

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 changing Section 45 as follows:

6 (110 ILCS 947/45)

7 Sec. 45. Illinois National Guard and Naval Militia grant
8 program.

9 (a) As used in this Section:

10 "State controlled university or community college" means
11 those institutions under the administration of the Chicago
12 State University Board of Trustees, the Eastern Illinois
13 University Board of Trustees, the Governors State University
14 Board of Trustees, the Illinois State University Board of
15 Trustees, the Northeastern Illinois University Board of
16 Trustees, the Northern Illinois University Board of Trustees,
17 the Western Illinois University Board of Trustees, Southern
18 Illinois University Board of Trustees, University of Illinois
19 Board of Trustees, or the Illinois Community College Board.

20 "Tuition and fees" shall not include expenses for any
21 sectarian or denominational instruction, the construction or
22 maintenance of sectarian or denominational facilities, or any
23 other sectarian or denominational purposes or activity.

1 "Fees" means matriculation, graduation, activity, term, or
2 incidental fees. Exemption shall not be granted from any other
3 fees, including book rental, service, laboratory, supply, and
4 union building fees, hospital and medical insurance fees, and
5 any fees established for the operation and maintenance of
6 buildings, the income of which is pledged to the payment of
7 interest and principal on bonds issued by the governing board
8 of any university or community college.

9 (b) Any person who has served at least one year in the
10 Illinois National Guard or the Illinois Naval Militia and who
11 possesses all necessary entrance requirements shall, upon
12 application and proper proof, be awarded a grant to the
13 State-controlled university or community college of his or her
14 choice, consisting of exemption from tuition and fees for not
15 more than the equivalent of 4 years of full-time enrollment,
16 including summer terms, in relation to his or her course of
17 study at that State controlled university or community college
18 while he or she is a member of the Illinois National Guard or
19 the Illinois Naval Militia. Beginning with the 2013-2014
20 academic year, any person who has served over 10 years in the
21 Illinois National Guard shall be awarded an additional grant to
22 the State-controlled university or community college of his or
23 her choice, consisting of an exemption from tuition and fees
24 for not more than the equivalent of an additional 2 years of
25 full-time enrollment, including summer terms. Except as
26 otherwise provided in this Section, if the recipient of any

1 grant awarded under this Section ceases to be a member of the
2 Illinois National Guard or the Illinois Naval Militia while
3 enrolled in a course of study under that grant, the grant shall
4 be terminated as of the date membership in the Illinois
5 National Guard or the Illinois Naval Militia ended, and the
6 recipient shall be permitted to complete the school term in
7 which he or she is then enrolled only upon payment of tuition
8 and other fees allocable to the part of the term then
9 remaining. If the recipient of a grant awarded under this
10 Section ceases to be a member of the Illinois National Guard or
11 the Illinois Naval Militia while enrolled in a course of study
12 under that grant but (i) has served in the Illinois National
13 Guard or the Illinois Naval Militia for at least 5 years and
14 (ii) has served a cumulative total of at least 6 months of
15 active duty, then that recipient shall continue to be eligible
16 for a grant for one year after membership in the Illinois
17 National Guard or the Illinois Naval Militia ended, provided
18 that the recipient has not already received the exemption from
19 tuition and fees for the equivalent of 4 years of full-time
20 enrollment, including summer terms, under this Section. If the
21 recipient of the grant fails to complete his or her military
22 service obligations or requirements for satisfactory
23 participation, the Department of Military Affairs shall
24 require the recipient to repay the amount of the grant
25 received, prorated according to the fraction of the service
26 obligation not completed, and, if applicable, reasonable

1 collection fees. The Department of Military Affairs may adopt
2 rules relating to its collection activities for repayment of
3 the grant under this Section. Unsatisfactory participation
4 shall be defined by rules adopted by the Department of Military
5 Affairs. Repayments shall be deposited in the National Guard
6 and Naval Militia Grant Fund. The National Guard and Naval
7 Militia Grant Fund is created as a special fund in the State
8 treasury. All money in the National Guard and Naval Militia
9 Grant Fund shall be used, subject to appropriation, by the
10 Illinois Student Assistance Commission for the purposes of this
11 Section.

12 A grant awarded under this Section shall be considered an
13 entitlement which the State-controlled university or community
14 college in which the holder is enrolled shall honor without any
15 condition other than the holder's maintenance of minimum grade
16 levels and a satisfactory student loan repayment record
17 pursuant to subsection (c) of Section 20 of this Act.

18 (c) Subject to a separate appropriation for such purposes,
19 the Commission may reimburse the State-controlled university
20 or community college for grants authorized by this Section.

21 (Source: P.A. 93-838, eff. 7-30-04; 93-856, eff. 8-3-04;
22 94-583, eff. 8-15-05; 94-1020, eff. 7-11-06.)

23 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
24 becoming law.