



95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2007 and 2008

HB0703

Introduced 2/6/2007, by Rep. David E. Miller

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

110 ILCS 947/35

Amends the Higher Education Student Assistance Act. With respect to the Monetary Award Program, provides that the grant amount must not exceed the amount that equals the average tuition and necessary fees for undergraduate students at public universities in this State for the academic year no more than 2 years prior to the academic year for which grant assistance is being requested (now the amount is \$4,968) or the amount that equals the average tuition and necessary fees for undergraduate students at public universities in this State for the academic year for which grant assistance is being requested (instead of the amount that equals 2 semesters or 3 quarters tuition and other necessary fees required generally by the institution of higher learning of all full-time undergraduate students). Effective July 1, 2007.

LRB095 03760 NHT 28402 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) the amount that equals the average tuition and
8 necessary fees for undergraduate students at public
9 universities in this State for the academic year no more
10 than 2 years prior to the academic year for which grant
11 assistance is being requested \$4,968, or such lesser amount
12 as the Commission finds to be available, ~~during an academic~~
13 ~~year~~; or

14 (2) the amount that ~~which~~ equals the average tuition
15 and necessary fees for undergraduate students at public
16 universities in this State for the academic year for which
17 grant assistance is being requested ~~2 semesters or 3~~
18 ~~quarters~~ ~~tuition and other necessary fees required~~
19 ~~generally by the institution of all full time~~
20 ~~undergraduate students~~; or

21 (3) such amount as the Commission finds to be
22 appropriate in view of the applicant's financial
23 resources.

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

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

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

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 (f) The Commission may request appropriations for deposit
20 into the Monetary Award Program Reserve Fund. Monies deposited
21 into the Monetary Award Program Reserve Fund may be expended
22 exclusively for one purpose: to make Monetary Award Program
23 grants to eligible students. Amounts on deposit in the Monetary
24 Award Program Reserve Fund may not exceed 2% of the current
25 annual State appropriation for the Monetary Award Program.

26 The purpose of the Monetary Award Program Reserve Fund is

1 to enable the Commission each year to assure as many students
2 as possible of their eligibility for a Monetary Award Program
3 grant and to do so before commencement of the academic year.
4 Moneys deposited in this Reserve Fund are intended to enhance
5 the Commission's management of the Monetary Award Program,
6 minimizing the necessity, magnitude, and frequency of
7 adjusting award amounts and ensuring that the annual Monetary
8 Award Program appropriation can be fully utilized.

9 (g) The Commission shall determine the eligibility of and
10 make grants to applicants enrolled at qualified for-profit
11 institutions in accordance with the criteria set forth in this
12 Section. The eligibility of applicants enrolled at such
13 for-profit institutions shall be limited as follows:

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

17 (2) Beginning with the academic year 1998, only to
18 eligible freshmen students, transfer students who have
19 attained an associate degree, and students who receive a
20 grant under paragraph (1) for the academic year 1997 and
21 whose grants are being renewed for the academic year 1998.

22 (3) Beginning with the academic year 1999, to all
23 eligible students.

24 (Source: P.A. 92-45, eff. 7-1-01; 93-1032, eff. 9-2-04.)

25 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,
26 2007.