

[Second Reprint]

**SENATE, No. 991**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**217th LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 4, 2016

**Sponsored by:**

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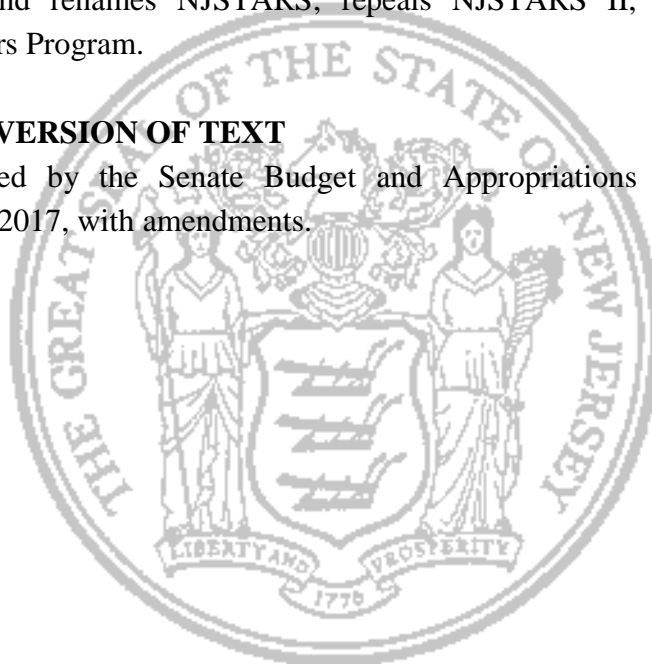
**Senators Ruiz, Diegnan and Turner**

**SYNOPSIS**

Revises and renames NJSTARS; repeals NJSTARS II; establishes NJ HonorScholars Program.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee on February 27, 2017, with amendments.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/15/2017)**

1 AN ACT concerning college scholarships, revising various parts of  
2 the statutory law, and supplementing chapter 71B of Title 18A of  
3 the New Jersey Statutes.

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

7  
8 1. Section 1 of P.L.2004, c.59 (C.18A:71B-81) is amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 1. **[This act]** P.L.2004, c. 59 (C.18A:71B-81 et seq.) and  
11 P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall  
12 be known and may be cited as the "New Jersey **[Student Tuition**  
13 **Assistance Reward Scholarship (NJ STARS) Program]**  
14 HonorScholars Act."  
15 (cf: P.L.2004, c.59, s.1)

16  
17 2. Section 3 of P.L.2004, c.59 (C.18A:71B-83) is amended to  
18 read as follows:

19 3. As used in **[this act]** P.L.2004, c.59 (C.18A:71B-81 et seq.)  
20 and P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill):

21 "Authority" means the Higher Education Student Assistance  
22 Authority established pursuant to N.J.S.18A:71A-3.

23 "Full-time course of study" in any semester for a county college  
24 student means a course of study, leading to a degree from the  
25 county college of enrollment, that includes at least 12 credit hours,  
26 not including any credit hours in a remedial or developmental  
27 curriculum. "Full-time course of study" in any semester for a  
28 student at a four-year public <sup>2</sup>or independent<sup>2</sup> institution of higher  
29 education means a course of study that includes at least 12 credit  
30 hours, not including any credit hours in a remedial or  
31 developmental curriculum, and leads to a degree from a New Jersey  
32 four-year public <sup>2</sup>or independent<sup>2</sup> institution of higher education.

33 "Program" means the New Jersey **[Student Tuition Assistance**  
34 **Reward Scholarship (NJ STARS)]** HonorScholars Program **[for**  
35 **county college students]**.  
36 (cf: P.L.2004, c.59, s.3)

37  
38 3. Section 4 of P.L.2004, c.59 (C.18A:71B-84) is amended to  
39 read as follows:

40 4. There is hereby created the New Jersey **[Student Tuition**  
41 **Assistance Reward Scholarship (NJ STARS)]** HonorScholars  
42 Program for county college students and students attending a State  
43 public <sup>2</sup>or independent<sup>2</sup> four-year institution of higher education. It

**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:**

<sup>1</sup>Senate SHI committee amendments adopted February 8, 2016.

<sup>2</sup>Senate SBA committee amendments adopted February 27, 2017.

1 shall be the duty of the Higher Education Student Assistance  
2 Authority to administer the program.

3 (cf: P.L.2004, c.59, s.4)

4

5 4. Section 5 of P.L.2004, c.59 (C.18A:71B-85) is amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 5. a. A county college scholarship under the **[NJ STARS]** New  
8 Jersey HonorScholars Program shall cover the full cost of tuition,  
9 subject to the prior application of other grants and scholarships  
10 against those costs as provided under paragraph (2) of subsection c.  
11 of this section, for up to 18 credit hours in any semester, for an  
12 eligible student enrolled in a full-time course of study at the New  
13 Jersey county college serving the student's county of residence. An  
14 otherwise eligible student who demonstrates to the authority, in  
15 accordance with such criteria and by means of such documentation  
16 as the authority shall establish by regulation, that the county college  
17 serving the student's county of residence does not offer the  
18 curriculum that the student chooses to study shall be eligible for  
19 such scholarship at another New Jersey county college offering that  
20 curriculum. The amount of any scholarship allowed hereunder to a  
21 student at a county college serving a county other than the student's  
22 county of residence shall be computed as though the student were a  
23 resident of the county served by that college, and the college shall  
24 likewise compute the amount of any additional payment, required  
25 with respect to the enrollment of that student for credit hours of  
26 study during a semester in which the scholarship is awarded that are  
27 not covered by that scholarship, as though the student were a  
28 resident of the county.

29 b. A student shall be eligible for a county college scholarship  
30 under the **[NJ STARS]** New Jersey HonorScholars Program for up  
31 to five semesters, including summer sessions. The scholarship shall  
32 be payable for the first year of enrollment in a county college to a  
33 student who:

34 (1) has graduated high school and, in the case of a student who  
35 graduates in the **[2013-2014]** 2016-2017 school year and thereafter,  
36 whose class rank at the completion of the 11th grade or 12th grade  
37 was in the top **[15.0%]** 20.0% of the student's high school class,  
38 provided that in the case of students graduating from high schools  
39 that do not calculate the class rank of their students, the student's  
40 ranking at the completion of the 11th grade or 12th grade shall be  
41 determined by the high school in consultation with the authority;  
42 and

43 (2) completed a rigorous high school course of study in  
44 accordance with standards established by the Secretary of Higher  
45 Education in consultation with the Commissioner of Education.

46 During a student's enrollment in a county college after the first  
47 year of enrollment, the scholarship shall be payable to that student  
48 if the student attains a grade point average of at least 3.0 by the start

1 of the student's second year of county college enrollment. A  
2 student who attains a grade point average of less than 3.0 at the start  
3 of the second semester of the student's first year of county college  
4 enrollment shall participate in an enrichment program designed by  
5 the county college during the second semester of the student's first  
6 year of enrollment.

7 c. To be eligible to receive a county college scholarship under  
8 the **【NJ STARS】** New Jersey HonorScholars Program a student  
9 shall:

10 (1) be a State resident pursuant to guidelines established by the  
11 authority. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 1 of P.L.1979,  
12 c.361 (C.18A:62-4) or any other section of law to the contrary, a  
13 dependent child of a parent or guardian who has been transferred to  
14 a military installation located in this State shall be considered a  
15 resident of this State for the purposes of qualifying for **【an NJ**  
16 **STARS】** a New Jersey HonorScholars scholarship;

17 (2) have applied for all other available forms of State and  
18 federal need-based grants and merit scholarships, exclusive of  
19 loans, the full amount of which grants and scholarships shall be  
20 applied to tuition to reduce the amount of any county college  
21 scholarship that the student shall receive under the **【provisions of**  
22 **this act】** New Jersey HonorScholars Program;

23 (3) except as otherwise provided pursuant to subsection a. <sup>2</sup>or  
24 c.<sup>2</sup> of section 3 of P.L.2008, c.124 (C.18A:71B-85.2), be enrolled in  
25 a full-time course of study at a New Jersey county college;

26 (4) have graduated from high school in 2004 or later, and not  
27 earlier than the calendar year two years prior to the first calendar  
28 year in which a scholarship payment is to be made; and

29 (5) except as otherwise provided pursuant to subsection a. <sup>2</sup>or  
30 c.<sup>2</sup> of section 3 of P.L.2008, c.124 (C.18A:71B-85.2), maintain  
31 continuous enrollment in a full-time course of study, unless on  
32 medical leave due to the illness of the student or a member of the  
33 student's immediate family or emergency leave because of a family  
34 emergency, which medical or emergency leave shall have been  
35 approved by the county college, or unless called to partial or full  
36 mobilization for State or federal active duty as a member of the  
37 National Guard or a Reserve component of the Armed Forces of the  
38 United States.

39 d. A student who is dismissed for academic or disciplinary  
40 reasons from a county college shall no longer be eligible for a  
41 county college scholarship under **【this act】** the New Jersey  
42 HonorScholars Program. If a student participating in the program is  
43 dismissed for disciplinary reasons, the student shall repay in full all  
44 amounts received under the program. The county college shall be  
45 responsible for collecting the repayment, or the amount of any  
46 overpayment or other improper payment, of any State awards under

1 the program, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.18A:71B-  
2 10.

3 e. A **【student】** county college scholarship under the **【NJ**  
4 **STARS】** New Jersey HonorScholars Program may be renewed upon  
5 the student's filing of a renewal financial aid application and  
6 providing evidence that the student has satisfied the requirements  
7 pursuant to subsection b. of this section.

8 (cf: P.L.2014, c.55, s.1)

9

10 5. Section 2 of P.L.2008, c.124 (C.18A:71B-85.1) is amended  
11 to read as follows:

12 2. a. Upon notice from the authority in a student's senior year of  
13 high school of conditional eligibility for a county college  
14 scholarship under the **【NJ STARS】** New Jersey HonorScholars  
15 Program, a student who determines to pursue final eligibility for the  
16 program shall take a college placement test to determine readiness  
17 for college-level coursework. The test shall be selected by the New  
18 Jersey Council of County Colleges and administered by the county  
19 college of the county in which the student's school district is located  
20 at no cost to the student or the school district. A county college  
21 may enter into an agreement with the school district to administer  
22 the test at the high school or other selected site within the district.

23 b. A county college shall notify any student who does not  
24 achieve the required score on the placement test that the student  
25 requires remediation prior to pursuing county college coursework  
26 for credit under the **【NJ STARS】** New Jersey HonorScholars  
27 Program. The student shall have the responsibility to address the  
28 identified deficiencies through such means as the student  
29 determines, including enrollment in remedial classes at the county  
30 college during the senior year of high school.

31 c. Upon graduation from high school, if a student meets the  
32 eligibility criteria for receipt of **【an NJ STARS scholarship】** a  
33 county college scholarship under the New Jersey HonorScholars  
34 Program but is not able to demonstrate the skill levels required to  
35 pursue courses for credit at a county college, the student shall not  
36 receive **【an NJ STARS】** a New Jersey HonorScholars scholarship  
37 until that ability is demonstrated. The student shall have one year  
38 from the September 1 next following the date of high school  
39 graduation to demonstrate such ability, and if at the end of the one-  
40 year period the student continues to require remediation, then the  
41 student shall lose eligibility for a county college scholarship under  
42 the 【NJ STARS】 New Jersey HonorScholars Program. If during or  
43 at the end of the one-year period the student demonstrates the  
44 required ability, then the student shall be eligible for **【an NJ**  
45 **STARS scholarship】** a county college scholarship under the New  
46 Jersey HonorScholars Program for five semesters.

47 (cf: P.L.2008, c.124, s.2)

1       6. Section 3 of P.L.2008, c.124 (C.18A:71B-85.2) is amended  
2 to read as follows:

3       3. a. A student who receives **【an NJ STARS】** a county college  
4 New Jersey HonorScholars scholarship shall be eligible to take less  
5 than 12 credits in the final semester if the county college determines  
6 that the student needs to complete less than 12 credits in that  
7 semester to complete the degree program.

8       b. In the case of a student who is enrolled in an associate  
9 degree program regularly requiring six semesters, the student shall  
10 not receive **【an NJ STARS】** a county college scholarship under the  
11 New Jersey HonorScholars Program for the sixth semester but shall  
12 maintain eligibility for **【the New Jersey Student Tuition Assistance**  
13 **Reward Scholarship II (NJ STARS II) Program** established pursuant  
14 to P.L.2005, c.359 (C.18A:71B-86.1 et seq.) **】** a scholarship under  
15 the New Jersey HonorScholars Program for the third and fourth  
16 years of academic study at a four-year public <sup>2</sup>or independent<sup>2</sup>  
17 institution of higher education pursuant to section 11 of P.L. ,  
18 c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), provided that  
19 the student meets the requirements for receipt of **【an NJ STARS II】**  
20 that scholarship.

21       <sup>2</sup>c. A student who receives a county college scholarship under  
22 the New Jersey HonorScholars Program shall be eligible to take less  
23 than 12 credits in a semester if the student provides to the college a  
24 written note from a physician or other licensed health care  
25 professional indicating the student's need to take a reduced number  
26 of credits due to a physical or mental health condition. A student  
27 who receives a medical exemption from the full-time course of  
28 study requirement pursuant to this subsection shall be eligible for  
29 additional semesters of eligibility for a county college New Jersey  
30 HonorScholars scholarship, as necessary.<sup>2</sup>

31 (cf: P.L.2008, c.124, s.3)

32

33       7. Section 4 of P.L.2008, c.124 (C.18A:71B-85.3) is amended  
34 to read as follows:

35       4. A student who is eligible for **【an NJ STARS】** a county  
36 college New Jersey HonorScholars Program scholarship who earned  
37 college credits while enrolled in high school may submit to the  
38 county college a transcript from the institution of higher education  
39 that awarded the credits. If the county college determines that the  
40 student's coursework is equivalent to that offered by the county  
41 college, then the county college shall apply the credits toward the  
42 award of the student's associate degree under the **【NJ STARS】** New  
43 Jersey HonorScholars Program.

44 (cf: P.L.2008, c.124, s.4)

45

46       8. Section 1 of P.L.2009, c.280 (C.18A:71B-85.5) is amended  
47 to read as follows:

1       1. a. In September of each school year, the board of education  
2 of a school district or the chief school administrator of a nonpublic  
3 school shall provide each student in the 9th grade with general  
4 information on the **【New Jersey Student Tuition Assistance Reward**  
5 **Scholarship (NJ STARS)】** New Jersey HonorScholars Program  
6 **【created pursuant to P.L.2004, c.59 (C.18A:71B-81 et seq.)】**.

7       b. In September of each school year, the board of education of  
8 a school district or the chief school administrator of a nonpublic  
9 school shall notify each student in the 11th grade who is ranked in  
10 the top 25.0% of the class of his potential to qualify for a county  
11 college scholarship under the **【NJ STARS】** New Jersey  
12 HonorScholars Program if the student's class rank at the completion  
13 of the 11th grade or 12th grade is within the top **【15.0%】** 20.0% of  
14 the class.

15       The notification shall include information about the rigorous  
16 course of study required to qualify for the program.

17       A student in the 12th grade shall be notified of conditional  
18 eligibility for a county college scholarship under the **【NJ STARS】**  
19 New Jersey HonorScholars Program by the Higher Education  
20 Student Assistance Authority in accordance with the provisions of  
21 section 2 of P.L.2008, c.124 (C.18A:71B-85.1).

22       c. The notification by the board of education or chief school  
23 administrator required pursuant to subsections a. and b. of this  
24 section shall be communicated via regular or electronic mail or sent  
25 home with the student and include a brief description of the **【NJ**  
26 **STARS】** New Jersey HonorScholars Program and the requirements  
27 for eligibility for the program.

28 (cf: P.L.2014, c.55, s.2)

29  
30       9. Section 5 of P.L.2012, c.8 (C.18A:71B-85.6) is amended to  
31 read as follows:

32       5. Each county college is encouraged to host an annual  
33 recruitment day and invite a representative from each four-year  
34 public **【and independent】** <sup>2</sup>and independent<sup>2</sup> institution of higher  
35 education in the State for the purpose of recruiting students for a  
36 scholarship for the third and fourth years of academic study at the  
37 four-year institution under the **【NJ STARS II】** New Jersey  
38 HonorScholars Program.

39 (cf: P.L.2012, c.8, s.5)

40  
41       10. (New section) a. The New Jersey HonorScholars Program  
42 shall offer scholarships to students at State public <sup>2</sup>or independent<sup>2</sup>  
43 four-year institutions of higher education. For an eligible student  
44 enrolled in a full-time course of study at a New Jersey four-year  
45 public <sup>2</sup>or independent<sup>2</sup> institution of higher education, the  
46 scholarship shall be applied toward the cost of tuition, subject to the  
47 prior application of other grants and scholarships against such costs

1 as provided under paragraph (3) of subsection c. of this section. A  
2 scholarship under the program shall be paid to the four-year  
3 institution in the amount of \$2,000 per semester. The award  
4 amount shall not, when combined with any other financial  
5 assistance, exceed the student's actual tuition costs. The cost of a  
6 scholarship shall be paid 100% by the State. Any cost of attendance  
7 that is not covered by the scholarship or other available forms of  
8 grants and scholarships shall be paid by the student.

9 b. Except as provided in section 11 of P.L. ,  
10 c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), a student  
11 shall be eligible for a scholarship under this section for up to eight  
12 semesters, excluding summer sessions, and in order to receive the  
13 scholarship the student shall have graduated in the top 10.0% of the  
14 student's high school graduating class. In the case of students  
15 graduating from high schools that do not calculate the class rank of  
16 their students, the student's ranking shall be determined by the high  
17 school in consultation with the authority.

18 c. A student shall be eligible to receive a scholarship to a State  
19 public <sup>2</sup>or independent<sup>2</sup> four-year institution of higher education if  
20 the student:

21 (1) has an annual family income, both taxable and non-taxable,  
22 as derived from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid  
23 (FAFSA) for the academic year, of less than \$250,000;

24 (2) is a State resident pursuant to guidelines established by the  
25 authority. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 1 of P.L.1979,  
26 c.361 (C.18A:62-4) or any other section of law to the contrary, a  
27 dependent child of a parent or guardian who has been transferred to  
28 a military installation located in this State shall be considered a  
29 resident of this State for the purposes of qualifying for a  
30 scholarship;

31 (3) has applied for all other available forms of State and federal  
32 need-based grants and merit scholarships, exclusive of loans, the  
33 full amount of which grants and scholarships shall be applied to  
34 tuition to reduce the amount of any scholarship that the student  
35 receives under the provisions of the New Jersey HonorScholars  
36 Program;

37 (4) <sup>2</sup>except as otherwise provided pursuant to subsection f. of  
38 this section,<sup>2</sup> is enrolled in a full-time course of study at a four-year  
39 public <sup>2</sup>or independent<sup>2</sup> institution of higher education and  
40 maintains a 3.0 grade point average. A grade for credits earned  
41 during a summer semester shall for the purposes of this paragraph  
42 be included in the calculation of the grade point average for the  
43 preceding academic year; and

44 (5) <sup>2</sup>except as otherwise provided pursuant to subsection f. of  
45 this section,<sup>2</sup> maintains continuous enrollment in a full-time course  
46 of study, unless on medical leave due to the illness of the student or  
47 a member of the student's immediate family or emergency leave  
48 because of a family emergency, which medical or emergency leave



1 shall have been approved by the four-year public <sup>2</sup>or independent<sup>2</sup>  
2 institution of higher education, or unless called to partial or full  
3 mobilization for State or federal active duty as a member of the  
4 National Guard or a Reserve component of the Armed Forces of the  
5 United States.

6 d. A student who is dismissed for academic or disciplinary  
7 reasons from a four-year public <sup>2</sup>or independent<sup>2</sup> institution of  
8 higher education shall no longer be eligible for a scholarship under  
9 the New Jersey HonorScholars Program. If a student participating  
10 in the program is dismissed for disciplinary reasons, the student  
11 shall repay in full all amounts received under the program. The  
12 four-year public <sup>2</sup>or independent<sup>2</sup> institution of higher education  
13 shall be responsible for collecting the repayment, or the amount of  
14 any overpayment or other improper payment, of any State awards  
15 under the program, in accordance with the provisions of  
16 N.J.S.18A:71B-10.

17 e. A scholarship at a four-year institution under the program  
18 may be renewed upon the student's filing of a renewal financial aid  
19 application and providing evidence that the student has satisfied the  
20 requirements pursuant to this section.

21 <sup>2</sup>f. A student who receives a scholarship at a four-year institution  
22 under the program shall be eligible to take less than 12 credits in a  
23 semester if the student provides to the institution a written note  
24 from a physician or other licensed health care professional  
25 indicating the student's need to take a reduced number of credits  
26 due to a physical or mental health condition. A student who  
27 receives a medical exemption from the full-time course of study  
28 requirement pursuant to this subsection shall be eligible for  
29 additional semesters of eligibility for a New Jersey HonorScholars  
30 Scholarship at a four-year institution, as necessary.<sup>2</sup>

31

32 11. (New section) a. In addition to a student eligible for a  
33 scholarship under the New Jersey HonorScholars Program pursuant  
34 to subsection b. of section 10 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before  
35 the Legislature as this bill), a student who is receiving a county  
36 college scholarship under the New Jersey HonorScholars Program  
37 shall be eligible for a scholarship under the program at a State four-  
38 year public <sup>2</sup>or independent<sup>2</sup> institution of higher education for the  
39 student's third and fourth academic years pursuant to subsection b.  
40 of this section. The student shall be eligible for a scholarship under  
41 the program for up to four semesters, excluding summer sessions.

42 b. The student shall be eligible for a New Jersey HonorScholars  
43 Program scholarship for the student's third academic year of study  
44 if the student: attained an associates degree from a New Jersey  
45 county college; except as otherwise provided pursuant to subsection  
46 c. of section 2 and subsection b. of section 3 of P.L.2008,  
47 c.124 (C.18A:71B-85.1 and C.18A:71B-85.2), received a county  
48 college scholarship under the New Jersey HonorScholars Program

1 for each semester of study in the county college or was eligible for  
2 but did not receive a scholarship because the student's tuition was  
3 fully covered by other State or federal need-based grants or merit  
4 scholarships, or was eligible for but did not receive a scholarship  
5 under the New Jersey HonorScholars Program because the student  
6 was enrolled while a high school student in county college courses  
7 and received an associates degree in accordance with a joint  
8 program offered by the student's school district and a county  
9 college; <sup>1</sup> [graduated in the top 10.0% of the student's county  
10 college graduating class] attains a cumulative grade point average  
11 of at least 3.25 upon graduation from a county college<sup>1</sup>; enrolls in a  
12 baccalaureate degree program at a New Jersey four-year public <sup>2</sup> or  
13 independent<sup>2</sup> institution of higher education for the third academic  
14 year of study in the academic year immediately following the  
15 student's attainment of an associates degree; and meets the criteria  
16 set forth in subsection c. of section 10 of P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending  
17 before the Legislature as this bill).

18 c. The provisions of subsections d. and e. of section 10 of  
19 P.L. , c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall  
20 apply to a student receiving a New Jersey HonorScholars Program  
21 scholarship pursuant to this section.

22  
23 12. (New section) The policies and procedures set forth in the  
24 Statewide transfer agreement established pursuant to P.L.2007,  
25 c.175 (C.18A:62-46 et seq.) shall govern the transfer of academic  
26 credits awarded by a county college to a New Jersey HonorScholars  
27 Program student who subsequently enrolls in a four-year public  
28 institution of higher education and is participating in the New  
29 Jersey HonorScholars Program at the institution.

30  
31 13. (New section) Nothing in sections 10 and 11 of P.L. ,  
32 c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall be  
33 construed to require a four-year public <sup>2</sup> or independent<sup>2</sup> institution  
34 of higher education to admit a student eligible for a scholarship  
35 under the New Jersey HonorScholars Program or to waive its  
36 admission standards and application procedures.

37  
38 14. (New section) a. In September of each school year, the  
39 board of education of a school district or the chief school  
40 administrator of a nonpublic school shall notify each student in the  
41 11th grade who is ranked in the top 15.0% of the class of his  
42 potential to qualify for a scholarship to a four-year public <sup>2</sup> or  
43 independent<sup>2</sup> institution of higher education under the New Jersey  
44 HonorScholars Program if the student's class rank at the time of  
45 graduation is within the top 10.0% of the graduating class.

46 A student in the 12th grade shall be notified of conditional  
47 eligibility for the New Jersey HonorScholars Program by the Higher  
48 Education Student Assistance Authority.

1       b. The notification by the board of education or chief school  
2 administrator required pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall  
3 be communicated via regular or electronic mail or sent home with  
4 the student and include a brief description of the New Jersey  
5 HonorScholars Program and the requirements for eligibility for the  
6 program.

7  
8       15. (New section) a. In the case of a student who is receiving a  
9 scholarship under the NJ STARS Program and is in the first  
10 academic year of study on the effective date of P.L.     ,     ,  
11 c. (C.     ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), the  
12 scholarship shall be administered and the student shall remain  
13 eligible for the program in accordance with the provisions of  
14 P.L.2004, c.59 (C.18A:71B-81 et seq.) as the same read before the  
15 effective date of P.L.     , c. (C.     ) (pending before the Legislature  
16 as this bill).

17       b. In the case of a student who is receiving a scholarship under  
18 the NJ STARS II Program and is in the third academic year of study  
19 on the effective date of P.L.     , c. (C.     ) (pending before the  
20 Legislature as this bill), or was eligible to receive an NJ STARS II  
21 scholarship for the third academic year of study but did not receive  
22 the scholarship because the student's tuition or tuition and fees, as  
23 applicable, was fully covered by other available forms of State and  
24 federal need-based grants and merit scholarships, the scholarship  
25 shall be administered and the student shall remain eligible for the  
26 program in accordance with the provisions of P.L.2005,  
27 c.359 (C.18A:71B-86.1 et seq.) as the same read before the  
28 effective date of P.L.     , c. (C.     ) (pending before the Legislature  
29 as this bill).

30  
31       16. (New section) a. Not later than two years following the  
32 effective date of P.L.     , c. (C.     ) (pending before the Legislature  
33 as this bill) and annually thereafter, the Higher Education Student  
34 Assistance Authority shall prepare and submit to the Legislature  
35 and the Governor a report on the implementation of the New Jersey  
36 HonorScholars Program. The report shall, for each institution of  
37 higher education, set forth statistics on and include an analysis of  
38 student participation in the program at the institution, the amounts  
39 of funding provided under the program to students enrolled at the  
40 institution, the amounts of funding made available to those  
41 participating students from State sources other than the New Jersey  
42 HonorScholars Program and from federal and institutional sources,  
43 and such other factors as the authority deems to be necessary or  
44 useful to the evaluation of the program.

45       b. The Higher Education Student Assistance Authority shall  
46 establish appropriate criteria, procedures, and guidelines for  
47 awarding scholarships under the New Jersey HonorScholars  
48 Program to eligible students in accordance with the provisions of

1 P.L.2004, c.59 (C.18A:71B-81 et seq.) and P.L. ,  
2 c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill). The  
3 authority shall adopt in accordance with the "Administrative  
4 Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), rules and  
5 regulations as may be necessary to implement the provisions of  
6 P.L.2004, c.59 (C.18A:71B-81 et seq.) and P.L. ,  
7 c. (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

8

9 17. The following sections are repealed:

10 Section 5 of P.L.2008, c.124 (C.18A:71B-85.4);

11 Section 3 of P.L.2014, c.55 (C.18A:71B-85.5a);

12 Section 6 of P.L.2012, c.8 (C.18A:71B-85.7);

13 Section 6 of P.L.2004, c.59 (C.18A:71B-86);

14 Sections 1 through 7 of P.L.2005, c.359 (C.18A:71B-86.1  
15 through C.18A:71B-86.7);

16 Section 9 of P.L.2008, c.124 (C.18A:71B-86.4a); and

17 Section 7 of P.L.2012, c.8 (C.18A:71B-86.4b).

18

19 18. This act shall take effect immediately and shall first be  
20 applicable to the 2017-2018 academic year.