

SB3728



101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2019 and 2020

SB3728

Introduced 2/14/2020, by Sen. Ann Gillespie

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

110 ILCS 947/65.110 new

Amends the Higher Education Student Assistance Act. Allows the Illinois Student Assistance Commission to award Post-Master of Social Work School Social Work Professional Educator License scholarships to an individual who has a valid Illinois-licensed clinical social work license or social work license and a Master of Social Work degree for the purpose of obtaining a Professional Educator License with an endorsement in social work. Sets forth various terms and condition of the scholarship, including that a recipient of the scholarship must work at a public or nonpublic not-for profit preschool, elementary, or secondary school located in the State for at least 2 of the 5 years immediately following the recipient's graduation or termination of studies. Effective January 1, 2021.

LRB101 19839 CMG 69359 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

STATE MANDATES
ACT MAY REQUIRE
REIMBURSEMENT

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning higher 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 adding Section 65.110 as follows:

6 (110 ILCS 947/65.110 new)

7 Sec. 65.110. Post-Master of Social Work School Social Work
8 Professional Educator License scholarship.

9 (a) Subject to appropriation, the Commission shall award
10 annually up to 250 Post-Master of Social Work School Social
11 Work Professional Educator License scholarships to a person
12 who:

13 (1) holds a valid Illinois-licensed clinical social
14 work license or social work license;

15 (2) has obtained a master's degree in social work from
16 an approved program;

17 (3) is a United States citizen or eligible noncitizen;
18 and

19 (4) submits an application to the Commission for such
20 scholarship and agrees to take courses to obtain an
21 Illinois Professional Educator License with an endorsement
22 in School Social Work.

23 (b) Scholarships awarded under this Section shall be issued

1 pursuant to rules adopted by the Commission, if no rule adopted
2 by the State Board of Education prior to the effective date of
3 this amendatory Act of the 101st General Assembly, pursuant to
4 the exercise of any right, power, duty, responsibility, or
5 matter of pending business transferred from the State Board of
6 Education to the Commission under this Section, shall be
7 affected thereby, and all such rules shall become the rules of
8 the Commission until modified or changed by the Commission in
9 accordance with law. In awarding the scholarship, the
10 Commission shall give priority to those applicants who are
11 members of underrepresented communities in the school social
12 work field in Illinois.

13 (c) Each scholarship shall be applied to the payment of
14 tuition at the University of Illinois, Southern Illinois
15 University, Chicago State University, Eastern Illinois
16 University, Governors State University, Illinois State
17 University, Northeastern Illinois University, Northern
18 Illinois University, and Western Illinois University. Tuition
19 payments shall be applied only to courses that are required to
20 obtain an Illinois Professional Educator License with an
21 endorsement in School Social Work. The Commission, in
22 consultation with the State Board of Education, shall determine
23 the courses eligible for tuition payments under this Section.

24 (d) The Commission shall make tuition payments directly to
25 the qualified institution of higher learning which the
26 applicant attends for the courses prescribed or may make

1 payments to the applicant. Any applicant who receives payments
2 and who fails to enroll in the courses prescribed shall refund
3 the payments to the Commission.

4 (e) Any person who has accepted a scholarship under this
5 Section must, within one year after graduation or termination
6 of enrollment in a Post-Master of Social Work Professional
7 Education License with an endorsement in School Social Work
8 program, begin working at a public or nonpublic not-for profit
9 preschool, elementary, or secondary school located in this
10 State for at least 2 of the 5 years immediately following that
11 graduation or termination, excluding, however, from the
12 computation of that 5-year period: (i) any time up to 3 years
13 spent in the military service, whether such service occurs
14 before or after the person graduates; (ii) the time that person
15 is a person with a temporary total disability for a period of
16 time not to exceed 3 years, as established by the sworn
17 affidavit of a qualified physician; and (iii) the time that
18 person is seeking and unable to find full-time employment as a
19 school social worker at a State public, private, or parochial
20 school.

21 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect January
22 1, 2021.