

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 2020-2021 academic year through
15 the 2024-2025 academic year, an applicant who is otherwise
16 eligible for grant assistance under this Section may receive
17 grant assistance for an additional academic year after
18 receiving a baccalaureate degree or the equivalent of 135
19 semester credit hours if he or she (i) enrolls in a
20 State-approved educator preparation program and (ii) within 5
21 years after receiving a Professional Educator License, teaches
22 in this State for a minimum of 3 years. If at any time a person
23 fails to meet the requirements of this subsection, he or she
24 must repay the amount of additional assistance received to the
25 Commission, in a manner as determined by the Commission,
26 prorated according to the fraction of the teaching obligation

1 not completed. This subsection is inoperative on and after July
2 1, 2025.

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

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

22 (e-5) The General Assembly finds and declares that it is an
23 important purpose of the Monetary Award Program to facilitate
24 access to college both for students who pursue postsecondary
25 education immediately following high school and for those who
26 pursue postsecondary education later in life, particularly

1 Illinoisans who are dislocated workers with financial need and
2 who are seeking to improve their economic position through
3 education. For the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 academic years, the
4 Commission shall give additional and specific consideration to
5 the needs of dislocated workers with the intent of allowing
6 applicants who are dislocated workers an opportunity to secure
7 financial assistance even if applying later than the general
8 pool of applicants. The Commission's consideration shall
9 include, in determining the number of grants to be offered, an
10 estimate of the resources needed to serve dislocated workers
11 who apply after the Commission initially suspends award
12 announcements for the upcoming regular academic year, but prior
13 to the beginning of that academic year. For the purposes of
14 this subsection (e-5), a dislocated worker is defined as in the
15 federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

16 (f) (Blank).

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

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

25 (2) Beginning with the academic year 1998, only to
26 eligible freshmen students, transfer students who have

1 attained an associate degree, and students who receive a
2 grant under paragraph (1) for the academic year 1997 and
3 whose grants are being renewed for the academic year 1998.

4 (3) Beginning with the academic year 1999, to all
5 eligible students.

6 (h) The Commission may adopt rules to implement this
7 Section.

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

10 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
11 becoming law.