# 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 <u>or independent</u> 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 <u>and employment</u> 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
- The institution shall post, and annually update, a student consume 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;
- 44 (10) the total projected cost for an incoming freshman to live on 45 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.

1 cost for an incoming freshman to commute to school and complete a 2 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 **]** <u>Secretary of Higher Education</u>; 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.
- 46 b. A four-year public <u>or independent</u> institution of higher 47 education shall conform to the guidelines, criteria, and format

- prescribed by the **[**Commission on **]** <u>Secretary of Higher Education</u> in reporting the information required pursuant to this section.
  - c. A four-year public <u>or independent</u> institution of higher education shall submit its student consumer information report to the **[**Commission on **]** <u>Secretary of</u> Higher Education for inclusion in a comparative profile of the student consumer information reports of all four-year public <u>and independent</u> institutions of higher education.
- d. A four-year public <u>or independent</u> 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 **]** <u>Secretary of Higher Education's</u> Internet site that includes the comparative profile required pursuant to subsection b. of section 3 of this act.
  - e. A four-year public <u>or independent</u> 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 <u>or independent</u> 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)

- 27 2. Section 3 of P.L.2009, c.197 (C.18A:3B-45) is amended to read as follows:
  - 3. a. The **[**Commission on **]** <u>Secretary of Higher Education</u> 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.

42 (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

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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, beginning 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 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

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- 1 employment data. The bill provides that a private vocational school
- 2 must report student employment data for students who graduated
- 3 from or completed a program of the school in the prior year. Four-
- 4 year public and independent institutions of higher education must
- 5 first survey students who graduated from their institutions during
- 6 the 2017-2018 academic year. Private vocational schools must first
- 7 survey students who graduated from or completed a program of the
- 8 institution in 2017.