



## 100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2017 and 2018

SB0736

Introduced 1/30/2017, by Sen. Michael E. Hastings

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act

Creates the Educational Credit for Military Experience Act. Provides that before June 1, 2018, each institution of higher education shall adopt a policy regarding its awarding of academic credit for military training considered applicable to the requirements of the student's certificate or degree program. Requires the policy to apply to any individual who is enrolled in the institution of higher education and who has completed a military training course that meets certain requirements. Provides that institutions of higher education shall develop procedures for evaluating courses and awarding credit. Requires institutions of higher education to submit their policies for awarding credit to the Board of Higher Education and the Illinois Community College Board for review before June 30, 2018 and before June 30 of every other year thereafter. Requires the Board of Higher Education to collect data in the Illinois Higher Education Information System on students who are veterans or have military service to assess enrollment and completions outcomes.

LRB100 08072 MLM 18158 b

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 Educational Credit for Military Experience Act.

6 Section 5. Definitions. As used in this Act, "institution  
7 of higher education" means the University of Illinois, Southern  
8 Illinois University, Chicago State University, Eastern  
9 Illinois University, Governors State University, Illinois  
10 State University, Northeastern Illinois University, Northern  
11 Illinois University, Western Illinois University, a public  
12 community college that is included in the definition of  
13 "Community Colleges" under Section 1-2 of the Public Community  
14 College Act, and any institution that receives funds under  
15 Section 35 of the Higher Education Student Assistance Act.

16 Section 10. Policies and procedures.

17 (a) Before June 1, 2018, each institution of higher  
18 education shall adopt a policy regarding its awarding of  
19 academic credit for military training considered applicable to  
20 the requirements of the student's certificate or degree  
21 program. The policy shall apply to any individual who is  
22 enrolled in the institution of higher education and who has

1 successfully completed a military training course or program as  
2 part of his or her military service that is:

3 (1) recommended for credit by a national higher  
4 education association that provides credit recommendations  
5 for military training courses and programs;

6 (2) included in the individual's military transcript  
7 issued by any branch of the armed services; or

8 (3) otherwise documented as military training or  
9 experience.

10 (b) Each institution of higher education shall develop a  
11 procedure for receiving the necessary documentation to  
12 identify and verify the military training course or program  
13 that an individual is claiming for academic credit.

14 (c) Each institution of higher education shall provide a  
15 copy of its policy for awarding academic credit for military  
16 training to any applicant who listed prior or present military  
17 service in his or her application.

18 (d) Each institution of higher education shall develop and  
19 maintain a list of military training courses and programs that  
20 have qualified for academic credit.

21 Section 15. Policies and procedures review. Each  
22 institution of higher education shall submit its policy for  
23 awarding academic credit for military training to the Board of  
24 Higher Education and the Illinois Community College Board, if  
25 applicable, before June 30, 2018 and before June 30 of every

1 other year thereafter.

2       The Board of Higher Education shall collect data in the  
3 Illinois Higher Education Information System on students who  
4 are veterans or have military service to assess enrollment and  
5 completions outcomes.