

HB2867



102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2021 and 2022

HB2867

Introduced 2/19/2021, by Rep. La Shawn K. Ford

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

110 ILCS 947/35

Amends the Higher Education Student Assistance Act. Provides that on and after the effective date of the amendatory Act, 15% of the total annual funds appropriated for grants made under the monetary award program shall be set aside by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission for the purpose of making grants that shall be awarded to students attending a public community college in this State. Effective immediately.

LRB102 13710 CMG 19060 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 5. The Higher Education Student Assistance Act is
5 amended by changing Section 35 as follows:

6 (110 ILCS 947/35)

7 Sec. 35. Monetary award program.

8 (a) The Commission shall, each year, receive and consider
9 applications for grant assistance under this Section. Subject
10 to a separate appropriation for such purposes, an applicant is
11 eligible for a grant under this Section when the Commission
12 finds that the applicant:

13 (1) is a resident of this State and a citizen or
14 permanent resident of the United States; and

15 (2) in the absence of grant assistance, will be
16 deterred by financial considerations from completing an
17 educational program at the qualified institution of his or
18 her choice.

19 (b) The Commission shall award renewals only upon the
20 student's application and upon the Commission's finding that
21 the applicant:

22 (1) has remained a student in good standing;

23 (2) remains a resident of this State; and

1 (3) is in a financial situation that continues to
2 warrant assistance.

3 (c) All grants shall be applicable only to tuition and
4 necessary fee costs. The Commission shall determine the grant
5 amount for each student, which shall not exceed the smallest
6 of the following amounts:

7 (1) subject to appropriation, \$5,468 for fiscal year
8 2009, \$5,968 for fiscal year 2010, and \$6,468 for fiscal
9 year 2011 and each fiscal year thereafter, or such lesser
10 amount as the Commission finds to be available, during an
11 academic year;

12 (2) the amount which equals 2 semesters or 3 quarters
13 tuition and other necessary fees required generally by the
14 institution of all full-time undergraduate students; or

15 (3) such amount as the Commission finds to be
16 appropriate in view of the applicant's financial
17 resources.

18 Subject to appropriation, the maximum grant amount for
19 students not subject to subdivision (1) of this subsection (c)
20 must be increased by the same percentage as any increase made
21 by law to the maximum grant amount under subdivision (1) of
22 this subsection (c).

23 "Tuition and other necessary fees" as used in this Section
24 include the customary charge for instruction and use of
25 facilities in general, and the additional fixed fees charged
26 for specified purposes, which are required generally of

1 nongrant recipients for each academic period for which the
2 grant applicant actually enrolls, but do not include fees
3 payable only once or breakage fees and other contingent
4 deposits which are refundable in whole or in part. The
5 Commission may prescribe, by rule not inconsistent with this
6 Section, detailed provisions concerning the computation of
7 tuition and other necessary fees.

8 (d) No applicant, including those presently receiving
9 scholarship assistance under this Act, is eligible for
10 monetary award program consideration under this Act after
11 receiving a baccalaureate degree or the equivalent of 135
12 semester credit hours of award payments.

13 (d-5) In this subsection (d-5), "renewing applicant" means
14 a student attending an institution of higher learning who
15 received a Monetary Award Program grant during the prior
16 academic year. Beginning with the processing of applications
17 for the 2020-2021 academic year, the Commission shall annually
18 publish a priority deadline date for renewing applicants.
19 Subject to appropriation, a renewing applicant who files by
20 the published priority deadline date shall receive a grant if
21 he or she continues to meet the eligibility requirements under
22 this Section. A renewing applicant's failure to apply by the
23 priority deadline date established under this subsection (d-5)
24 shall not disqualify him or her from receiving a grant if
25 sufficient funding is available to provide awards after that
26 date.

1 (e) The Commission, in determining the number of grants to
2 be offered, shall take into consideration past experience with
3 the rate of grant funds unclaimed by recipients. The
4 Commission shall notify applicants that grant assistance is
5 contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds.

6 (e-5) The General Assembly finds and declares that it is
7 an important purpose of the Monetary Award Program to
8 facilitate access to college both for students who pursue
9 postsecondary education immediately following high school and
10 for those who pursue postsecondary education later in life,
11 particularly Illinoisans who are dislocated workers with
12 financial need and who are seeking to improve their economic
13 position through education. For the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017
14 academic years, the Commission shall give additional and
15 specific consideration to the needs of dislocated workers with
16 the intent of allowing applicants who are dislocated workers
17 an opportunity to secure financial assistance even if applying
18 later than the general pool of applicants. The Commission's
19 consideration shall include, in determining the number of
20 grants to be offered, an estimate of the resources needed to
21 serve dislocated workers who apply after the Commission
22 initially suspends award announcements for the upcoming
23 regular academic year, but prior to the beginning of that
24 academic year. For the purposes of this subsection (e-5), a
25 dislocated worker is defined as in the federal Workforce
26 Innovation and Opportunity Act.

1 (f) (Blank).

2 (g) The Commission shall determine the eligibility of and
3 make grants to applicants enrolled at qualified for-profit
4 institutions in accordance with the criteria set forth in this
5 Section. The eligibility of applicants enrolled at such
6 for-profit institutions shall be limited as follows:

7 (1) Beginning with the academic year 1997, only to
8 eligible first-time freshmen and first-time transfer
9 students who have attained an associate degree.

10 (2) Beginning with the academic year 1998, only to
11 eligible freshmen students, transfer students who have
12 attained an associate degree, and students who receive a
13 grant under paragraph (1) for the academic year 1997 and
14 whose grants are being renewed for the academic year 1998.

15 (3) Beginning with the academic year 1999, to all
16 eligible students.

17 (g-5) On and after the effective date of this amendatory
18 Act of the 102nd General Assembly, 15% of the total annual
19 funds appropriated for grants under this Section shall be set
20 aside by the Commission for the purpose of making grants that
21 shall be awarded to students attending a public community
22 college in this State.

23 (h) The Commission may adopt rules to implement this
24 Section.

25 (Source: P.A. 100-477, eff. 9-8-17; 100-621, eff. 7-20-18;
26 100-823, eff. 8-13-18; 101-81, eff. 7-12-19.)

1 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
2 becoming law.