



## 103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

HB2528

Introduced 2/15/2023, by Rep. Carol Ammons

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

30 ILCS 105/5.990 new  
110 ILCS 205/9.43 new

Amends the Board of Higher Education Act. Requires the Board of Higher Education to establish a hunger-free campus grant program. Provides that the hunger-free campus grant program shall provide grants to public institutions of higher education that have one or more campuses designated by the Board as hunger-free campuses. Provides for requirements for being designated a hunger-free campus. Provides that the Board shall determine the amount of each grant that shall be used by the public institution of higher education to further address food insecurity among students enrolled in the public institution of higher education. Provides that the Board shall prioritize grants to public institutions of higher education with campuses that serve primarily minority and low-income students and have a high percentage of Pell Grant recipients. Provides that the Board shall submit a report to the Governor and the General Assembly no later than 2 years after the establishment of the grant program. Provides for rulemaking. Amends the State Finance Act to create the Hunger-Free Campus Grant Fund as a special fund in the State treasury. Effective immediately.

LRB103 28443 RJT 54823 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 5. The State Finance Act is amended by adding  
5 Section 5.990 as follows:

6 (30 ILCS 105/5.990 new)

7 Sec. 5.990. The Hunger-Free Campus Grant Fund.

8 Section 10. The Board of Higher Education Act is amended  
9 by adding Section 9.43 as follows:

10 (110 ILCS 205/9.43 new)

11 Sec. 9.43. Hunger-free campus grant program.

12 (a) The Board shall establish a hunger-free campus grant  
13 program for the purposes set forth under subsection (b).

14 (b) The purpose of the hunger-free campus grant program  
15 shall be to provide grants to public institutions of higher  
16 education that have one or more campuses designated by the  
17 Board as hunger-free campuses under subsection (c). The  
18 purpose of the grant funding shall be to:

19 (1) address student hunger;

20 (2) leverage more sustainable solutions to address  
21 basic food needs on campus;

1           (3) raise awareness of services currently offered on  
2           campus that address basic food needs; and

3           (4) continue to build strategic partnerships at the  
4           federal, State, and local levels to address food  
5           insecurity among students.

6           (c) In order to be designated as a hunger-free campus by  
7           the Board, a public institution of higher education shall:

8           (1) establish a hunger task force that meets a minimum  
9           of 3 times per academic year to set at least 2 goals with  
10           action plans and that includes representatives from the  
11           student body;

12           (2) designate a staff member responsible for assisting  
13           students with enrollment in the Supplemental Nutrition  
14           Assistance Program (SNAP);

15           (3) provide options for students to utilize SNAP  
16           benefits at campus stores or provide students with  
17           information on establishments in the surrounding area of  
18           campus where they can utilize SNAP benefits;

19           (4) participate in an awareness day campaign activity  
20           and plan a campus awareness event during the national  
21           Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week;

22           (5) provide at least one physical food pantry on  
23           campus or enable students to receive food through a  
24           separate, stigma-free arrangement with a local food pantry  
25           or food bank near campus;

26           (6) develop a student meal credit donation program or

1 designate a certain amount of money for free meal vouchers  
2 for students; and

3 (7) annually conduct a student survey on hunger,  
4 developed by the Board, and submit the results of the  
5 survey to the Board at a time prescribed by the Board for  
6 inclusion in a comparative profile of each campus  
7 designated as a hunger-free campus. Survey data on student  
8 hunger shall be disaggregated by race, gender identity,  
9 sexual orientation, parenting status, and financial aid  
10 status of students. In the development of the survey, the  
11 Board may utilize any existing surveys designed to collect  
12 information on food insecurity among students enrolled in  
13 public institutions of higher education.

14 (d) The Board shall allocate grant funding to each public  
15 institution of higher education that has one or more campuses  
16 designated by the Board as a hunger-free campus under  
17 subsection (c). The Board shall determine the amount of each  
18 grant that shall be used by the public institution of higher  
19 education to further address food insecurity among students  
20 enrolled in the public institution of higher education. The  
21 Board shall prioritize grants to public institutions of higher  
22 education with campuses that serve primarily minority and  
23 low-income students and have a high percentage of Pell Grant  
24 recipients.

25 (e) The Board shall submit a report to the Governor and to  
26 the General Assembly no later than 2 years after the

1 establishment of the hunger-free campus grant program. The  
2 report shall include, but not be limited to, the number and  
3 amount of the grant awards, the impact the hunger-free campus  
4 grant program has on establishing additional hunger-free  
5 campuses at public institutions of higher education and  
6 reducing the number of students experiencing food insecurity,  
7 disaggregated data on those students served reflecting the  
8 students' race, gender identity, sexual orientation, parenting  
9 status, and financial aid status, and recommendations on the  
10 expansion of the hunger-free campus grant program.

11 (f) The Hunger-Free Campus Grant Fund is created as a  
12 special fund in the State treasury. All money in the Fund shall  
13 be used, subject to appropriation, by the Board for the  
14 hunger-free campus grant program.

15 (g) The Board may adopt any rules necessary to implement  
16 this Section.

17 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
18 becoming law.