

# ASSEMBLY, No. 2884

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 28, 2022

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblywoman MILA M. JASEY**

**District 27 (Essex and Morris)**

**Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON**

**District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)**

**Assemblywoman ANGELA V. MCKNIGHT**

**District 31 (Hudson)**

**Senator SANDRA B. CUNNINGHAM**

**District 31 (Hudson)**

**Senator M. TERESA RUIZ**

**District 29 (Essex)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

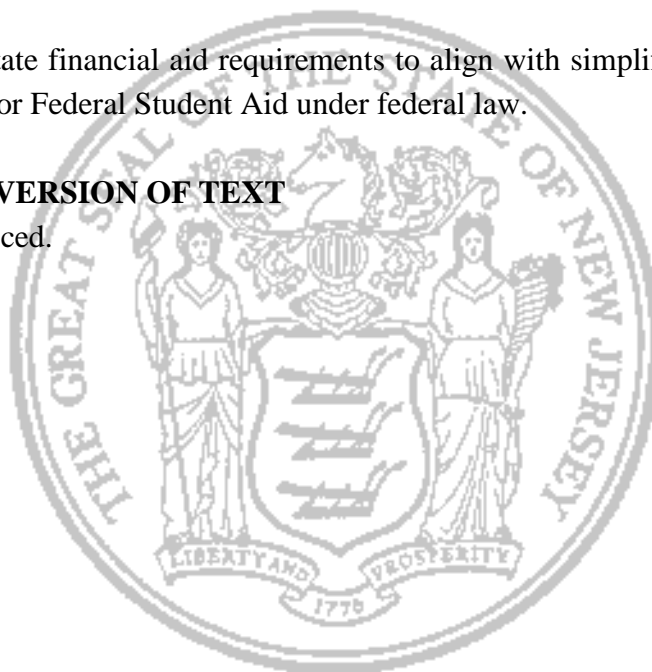
**Assemblyman Benson, Assemblywoman Sumter, Assemblymen Danielsen,  
Stanley and Assemblywoman Lopez**

**SYNOPSIS**

Revises State financial aid requirements to align with simplification of Free Application for Federal Student Aid under federal law.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/24/2022)

A2884 JASEY, REYNOLDS-JACKSON

2

1 AN ACT concerning eligibility for State student financial aid,  
2 amending P.L.2001, c.41, and repealing N.J.S.18A:71B-6.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. Section 5 of P.L.2001, c.41 (C.18A:71B-24.2) is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 5. a. There is created the Law Enforcement Officer Memorial  
10 Scholarships Program. These scholarships shall be awarded,  
11 pursuant to the provisions of this act, to the children of New Jersey  
12 law enforcement officers who were killed in the line of duty. The  
13 New Jersey Higher Education Student Assistance Authority, in but  
14 not of the Department of State, and established pursuant to  
15 N.J.S.18A:71A-3, shall administer this program.

16 b. Law Enforcement Officer Memorial Scholarships shall be  
17 awarded annually within the limits of monies in the Law  
18 Enforcement Officer Memorial Fund, created pursuant to subsection  
19 c. of section 2 of P.L.2001, c.41 (C.39:3-27.123), for undergraduate  
20 study leading to a baccalaureate degree or associate degree at any  
21 public or private institution of higher education in New Jersey. The  
22 amount of any such scholarship shall not exceed an amount equal to  
23 the portion of the recipient's cost of attendance at the institution that  
24 is not otherwise covered by any other scholarship, tuition aid grant,  
25 benefit or other assistance awarded to the recipient under the  
26 "Higher Education Student Assistance Authority Law,"  
27 N.J.S.18A:71A-1 et seq.

28 c. The scholarships may be renewed annually for up to four  
29 years, except that each scholarship shall remain in effect only if the  
30 holder of the scholarship remains a full-time student in good  
31 standing at the institution and continues to meet the eligibility  
32 criteria and guidelines established under this act and regulations  
33 promulgated thereto. Selection of recipients may take into account  
34 the actual dependency of the recipients, their needs and means, and  
35 the pecuniary loss occasioned by reason of the death of their  
36 parents.

37 d. **[A student who is subject to the provisions of the "Military**  
38 **Selective Service Act," 50 U.S.C. App.453, shall not be eligible to**  
39 **receive any scholarship without verification of compliance with the**  
40 **requirements of that act.]** (Deleted by amendment, P.L. , c. )  
41 (pending before the Legislature as this bill)

42 e. For the purposes of this act, "law enforcement officer"  
43 means a New Jersey resident employed as a permanent full-time  
44 member of any federal, State, county or municipal law enforcement  
45 agency, department, or division of those governments who is

**EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

**Matter underlined thus is new matter.**

1 statutorily empowered to act for the detection, investigation, arrest,  
2 conviction, detention, or rehabilitation of persons violating the  
3 criminal laws of this State or of the United States and statutorily  
4 required to successfully complete a training course approved by the  
5 Police Training Commission pursuant to P.L.1961, c.56 (C.52:17B-  
6 66 et seq.), or certified by the commission as being substantially  
7 equivalent to an approved course.  
8 (cf: P.L.2001, c.41, s.5)

9  
10 2. N.J.S.18A:71B-6 is repealed.

11  
12 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

13  
14

15 STATEMENT

16

17 This bill repeals N.J.S.18A:71B-6, which requires a student who  
18 is subject to the provisions of the federal “Military Selective  
19 Service Act,” to provide verification of compliance in order to be  
20 eligible for State-funded loans, grants, or scholarships. This bill  
21 also removes the requirement that students comply with the  
22 “Military Selective Service Act” in order to be eligible for  
23 scholarships offered under the State’s Law Enforcement Officer  
24 Memorial Scholarship Program.

25 In December 2020, then-President Donald Trump signed the  
26 “FAFSA Simplification Act,” Pub.L.116-260, legislation that was  
27 authored by then-Senator Lamar Alexander (R-Tennessee) and was  
28 overwhelmingly approved by Congress on a bipartisan basis. This  
29 federal law eliminates the requirement for male students to register  
30 with Selective Service in order to be eligible for federal student  
31 financial aid, and removes a question on the Free Application for  
32 Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) regarding whether male students  
33 have registered with Selective Service. As of academic year 2021-  
34 2022, eligibility procedures for federal student financial aid no  
35 longer include verification of Selective Service registration.

36 The majority of New Jersey students apply for State student  
37 financial assistance using the FAFSA without having to complete  
38 an additional State questionnaire. Because the Selective Service  
39 question will no longer be on the FAFSA, otherwise eligible  
40 students will be impeded from receiving State student financial aid  
41 if current New Jersey State law is left unchanged. To remove this  
42 barrier for eligible students to receive State student financial aid,  
43 this bill aligns State student financial aid eligibility requirements  
44 with federal financial aid eligibility requirements.