~~no~~  
9 applicant, including those presently receiving scholarship  
10 assistance under this Act, is eligible for monetary award  
11 program consideration under this Act after receiving a  
12 baccalaureate degree or the equivalent of 135 semester credit  
13 hours of award payments.

14 (d-3) Beginning with the 2019-2020 academic year, an  
15 applicant who is otherwise eligible for grant assistance under  
16 this Section may receive grant assistance for an additional  
17 academic year after receiving a baccalaureate degree or the  
18 equivalent of 135 semester credit hours if he or she (i)  
19 enrolls in a State-approved educator preparation program and  
20 (ii) within 7 years after receiving a Professional Educator  
21 License, teaches in this State for a minimum of 5 years. If at  
22 any time a person fails to meet the requirements of this  
23 subsection, he or she must repay the amount of additional  
24 assistance received to the Commission, in a manner as  
25 determined by the Commission.

26 (d-5) In this subsection (d-5), "renewing applicant" means

1 a student attending an institution of higher learning who  
2 received a Monetary Award Program grant during the prior  
3 academic year. Beginning with the processing of applications  
4 for the 2020-2021 academic year, the Commission shall annually  
5 publish a priority deadline date for renewing applicants.  
6 Subject to appropriation, a renewing applicant who files by the  
7 published priority deadline date shall receive a grant if he or  
8 she continues to meet the eligibility requirements under this  
9 Section. A renewing applicant's failure to apply by the  
10 priority deadline date established under this subsection (d-5)  
11 shall not disqualify him or her from receiving a grant if  
12 sufficient funding is available to provide awards after that  
13 date.

14 (e) The Commission, in determining the number of grants to  
15 be offered, shall take into consideration past experience with  
16 the rate of grant funds unclaimed by recipients. The Commission  
17 shall notify applicants that grant assistance is contingent  
18 upon the availability of appropriated funds.

19 (e-5) The General Assembly finds and declares that it is an  
20 important purpose of the Monetary Award Program to facilitate  
21 access to college both for students who pursue postsecondary  
22 education immediately following high school and for those who  
23 pursue postsecondary education later in life, particularly  
24 Illinoisans who are dislocated workers with financial need and  
25 who are seeking to improve their economic position through  
26 education. For the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 academic years, the

1 Commission shall give additional and specific consideration to  
2 the needs of dislocated workers with the intent of allowing  
3 applicants who are dislocated workers an opportunity to secure  
4 financial assistance even if applying later than the general  
5 pool of applicants. The Commission's consideration shall  
6 include, in determining the number of grants to be offered, an  
7 estimate of the resources needed to serve dislocated workers  
8 who apply after the Commission initially suspends award  
9 announcements for the upcoming regular academic year, but prior  
10 to the beginning of that academic year. For the purposes of  
11 this subsection (e-5), a dislocated worker is defined as in the  
12 federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

13 (f) (Blank).

14 (g) The Commission shall determine the eligibility of and  
15 make grants to applicants enrolled at qualified for-profit  
16 institutions in accordance with the criteria set forth in this  
17 Section. The eligibility of applicants enrolled at such  
18 for-profit institutions shall be limited as follows:

19 (1) Beginning with the academic year 1997, only to  
20 eligible first-time freshmen and first-time transfer  
21 students who have attained an associate degree.

22 (2) Beginning with the academic year 1998, only to  
23 eligible freshmen students, transfer students who have  
24 attained an associate degree, and students who receive a  
25 grant under paragraph (1) for the academic year 1997 and  
26 whose grants are being renewed for the academic year 1998.

1           (3) Beginning with the academic year 1999, to all  
2           eligible students.

3           (h) The Commission may adopt rules to implement this  
4           Section.

5           (Source: P.A. 100-477, eff. 9-8-17; 100-621, eff. 7-20-18;  
6           100-823, eff. 8-13-18; revised 10-10-18.)

7           Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
8           becoming law.