



## 103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

HB1262

Introduced 1/31/2023, by Rep. Jeff Keicher

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act

Creates the Collegiate Athlete College Completion Act. Provides that beginning with the 2024-2025 academic year, if a student-athlete is permanently injured training for or participating in an event for an intercollegiate athletics program, then the student-athlete is eligible to attend the postsecondary educational institution until the student-athlete receives a bachelor's or master's degree and the student-athlete may not be charged tuition at a rate greater than 50% of the tuition amount charged generally at the postsecondary educational institution while the student-athlete seeks a bachelor's or master's degree if the student-athlete maintains a good standing with the postsecondary educational institution. Provides that if the student-athlete receives any financial aid, scholarships, financial awards, or other financial benefits connected to the student-athlete's participation in an intercollegiate athletics program of the postsecondary educational institution in excess of 50% of the tuition amount charged generally at the postsecondary educational institution, then, beginning with the 2024-2025 academic year, the student-athlete is eligible to continue to receive those benefits until the student-athlete receives a bachelor's or master's degree if the student-athlete maintains a good standing with the postsecondary educational institution. Provides that a student-athlete who is permanently injured to the extent that the student-athlete is unable to immediately attend classes may delay attending the postsecondary educational institution. Provides for physician certification. Effective July 1, 2024.

LRB103 04836 RJT 49846 b

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 Collegiate Athlete College Completion Act.

6 Section 5. Definitions. In this Act:

7 "Enrolled" means registered for courses or attending  
8 athletic practice or class at a postsecondary educational  
9 institution.

10 "Intercollegiate athletics program" means an  
11 intercollegiate athletics program played at the collegiate  
12 level for which eligibility requirements for participation by  
13 a student-athlete are established by a national association  
14 for the promotion or regulation of collegiate athletics.

15 "Permanently injured" means an injury that is severe  
16 enough to prevent a student-athlete from becoming eligible to  
17 participate in an intercollegiate athletics program.

18 "Postsecondary educational institution" means a public  
19 university in this State or a private university or college in  
20 this State that awards bachelor's degrees.

21 "Student-athlete" means a student enrolled at a  
22 postsecondary educational institution who engages or was  
23 engaged in, is eligible to engage in, or may be eligible in the

1 future to engage in an intercollegiate athletics program at  
2 the postsecondary educational institution. If an individual is  
3 permanently ineligible to participate in a particular  
4 intercollegiate sport, the individual is not a student-athlete  
5 for purposes of that sport.

6 Section 10. Tuition coverage.

7 (a) Beginning with the 2024-2025 academic year, if a  
8 student-athlete is permanently injured while training for or  
9 participating in an event for an intercollegiate athletics  
10 program of a postsecondary educational institution, then the  
11 student-athlete is eligible to continue to attend the  
12 postsecondary educational institution until the  
13 student-athlete receives a bachelor's or master's degree from  
14 that postsecondary educational institution and the  
15 student-athlete may not be charged tuition at a rate greater  
16 than 50% of the tuition amount charged generally at the  
17 postsecondary educational institution while the  
18 student-athlete seeks a bachelor's or master's degree if the  
19 student-athlete maintains a good standing with the  
20 postsecondary educational institution.

21 (b) If a student-athlete under subsection (a) receives any  
22 financial aid, scholarships, financial awards, or other  
23 financial benefits connected to the student-athlete's  
24 participation in an intercollegiate athletics program of the  
25 postsecondary educational institution in excess of 50% of the

1 tuition amount charged generally at the postsecondary  
2 educational institution, then, beginning with the 2024-2025  
3 academic year, the student-athlete is eligible to continue to  
4 receive those benefits until the student-athlete receives a  
5 bachelor's or master's degree from the postsecondary  
6 educational institution if the student-athlete maintains a  
7 good standing with the postsecondary educational institution.

8 (c) Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b), a  
9 student-athlete under this Act who is permanently injured to  
10 the extent that the student-athlete is unable to immediately  
11 attend classes at the postsecondary educational institution  
12 may delay attending the postsecondary educational institution  
13 until the student-athlete recovers enough to attend.

14 The postsecondary educational institution may require  
15 certification each semester by a physician licensed under the  
16 Medical Practice Act of 1987 that the student-athlete is  
17 permanently injured to the extent that the student-athlete is  
18 unable to attend classes. If a student-athlete fails to  
19 provide certification each semester, then, notwithstanding  
20 subsections (a) and (b), the postsecondary educational  
21 institution may deny letting the student-athlete attend the  
22 postsecondary educational institution at the reduced tuition  
23 rate under subsection (a) or receive benefits under subsection  
24 (b).

25 Section 15. Tuition waiver limitation. Partial tuition

1       waivers awarded under this Act may not be charged against any  
2       tuition waiver limitation established by the Board of Higher  
3       Education.

4               Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,  
5       2024.