



Rep. Reginald Phillips

Filed: 3/23/2015

09900HB3974ham001

LRB099 07236 SXM 33244 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 3974

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend House Bill 3974 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

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) In this Section:

9 "Dependent college student" means a traditional student
10 attending an institution of higher learning who depends on his
11 or her family for financial support. Students who are not
12 presumed to be independent college students under this
13 subsection (a) are presumed, for the purposes of this Section,
14 to be dependent on their families for financial support.

15 "Independent college student" means a non-traditional
16 student attending an institution of higher learning who does

1 not depend on his or her family for financial support. Students
2 who are orphans, 24 years of age or older, married, or in the
3 military or who have a child and contribute to more than half
4 of the child's support are presumed, for the purposes of this
5 Section, not to be dependent on their families for financial
6 support.

7 "Tuition and other necessary fees" includes the customary
8 charge for instruction and use of facilities in general and the
9 additional fixed fees charged for specified purposes, which are
10 required generally of nongrant recipients for each academic
11 period for which the grant applicant actually enrolls, but does
12 not include fees payable only once or breakage fees and other
13 contingent deposits that are refundable in whole or in part.
14 The Commission may prescribe, by rule not inconsistent with
15 this Section, detailed provisions concerning the computation
16 of tuition and other necessary fees.

17 (a-5) The Commission shall, each year, receive and consider
18 applications for grant assistance under this Section. Subject
19 to a separate appropriation for such purposes, an applicant is
20 eligible for a grant under this Section when the Commission
21 finds that the applicant:

22 (1) is a resident of this State and a citizen or
23 permanent resident of the United States; ~~and~~

24 (2) in the absence of grant assistance, will be
25 deterred by financial considerations from completing an
26 educational program at the qualified institution of his or

1 her choice; and-

2 (3) beginning with the 2016-2017 academic year, with
3 respect to an applicant who is a freshman dependent college
4 student, has achieved at least an ACT college entrance exam
5 composite score of 18 or a 3.0 cumulative grade point
6 average on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in high school.
7 However, a freshman dependent college student in a
8 technical or trade school must have a 2.0 cumulative grade
9 point average on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent.

10 (b) The Commission shall award renewals only upon the
11 student's application and upon the Commission's finding that
12 the applicant:

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

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

15 (3) is in a financial situation that continues to
16 warrant assistance.

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

21 (1) subject to appropriation, \$5,468 for fiscal year
22 2009, \$5,968 for fiscal year 2010, and \$6,468 for fiscal
23 year 2011 and each fiscal year thereafter, or such lesser
24 amount as the Commission finds to be available, during an
25 academic year;

26 (2) the amount which equals 2 semesters or 3 quarters

1 tuition and other necessary fees required generally by the
2 institution of all full-time undergraduate students; or

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

6 Subject to appropriation, the maximum grant amount for
7 students not subject to subdivision (1) of this subsection (c)
8 must be increased by the same percentage as any increase made
9 by law to the maximum grant amount under subdivision (1) of
10 this subsection (c).

11 ~~"Tuition and other necessary fees" as used in this Section~~
12 ~~include the customary charge for instruction and use of~~
13 ~~facilities in general, and the additional fixed fees charged~~
14 ~~for specified purposes, which are required generally of~~
15 ~~nongrant recipients for each academic period for which the~~
16 ~~grant applicant actually enrolls, but do not include fees~~
17 ~~payable only once or breakage fees and other contingent~~
18 ~~deposits which are refundable in whole or in part. The~~
19 ~~Commission may prescribe, by rule not inconsistent with this~~
20 ~~Section, detailed provisions concerning the computation of~~
21 ~~tuition and other necessary fees.~~

22 (d) No applicant, including those presently receiving
23 scholarship assistance under this Act, is eligible for monetary
24 award program consideration under this Act after receiving a
25 baccalaureate degree or the equivalent of 135 semester credit
26 hours of award payments.

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 Commission
4 shall notify applicants that grant assistance is contingent
5 upon the availability of appropriated funds.

6 (e-5) The General Assembly finds and declares that it is an
7 important purpose of the Monetary Award Program to facilitate
8 access to college both for students who pursue postsecondary
9 education immediately following high school and for those who
10 pursue postsecondary education later in life, particularly
11 Illinoisans who are dislocated workers with financial need and
12 who are seeking to improve their economic position through
13 education. For the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 academic years, the
14 Commission shall give additional and specific consideration to
15 the needs of dislocated workers with the intent of allowing
16 applicants who are dislocated workers an opportunity to secure
17 financial assistance even if applying later than the general
18 pool of applicants. The Commission's consideration shall
19 include, in determining the number of grants to be offered, an
20 estimate of the resources needed to serve dislocated workers
21 who apply after the Commission initially suspends award
22 announcements for the upcoming regular academic year, but prior
23 to the beginning of that academic year. For the purposes of
24 this subsection (e-5), a dislocated worker is defined as in the
25 federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998.

26 (f) The Commission may request appropriations for deposit

1 into the Monetary Award Program Reserve Fund. Monies deposited
2 into the Monetary Award Program Reserve Fund may be expended
3 exclusively for one purpose: to make Monetary Award Program
4 grants to eligible students. Amounts on deposit in the Monetary
5 Award Program Reserve Fund may not exceed 2% of the current
6 annual State appropriation for the Monetary Award Program. The
7 Commission must reserve 25% of the Monetary Award Program Fund
8 for community colleges until the May preceding the start of the
9 next academic year.

10 The purpose of the Monetary Award Program Reserve Fund is
11 to enable the Commission each year to assure as many students
12 as possible of their eligibility for a Monetary Award Program
13 grant and to do so before commencement of the academic year.
14 Moneys deposited in this Reserve Fund are intended to enhance
15 the Commission's management of the Monetary Award Program,
16 minimizing the necessity, magnitude, and frequency of
17 adjusting award amounts and ensuring that the annual Monetary
18 Award Program appropriation can be fully utilized.

19 (g) The Commission shall determine the eligibility of and
20 make grants to applicants enrolled at qualified for-profit
21 institutions in accordance with the criteria set forth in this
22 Section. The eligibility of applicants enrolled at such
23 for-profit institutions shall be limited as follows:

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

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

6 (3) Beginning with the academic year 1999, to all
7 eligible students.

8 (Source: P.A. 98-967, eff. 8-15-14.)".