

SB2528



102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2021 and 2022

SB2528

Introduced 2/26/2021, by Sen. Craig Wilcox

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

35 ILCS 5/231

Amends the Illinois Income Tax Act. Provides that an apprentice who is hired by the taxpayer through the United States Department of Defense SkillBridge internship program is considered a qualifying apprentice for the purpose of the apprenticeship education expense credit. Provides that, in the case of an employee participating in the SkillBridge program, the credit shall be equal to \$3,500 per qualifying apprentice. Effective immediately.

LRB102 17460 HLH 22955 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning revenue.

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

4 Section 5. The Illinois Income Tax Act is amended by
5 changing and renumbering Section 229, as added by Public Act
6 101-207, as follows:

7 (35 ILCS 5/231)

8 Sec. 231 ~~229~~. Apprenticeship education expense credit.

9 (a) As used in this Section:

10 "Department" means the Department of Commerce and Economic
11 Opportunity.

12 "Employer" means an Illinois taxpayer who is the employer
13 of the qualifying apprentice.

14 "Qualifying apprentice" means an individual who: (i) is a
15 resident of the State of Illinois; (ii) is at least 16 years
16 old at the close of the school year for which a credit is
17 sought; (iii) during the school year for which a credit is
18 sought, was a full-time apprentice enrolled in an
19 apprenticeship program which is registered with the United
20 States Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship; and (iv)
21 is employed in Illinois by the taxpayer who is the employer.
22 "Qualifying apprentice" also means an apprentice who is
23 employed in Illinois by the taxpayer through the United States

1 Department of Defense SkillBridge internship program.

2 "Qualified education expense" means the amount incurred on
3 behalf of a qualifying apprentice not to exceed \$3,500 for
4 tuition, book fees, and lab fees at the school or community
5 college in which the apprentice is enrolled during the regular
6 school year.

7 "School" means any public or nonpublic secondary school in
8 Illinois that is: (i) an institution of higher education that
9 provides a program that leads to an industry-recognized
10 postsecondary credential or degree; (ii) an entity that
11 carries out programs registered under the federal National
12 Apprenticeship Act; or (iii) another public or private
13 provider of a program of training services, which may include
14 a joint labor-management organization.

15 (b) For taxable years beginning on or after January 1,
16 2020, and beginning on or before January 1, 2025, the employer
17 of one or more qualifying apprentices shall be allowed a
18 credit against the tax imposed by subsections (a) and (b) of
19 Section 201 of the Illinois Income Tax Act for qualified
20 education expenses incurred on behalf of a qualifying
21 apprentice. The credit shall be equal to 100% of the qualified
22 education expenses, but in no event may the total credit
23 amount awarded to a single taxpayer in a single taxable year
24 exceed \$3,500 per qualifying apprentice. In the case of an
25 employee participating in the SkillBridge program, the credit
26 shall be equal to \$3,500 per qualifying apprentice. A taxpayer

1 shall be entitled to an additional \$1,500 credit against the
2 tax imposed by subsections (a) and (b) of Section 201 of the
3 Illinois Income Tax Act if (i) the qualifying apprentice
4 resides in an underserved area as defined in Section 5-5 of the
5 Economic Development for a Growing Economy Tax Credit Act
6 during the school year for which a credit is sought by an
7 employer or (ii) the employer's principal place of business is
8 located in an underserved area, as defined in Section 5-5 of
9 the Economic Development for a Growing Economy Tax Credit Act.
10 In no event shall a credit under this Section reduce the
11 taxpayer's liability under this Act to less than zero. For
12 partners, shareholders of Subchapter S corporations, and
13 owners of limited liability companies, if the liability
14 company is treated as a partnership for purposes of federal
15 and State income taxation, there shall be allowed a credit
16 under this Section to be determined in accordance with the
17 determination of income and distributive share of income under
18 Sections 702 and 704 and Subchapter S of the Internal Revenue
19 Code.

20 (c) The Department shall implement a program to certify
21 applicants for an apprenticeship credit under this Section.
22 Upon satisfactory review, the Department shall issue a tax
23 credit certificate to an employer incurring costs on behalf of
24 a qualifying apprentice stating the amount of the tax credit
25 to which the employer is entitled. If the employer is seeking a
26 tax credit for multiple qualifying apprentices, the Department

1 may issue a single tax credit certificate that encompasses the
2 aggregate total of tax credits for qualifying apprentices for
3 a single employer.

4 (d) The Department, in addition to those powers granted
5 under the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois, is granted
6 and shall have all the powers necessary or convenient to carry
7 out and effectuate the purposes and provisions of this
8 Section, including, but not limited to, power and authority
9 to:

10 (1) Adopt rules deemed necessary and appropriate for
11 the administration of this Section; establish forms for
12 applications, notifications, contracts, or any other
13 agreements; and accept applications at any time during the
14 year and require that all applications be submitted via
15 the Internet. The Department shall require that
16 applications be submitted in electronic form.

17 (2) Provide guidance and assistance to applicants
18 pursuant to the provisions of this Section and cooperate
19 with applicants to promote, foster, and support job
20 creation within the State.

21 (3) Enter into agreements and memoranda of
22 understanding for participation of and engage in
23 cooperation with agencies of the federal government, units
24 of local government, universities, research foundations or
25 institutions, regional economic development corporations,
26 or other organizations for the purposes of this Section.

1 (4) Gather information and conduct inquiries, in the
2 manner and by the methods it deems desirable, including,
3 without limitation, gathering information with respect to
4 applicants for the purpose of making any designations or
5 certifications necessary or desirable or to gather
6 information in furtherance of the purposes of this Act.

7 (5) Establish, negotiate, and effectuate any term,
8 agreement, or other document with any person necessary or
9 appropriate to accomplish the purposes of this Section,
10 and consent, subject to the provisions of any agreement
11 with another party, to the modification or restructuring
12 of any agreement to which the Department is a party.

13 (6) Provide for sufficient personnel to permit
14 administration, staffing, operation, and related support
15 required to adequately discharge its duties and
16 responsibilities described in this Section from funds made
17 available through charges to applicants or from funds as
18 may be appropriated by the General Assembly for the
19 administration of this Section.

20 (7) Require applicants, upon written request, to issue
21 any necessary authorization to the appropriate federal,
22 State, or local authority or any other person for the
23 release to the Department of information requested by the
24 Department, including, but not be limited to, financial
25 reports, returns, or records relating to the applicant or
26 to the amount of credit allowable under this Section.

1 (8) Require that an applicant shall, at all times,
2 keep proper books of record and account in accordance with
3 generally accepted accounting principles consistently
4 applied, with the books, records, or papers related to the
5 agreement in the custody or control of the applicant open
6 for reasonable Department inspection and audits,
7 including, without limitation, the making of copies of the
8 books, records, or papers.

9 (9) Take whatever actions are necessary or appropriate
10 to protect the State's interest in the event of
11 bankruptcy, default, foreclosure, or noncompliance with
12 the terms and conditions of financial assistance or
13 participation required under this Section or any agreement
14 entered into under this Section, including the power to
15 sell, dispose of, lease, or rent, upon terms and
16 conditions determined by the Department to be appropriate,
17 real or personal property that the Department may recover
18 as a result of these actions.

19 (e) The Department, in consultation with the Department of
20 Revenue, shall adopt rules to administer this Section. The
21 aggregate amount of the tax credits that may be claimed under
22 this Section for qualified education expenses incurred by an
23 employer on behalf of a qualifying apprentice shall be limited
24 to \$5,000,000 per calendar year. If applications for a greater
25 amount are received, credits shall be allowed on a first-come
26 first-served basis, based on the date on which each properly

1 completed application for a certificate of eligibility is
2 received by the Department. If more than one certificate is
3 received on the same day, the credits will be awarded based on
4 the time of submission for that particular day.

5 (f) An employer may not sell or otherwise transfer a
6 credit awarded under this Section to another person or
7 taxpayer.

8 (g) The employer shall provide the Department such
9 information as the Department may require, including but not
10 limited to: (i) the name, age, and taxpayer identification
11 number of each qualifying apprentice employed by the taxpayer
12 during the taxable year; (ii) the amount of qualified
13 education expenses incurred with respect to each qualifying
14 apprentice; and (iii) the name of the school at which the
15 qualifying apprentice is enrolled and the qualified education
16 expenses are incurred.

17 (h) On or before July 1 of each year, the Department shall
18 report to the Governor and the General Assembly on the tax
19 credit certificates awarded under this Section for the prior
20 calendar year. The report must include:

21 (1) the name of each employer awarded or allocated a
22 credit;

23 (2) the number of qualifying apprentices for whom the
24 employer has incurred qualified education expenses;

25 (3) the North American Industry Classification System
26 (NAICS) code applicable to each employer awarded or

1 allocated a credit;

2 (4) the amount of the credit awarded or allocated to
3 each employer;

4 (5) the total number of employers awarded or allocated
5 a credit;

6 (6) the total number of qualifying apprentices for
7 whom employers receiving credits under this Section
8 incurred qualified education expenses; and

9 (7) the average cost to the employer of all
10 apprenticeships receiving credits under this Section.

11 (Source: P.A. 101-207, eff. 8-2-19; revised 9-5-19.)

12 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
13 becoming law.