

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 3724

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 13, 2023

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SYNOPSIS

Authorizes Higher Education Student Assistance Authority to award summer tuition aid grants in summer of 2023; appropriates \$1,000.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee on March 16, 2023, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/30/2023)

1 AN ACT concerning student financial assistance, amending
2 N.J.S.18A:71B-20, ¹**[and]**¹ supplementing chapter 71B of Title
3 18A of the New Jersey Statutes¹, and making an appropriation¹.
4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:
7

8 1. N.J.S.18A:71B-20 is amended to read as follows:

9 18A:71B-20. a. A State tuition aid grant shall be awarded
10 annually to each eligible, qualified full-time undergraduate student
11 enrolled in a curriculum leading to a degree or certificate in an
12 eligible institution, or in an institution of higher education in
13 another state, provided that state permits its residents to utilize its
14 state student financial assistance grants in New Jersey institutions
15 of higher education through reciprocity agreements approved by the
16 authority. In no event shall a State tuition aid grant be utilized at an
17 out-of-State institution which is not licensed by that state and
18 accredited by a regional accrediting association recognized by a
19 national accrediting organization.

20 b. To each New Jersey resident enrolled as a full-time student,
21 except as otherwise provided in subsection d. of this section, and
22 meeting the other requirements for eligibility under this chapter, the
23 State shall grant an amount as provided in N.J.S.18A:71B-21. A
24 student shall not be eligible for a grant unless the application is in a
25 form satisfactory to the authority. A student shall not be eligible for
26 grants for more than four and one-half academic years, unless the
27 recipient is enrolled in an undergraduate program regularly
28 requiring five academic years for completion, in which case the
29 authority shall permit five and one-half years of eligibility.
30 Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, a student receiving aid
31 under the provisions of P.L.1968, c.142 (C.18A:71-28 et seq.) shall
32 be entitled to a sixth year of eligibility. Notwithstanding the
33 foregoing provisions, a county college student who transfers to a
34 four- year institution, or any student who is required to pursue 18 or
35 more credit hours in a remedial or developmental curriculum, as
36 defined by regulations adopted by the authority, is entitled to an
37 additional half year of eligibility. For the purpose of this article, a
38 remedial curriculum shall include only noncredit courses in which a
39 student is directed to enroll by the institution. Eligibility for tuition
40 aid grants may be extended to part-time students through
41 regulations developed by the authority if funds are separately
42 appropriated for this purpose. A student shall not be eligible for
43 grants unless the student maintains such minimum standards of
44 academic performance as are required by the institution of
45 enrollment. A student who is enrolled in a course leading to a

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.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate SBA committee amendments adopted March 16, 2023.

1 degree in theology or divinity shall not be eligible for a tuition aid
2 grant.

3 c. A person shall not be awarded a State tuition aid grant unless
4 that person:

5 (1) satisfies the residency and other requirements provided in
6 article 1 of this part;

7 (2) has applied for State tuition aid and has been determined by
8 the authority to be eligible for the tuition aid;

9 (3) has demonstrated financial need for the tuition aid as
10 determined by and in accordance with standards to be established
11 by the authority; and

12 (4) maintains satisfactory academic progress in accordance with
13 standards established by the authority.

14 d. Eligibility criteria for summer tuition aid grants awarded
15 pursuant to section 2 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
16 Legislature as this bill) shall conform to the requirements of this
17 section and shall include the following additional eligibility criteria:

18 (1) the student is enrolled in six or more credit hours in the
19 summer term;

20 (2) the courses for which the summer tuition aid grant is to be
21 applied are in the same undergraduate program at the same
22 institution in which the student was enrolled during the fall and
23 spring semesters of the preceding academic year; and

24 (3) the courses for which the summer tuition aid grant is to be
25 applied may be credited toward the student's graduation or
26 academic major requirements.

27 (cf: N.J.S.18A:71B-20)

28

29 2. (New section) a. ¹**【The】** For the summer 2023 semester
30 only, the¹ authority shall award summer tuition aid grants for
31 eligible students pursuant to N.J.S.18A:71B-20. A summer tuition
32 aid grant shall be applied toward the tuition costs outside of the
33 academic year, as defined in N.J.S.18A:71B-4. The receipt of a
34 summer tuition aid grant shall not: (1) reduce the amount of a
35 tuition aid grant awarded to the student during the academic year;
36 (2) be included when determining the student's maximum tuition
37 aid grant awards pursuant to subsection b. of this section; or (3)
38 otherwise adversely affect the student's eligibility for an award
39 under this chapter.

40 b. A summer tuition aid grant shall be prorated against the full-
41 time tuition aid grant awarded in the preceding semester as follows:
42 an eligible student enrolled with six to eight credits shall receive
43 one-half of the value of a full-time award, and an eligible student
44 enrolled with nine to 11 credits shall receive three-quarters of a full-
45 time award.

46 c. ¹**【A student shall not be eligible for more than four summer**
47 **tuition aid grants.**

1 d. (1)¹ Summer tuition aid grants awarded pursuant to this
2 section shall be funded by ¹the appropriation made to the authority
3 pursuant to section 3 of P.L. _____, c. _____ (C. _____) (pending before the
4 Legislature as this bill) and any additional amounts as may be
5 required from the unexpended balance of funds previously awarded
6 for tuition aid grants as of the effective date of
7 P.L. _____, c. _____ (C. _____) (pending before the Legislature as this
8 bill). The Legislature may award funds in addition to those
9 appropriated to the authority pursuant to section 3 of P.L. _____, c.
10 (C. _____) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) by¹ a separate
11 line item.

12 ¹[(2) The amount of funds appropriated for full-time tuition aid
13 grants shall not be reduced or diverted to implement the provisions
14 of this act.

15 (3) The amount of funds appropriated for part-time tuition aid
16 grants shall not be reduced or diverted to implement the provisions
17 of this act.]¹

18
19 ¹3. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Higher
20 Education Student Assistance Authority the sum of \$1,000 for the
21 purpose of awarding summer tuition aid grants in the summer of
22 2023 pursuant to the provisions of P.L. _____, c. _____ (C. _____) (pending
23 before the Legislature as this bill).¹

24
25 ¹[3.] 4.¹ This act shall take effect immediately.