

1 AN ACT regarding higher education student assistance.

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  
5 is amended by changing Section 36 as follows:

6 (110 ILCS 947/36)

7 Sec. 36. Illinois Incentive for Access grant program.

8 (a) The Commission each year shall determine eligibility  
9 for the Illinois Incentive for Access grant from applications  
10 received for Monetary Award Program grant assistance under  
11 Section 35 of this Act. An applicant shall be determined as  
12 eligible for an Illinois Incentive for Access grant under  
13 this Section when the Commission finds that the applicant:

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

16 (2) has no personal or family financial resources  
17 available for expenditure on educational expenses, as  
18 defined by current federal student financial aid  
19 methodology;

20 (3) has not already received a baccalaureate  
21 degree; and

22 (4) is enrolled at least one-half time as a  
23 freshman undergraduate student at an approved Illinois  
24 institution of higher learning participating in the  
25 Monetary Award Program administered by the Commission.

26 (b) Subject to a separate appropriation made for  
27 purposes of awarding grants under this Section, Illinois  
28 Incentive for Access grants shall be paid in multiple  
29 disbursements as determined by the Commission in an amount  
30 not to exceed \$1,000 \$500 per applicant per year. No  
31 recipient may receive a grant under this Section for more

1 than 2 semesters or 3 quarters of award payments.

2 (c) Eligibility for grants awarded under this Section  
3 shall be determined solely on the basis of the financial  
4 resources of the applicant and the applicant's family. Cost  
5 of attendance at the institution in which the applicant is  
6 enrolled shall not affect eligibility for an award, except  
7 that State student financial assistance awarded under this  
8 Act, including the Illinois Incentive for Access award, may  
9 not exceed the institution's cost of attendance.

10 (d) The Commission shall notify applicants that grant  
11 assistance is contingent upon availability of appropriated  
12 funds.

13 (e) The Commission shall submit a written evaluation of  
14 the Illinois Incentive for Access program to the Governor,  
15 the General Assembly, and the Board of Higher Education on or  
16 before October 1, 1999, including a report of the progress  
17 made toward the goal of increasing the access and retention  
18 rates for Illinois Incentive for Access grant recipients.

19 (Source: P.A. 89-512, eff. 7-11-96.)

20 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect on  
21 July 1, 2002.