

1 AN ACT relating to higher education student assistance.

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
5 is amended by changing Section 10 as follows:

6 (110 ILCS 947/10)

7 Sec. 10. Definitions. In this Act, and except to the
8 extent that any of the following words or phrases is
9 specifically qualified by its context:

10 "Commission" means the Illinois Student Assistance
11 Commission created by this Act.

12 "Enrollment" means the establishment and maintenance of
13 an individual's status as a student in an institution of
14 higher learning, regardless of the terms used at the
15 institution to describe that status.

16 "Approved high school" means any public high school
17 located in this State; and any high school, located in this
18 State or elsewhere (whether designated as a high school,
19 secondary school, academy, preparatory school, or otherwise)
20 which in the judgment of the State Superintendent of
21 Education provides a course of instruction at the secondary
22 level and maintains standards of instruction substantially
23 equivalent to those of the public high schools located in
24 this State.

25 "Institution of higher learning", "qualified
26 institution", or "institution" means an educational
27 organization located in this State which

28 (1) provides at least an organized 2 year program
29 of collegiate grade in the liberal arts or sciences, or
30 both, directly applicable toward the attainment of a
31 baccalaureate degree or a program in health education

1 directly applicable toward the attainment of a
2 certificate, diploma, or an associate degree;

3 (2) either is

4 (A) operated by this State, or

5 (B) operated publicly or privately, not for
6 profit, or

7 (C) operated for profit, provided such for
8 profit organization

9 (i) offers degree programs which have
10 been approved by the Board of Higher Education
11 for a minimum of 3 years under the Academic
12 Degree Act, and

13 (ii) enrolls a majority of its students
14 in such degree programs, and

15 (iii) maintains an accredited status with
16 the Commission on Institutions of Higher
17 Education of the North Central Association of
18 Colleges and Schools;

19 (3) in the judgment of the Commission meets
20 standards substantially equivalent to those of comparable
21 institutions operated by this State; and

22 (4) if so required by the Commission, uses the
23 State as its primary guarantor of student loans made
24 under the federal Higher Education Act of 1965.

25 For otherwise eligible educational organizations which
26 provide academic programs for incarcerated students, the
27 terms "institution of higher learning", "qualified
28 institutions", and "institution" shall specifically exclude
29 academic programs for incarcerated students.

30 "Academic Year" means a 12 month period of time, normally
31 but not exclusively, from September 1 of any year through
32 August 31 of the ensuing year.

33 "Full-time student" means any undergraduate student
34 enrolled in 12 or more semester or quarter hours of credit

1 courses in any given semester or quarter or in the equivalent
2 number of units of registration as determined by the
3 Commission.

4 "Part-time student" means any undergraduate student,
5 other than a full-time student, enrolled in 6 or more
6 semester or quarter hours of credit courses in any given
7 semester or quarter or in the equivalent number of units of
8 registration as determined by the Commission. Beginning with
9 fiscal year 1999, the Commission may, on a program by program
10 basis, expand this definition of "part-time student" to
11 include students who enroll in less than 6 semester or
12 quarter hours of credit courses in any given semester or
13 quarter. Beginning with fiscal year 2003, "part-time
14 student", for purposes of the Monetary Award Program under
15 Section 35 of this Act, includes any undergraduate student,
16 other than a full-time student, enrolled in 3 or more
17 semester or quarter hours of credit courses in any given
18 semester or quarter or in the equivalent number of units of
19 registration as determined by the Commission.

20 (Source: P.A. 90-122, eff. 7-17-97; 91-250, eff. 7-22-99.)

21 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect on
22 July 1, 2002.