SENATE, No. 1332

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
217th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 11, 2016

Sponsored by:
Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER
District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

SYNOPSIS
Requires post-secondary educational institutions to collect and report employment data for certain graduates.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT
As introduced.
AN ACT concerning the collection and reporting of certain
information by post-secondary educational institutions,
amending P.L.2009, c.197, and supplementing Title 18A of the
New Jersey Statutes.

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

1. Section 2 of P.L.2009, c.197 (C.18A:3B-44) is amended to
read as follows:

2. a. A four-year public or independent institution of higher
education shall provide for public inspection on its website
comprehensive information on the cost of attendance, the
graduation rates of admitted students, and the faculty of the
institution, and shall also provide for public inspection on its
website employment data for recent graduates of the institution.
The purpose of the information shall be to maximize the awareness
of students and their families of the costs associated with
enrollment in the institution, the institution's success in ensuring the
graduation and employment of its students, and the composition of
the teaching faculty that a student will encounter in his coursework.
The institution shall post, and annually update, a student consumer
information report on its website that includes:

   (1) overall four-year and six-year graduation rates;
   (2) four-year and six-year graduation rates by demographic
group;
   (3) four-year and six-year graduation rates by major;
   (4) four-year and six-year graduation rates for student-athletes;
   (5) the student transfer rate;
   (6) an overview of the institutions to which former students of
    that college or university have transferred prior to the completion of
    a degree;
   (7) the cost for the current academic year of attending the
    institution including tuition, student fees, room and board, and
    books and materials;
   (8) a description of the types of financial assistance offered
directly by the institution to both student-athletes and to students
who do not participate in athletic programs at the institution;
   (9) the percent of student-athletes who receive financial
    assistance directly from the institution and the average value of the
    assistance and the percent of students who do not participate in
    athletic programs at the institution who receive financial assistance
directly from the institution and the average value of the assistance;
   (10) the total projected cost for an incoming freshman to live on
campus and complete a degree in four years and the total projected

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.
cost for an incoming freshman to commute to school and complete a degree in four years;

(11) the total projected cost for an incoming freshman to live on campus and complete a degree in six years and the total projected cost for an incoming freshman to commute to school and complete a degree in six years;

(12) average student loan indebtedness of four-year graduates for both students who live on campus and students who commute;

(13) average student loan indebtedness of six-year graduates for both students who live on campus and students who commute;

(14) average student loan indebtedness of a student who withdraws from the institution prior to the completion of a degree program for both students who live on campus and students who commute;

(15) an overview of the institution's faculty, including the percentage of faculty employed as a tenured professor, the percentage of faculty employed as a full-time non-tenured professor, and the percentage of faculty employed as an adjunct or visiting professor;

(16) the percentage of courses taught by each of the different categories of faculty; [and]

(17) an indicator of each academic department's capacity to serve the students majoring within that department's programs, as determined by the [Commission on] Secretary of Higher Education; and

(18) employment data beginning with data compiled for students who graduated from the institution during the 2017-2018 academic year. The employment data shall include, but need not be limited to: the overall number and percentage of students who are employed in a field related to their major one year following graduation from the institution; the overall number and percentage of students who are employed in any field one year following graduation from the institution; the overall number and percentage of students who enroll in a graduate program within one year following graduation from the institution; and the salary earned by students one year following graduation from the institution. The institution shall maintain the employment data for each graduating class on its website for a period of four academic years following its compilation.

Beginning in the 2018-2019 academic year and in each academic year thereafter, the institution shall conduct an employment survey of the students who graduated in the prior academic year.

The institution shall provide with all paper applications for admission to the institution a hard copy of the information prepared pursuant to this section.

b. A four-year public or independent institution of higher education shall conform to the guidelines, criteria, and format
prescribed by the [Commission on] Secretary of Higher Education
in reporting the information required pursuant to this section.

c. A four-year public or independent institution of higher
education shall submit its student consumer information report to
the [Commission on] Secretary of Higher Education for inclusion
in a comparative profile of the student consumer information
reports of all four-year public and independent institutions of higher
education.
d. A four-year public or independent institution of higher
education shall ensure that the page of its Internet site which
includes its student consumer information report contains a link to
the page of the [Commission on] Secretary of Higher Education's
Internet site that includes the comparative profile required pursuant
to subsection b. of section 3 of this act.
e. A four-year public or independent institution of higher
education shall ensure that the Internet site for submitting an online
application to the institution contains a link to the institution's
student consumer information report.
f. A four-year public or independent institution of higher
education shall require the parent or guardian of a student applying
for admission into the institution, or the student if he is an
independent adult, to sign and submit a statement acknowledging
that he has reviewed the institution's student consumer information
report.
(cf: P.L.2009, c.197, s.2)

2. Section 3 of P.L.2009, c.197 (C.18A:3B-45) is amended to
read as follows:

3. a. The [Commission on] Secretary of Higher Education
shall issue guidelines and criteria for collecting and calculating the
information required pursuant to section 2 of this act and shall
prescribe a uniform reporting method for posting the information.
b. The [Commission on] Secretary of Higher Education shall
annually compile the student consumer information reports
submitted pursuant to subsection c. of section 2 of this act into a
comparative profile of all four-year public and independent
institutions of higher education. The [commission] secretary shall
present the information on its website in a manner that allows
college students and their families to easily compare student
consumer information across public institutions and across
independent institutions.
(cf: P.L.2009, c.197, s.3)

3. a. (New section) A private vocational school shall provide
for public inspection on its website comprehensive student
employment data beginning with data compiled for students who
graduated from or completed a program of the institution in 2017.
The employment data shall include, but need not be limited to: the
overall number and percentage of students who are employed in a
field related to their course of study one year following graduation
from or completion of a program of the institution; the overall
number and percentage of students who are employed in any field
one year following graduation from or completion of a program of
the institution; and the salary earned by students one year following
graduation from or completion of a program of the institution. The
institution shall maintain the employment data on its website for a
period of four years following its compilation.

b. To effectuate the provisions of subsection a. of this section,
begining in 2018 and in each year thereafter, a private vocational
school shall conduct an annual employment survey of the students
who graduated or completed a program in the prior year.

4. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill requires post-secondary educational institutions to
collect and report certain employment data for recent graduates.
Under the bill, four-year public and independent institutions of
higher education will conduct an annual employment survey of the
students who graduated in the prior academic year. The institutions
will then post on their websites the student employment data which
will include: the overall number and percentage of students who are
employed in a field related to their major or course of study one
year following graduation; the overall number and percentage of
students who are employed in any field one year following
graduation; and the salary earned by students one year following
graduation. The institutions will maintain the employment data for
each graduating class on their websites for a period of four
academic years. The bill requires private vocational schools to
collect and report the same student employment data for students
who graduated from or completed a program of the school the prior
year. Four-year public and independent institutions of higher
education must also collect data on the overall number and
percentage of students who enroll in a graduate program within one
year following graduation from the institution.

Under the “New Jersey College Student and Parent Consumer
Information Act,” P.L.2009, c.197, four-year public institutions of
higher education are currently required to provide on their websites
information on the cost of attendance, the graduation rates of
admitted students, and the faculty of the institution. This bill
amends that law to require that independent institutions of higher
education provide the same information on their websites, and to
include employment data for recent graduates of the institution.
Private vocational schools would only be required to provide the
employment data. The bill provides that a private vocational school must report student employment data for students who graduated from or completed a program of the school in the prior year. Four-year public and independent institutions of higher education must first survey students who graduated from their institutions during the 2017-2018 academic year. Private vocational schools must first survey students who graduated from or completed a program of the institution in 2017.