



99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2015 and 2016

SB2146

Introduced 5/31/2015, by Sen. Andy Manar

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act
30 ILCS 105/5.866 new

Creates the Illinois College Promise Program Act. Provides that the Illinois Community College Board shall administer the Program for Illinois residents seeking an associate's degree, certificate, or diploma from an eligible community college. Sets forth provisions concerning the eligibility requirements for a student to be awarded the Illinois College Promise scholarship. Sets forth provisions concerning the administration of the Illinois College Promise Scholarship Fund. Amends the State Finance Act. Creates the Illinois College Promise Scholarship Fund as a special fund in the State Treasury. Effective July 1, 2016.

LRB099 12699 SXM 36469 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 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 Illinois College Promise Program Act.

6 Section 5. Definitions. In this Act:

7 "Board" means Illinois Community College Board.

8 "Continuous enrollment" means a student has attended
9 classes in the fall and spring semester of a single academic
10 year; enrollment in summer semester or intersession terms is
11 not required.

12 "Eligible high school" means:

13 (1) an Illinois public secondary school;

14 (2) a private secondary school that is located in
15 Illinois and is approved by the Board; or

16 (3) an out-of-state boarding school accredited by a
17 regional accrediting association that is attended by an
18 Illinois resident.

19 "Eligible community college" has the meaning provided in
20 subsection (c) of Section 1-2 of the Public Community College
21 Act.

22 "Full-time student" means a student at an eligible
23 community college who is enrolled for at least 12 semester

1 hours during each semester of attendance.

2 "Fund" means the Illinois College Promise Scholarship
3 Fund.

4 "Gift aid" means scholarships and grants from any source
5 that do not require repayment, including, but not limited to,
6 funds provided through the federal Foster Care Independence Act
7 of 1999, compiled generally in Title 42 U.S.C., and other
8 similar programs; "gift aid" does not include student loans and
9 work-study awards.

10 "Scholarship" means the scholarship awarded under the
11 Illinois College Promise Program.

12 "Program" means the Illinois College Promise Program.

13 Section 10. Requirements. The Board shall administer the
14 Program for Illinois residents seeking an associate's degree,
15 certificate, or diploma from an eligible community college
16 under the following terms and conditions:

17 (1) To be eligible for the scholarship, a student shall
18 be admitted to and enrolled full-time in an eligible
19 community college in the fall term after receiving a high
20 school diploma, a certificate of high school graduation, or
21 a high school equivalency certificate. Exceptions to
22 initial enrollment may be made for extenuating
23 circumstances as provided in rules adopted by the Board.

24 (2) Students applying for the scholarship shall
25 complete the Illinois College Promise application in their

1 initial year of enrollment. Students shall complete the
2 free application for federal student aid each academic year
3 in which they seek to receive Scholarship.

4 (3) To continue to receive Scholarship, a student shall
5 maintain satisfactory academic progress as determined by
6 the rules adopted by the Board.

7 (4) Subject to the moneys appropriated by the General
8 Assembly, a Scholarship shall be the cost of tuition and
9 mandatory fees at an eligible community college attended
10 less all other gift aid. Gift aid shall be credited first
11 to the student's tuition and mandatory fees.

12 (5) A student awarded a Scholarship under this Act who
13 has an approved medical or personal leave of absence from
14 an eligible community college may continue to receive the
15 scholarship upon resuming the student's education at an
16 eligible community college so long as the student continues
17 to meet all applicable eligibility requirements under this
18 Act and as adopted by the Board. The total of all approved
19 leaves of absence shall not exceed 6 months.

20 (6) A student shall be eligible for the Scholarship
21 until the occurrence of the first of the following events:

22 (A) the student has earned a certificate, diploma,
23 or associate degree; or

24 (B) the sum of the number of years the student
25 attended a postsecondary institution, exclusive of
26 approved leaves of absence, equals 2 years from the

1 date of the student's initial enrollment at an eligible
2 community college.

3 (7) Except for a medical or personal leave of absence,
4 as approved by an eligible community college, a student
5 awarded a Scholarship under this Act shall maintain
6 continuous enrollment at an eligible community college.

7 The Board shall develop the selection and renewal criteria
8 for students and adopt residency requirements, and shall have
9 the authority to work with outside organizations to develop the
10 most effective means for delivering the Scholarships.

11 Section 15. Illinois College Promise Scholarship Fund.
12 There is created in the State treasury the Illinois College
13 Promise Scholarship Fund, which shall consist of moneys
14 appropriated annually by the General Assembly from the General
15 Revenue Fund and any gifts, bequests, or donations. The State
16 Treasurer shall be custodian of the fund. Moneys in the Fund
17 shall be appropriated and used solely for the administration of
18 the Program. The State Treasurer may invest moneys in the Fund.
19 Any interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be
20 credited to the Fund by the State Treasurer. Notwithstanding
21 any other law to the contrary, the Illinois College Promise
22 Scholarship Fund is not subject to sweeps, administrative
23 charge-backs, or any other fiscal or budgetary maneuver that
24 would in any way transfer any amounts from the Illinois College
25 Promise Scholarship Fund into any other fund of the State.

1 Section 20. The State Finance Act is amended by adding
2 Section 5.866 as follows:

3 (30 ILCS 105/5.866 new)

4 Sec. 5.866. The Illinois College Promise Scholarship Fund.

5 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,
6 2016.