

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  
5 is amended by changing Section 45 as follows:

6 (110 ILCS 947/45)

7 Sec. 45. Illinois National Guard grant program.

8 (a) As used in this Section:

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

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

23 "Fees" means matriculation, graduation, activity, term,  
24 or incidental fees. Exemption shall not be granted from any  
25 other fees, including book rental, service, laboratory,  
26 supply, and union building fees, hospital and medical  
27 insurance fees, and any fees established for the operation  
28 and maintenance of buildings, the income of which is pledged  
29 to the payment of interest and principal on bonds issued by  
30 the governing board of any university or community college.

31 (b) Any enlisted person or any company grade officer,

1 including warrant officers, First and Second Lieutenants, and  
2 Captains in the Army and Air National Guard, who has served  
3 at least one year in the Illinois National Guard and who  
4 possesses all necessary entrance requirements shall, upon  
5 application and proper proof, be awarded a grant to the  
6 State-controlled university or community college of his or  
7 her choice, consisting of exemption from tuition and fees for  
8 not more than the equivalent of 4 years of full-time  
9 enrollment in relation to his or her course of study at that  
10 State controlled university or community college while he or  
11 she is a member of the Illinois National Guard. If the  
12 recipient of any grant awarded under this Section ceases to  
13 be a member of the Illinois National Guard while enrolled in  
14 a course of study under that grant, the grant shall be  
15 terminated as of the date membership in the Illinois National  
16 Guard ended, and the recipient shall be permitted to complete  
17 the school term in which he or she is then enrolled only upon  
18 payment of tuition and other fees allocable to the part of  
19 the term then remaining. If the recipient of the grant fails  
20 to complete his or her military service obligations or  
21 requirements for satisfactory participation, the Department  
22 of Military Affairs shall require the recipient to repay the  
23 amount of the grant received, prorated according to the  
24 fraction of the service obligation not completed, and, if  
25 applicable, reasonable collection fees. The Department of  
26 Military Affairs may adopt rules relating to its collection  
27 activities for repayment of the grant under this Section.  
28 Unsatisfactory participation shall be defined by rules  
29 adopted by the Department of Military Affairs. Repayments  
30 shall be deposited in the National Guard Grant Fund. The  
31 National Guard Grant Fund is created as a special fund in the  
32 State treasury. All money in the National Guard Grant Fund  
33 shall be used, subject to appropriation, by the Department of  
34 Military Affairs for the purposes of this Section.

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

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

12       (Source: P.A. 89-4, eff. 1-1-96.)

13           Section 10. The State Finance Act is amended by adding  
14 Section 5.570 as follows:

15           (30 ILCS 105/5.570 new)

16           Sec. 5.570. The National Guard Grant Fund.

17           Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect on  
18 July 1, 2002.