

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 869

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
218th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2018 SESSION

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**Senators Ruiz, Addiego, Pou, Brown, Assemblyman Barclay,
Assemblywoman Murphy and Assemblyman Schaer**

SYNOPSIS

Permits establishment by county and four-year institutions of higher education of three plus one degree programs for receipt of baccalaureate degree after spending three years at county college and one year at senior institution.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Higher Education Committee on June 18, 2018, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/30/2018)

1 AN ACT concerning the establishment of three plus one degree
2 programs at institutions of higher education and supplementing
3 Title 18A of 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. a. A four-year institution of higher education and a county
9 college may partner to establish a three plus one degree program for
10 a baccalaureate degree in such majors as the institutions of higher
11 education may determine.

12 b. Under a three plus one degree program established pursuant
13 to this section, a student admitted into the program shall:

14 (1) complete the first two academic years of the program at the
15 county college, pay the tuition and fees of the county college, and
16 receive an associate degree;

17 (2) complete the third academic year of the program at the
18 county college and pay the tuition and fees of the county college.
19 Academic credits for the third academic year shall be awarded by
20 the county college. Instruction in the third academic year in any
21 300-level class shall be provided by either an advanced degree
22 faculty member of the county college in collaboration with a faculty
23 member of the four-year institution or by a faculty member of the
24 four-year institution, in accordance with accreditation standards of
25 the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. Instruction in
26 the third academic year in any 300-level class shall be equivalent in
27 rigor to instruction in 300-level classes taught at the four-year
28 institution ¹. To maintain academic quality control, in the third year,
29 the course content of courses in the student's major shall be
30 determined by the four-year institution with input from the county
31 college faculty¹;

32 (3) be admitted to and attend the four-year institution for the
33 fourth academic year of the program and pay the tuition and fees of
34 that institution; and

35 (4) earn a baccalaureate degree from the four-year institution.

36 c. The Secretary of Higher Education shall report annually to
37 the Governor, and to the Legislature pursuant to section 2 of
38 P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), on the number of three plus one
39 degree programs implemented during the prior academic year.

40 d. Any three plus one degree program for a baccalaureate
41 degree in a particular major which was established prior to the
42 effective date of this act or approved by the governing boards of the
43 institutions prior to the effective date of this act shall be exempt
44 from the provisions of this section.

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:

¹Assembly AHI committee amendments adopted June 18, 2018.

1 2. a. Notwithstanding any law or regulation to the contrary, a
2 student who is otherwise eligible for a State tuition aid grant and
3 who is participating in a three plus one degree program established
4 pursuant to section 1 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
5 Legislature as this bill) shall be eligible for a State tuition aid grant
6 while enrolled in a county college for the third academic year of the
7 program.

8 b. Notwithstanding any law or regulation to the contrary, a
9 student who is otherwise eligible for an Educational Opportunity
10 Fund grant and who is participating in a three plus one degree
11 program established pursuant to section 1 of P.L. , c. (C.)
12 (pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall be eligible for an
13 Educational Opportunity Fund grant while enrolled in a county
14 college for the third academic year of the program.

15
16 3. Notwithstanding any law or regulation to the contrary, a
17 student participating in a three plus one degree program established
18 pursuant to section 1 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
19 Legislature as this bill):

20 a. shall be eligible to receive an NJSTARS scholarship for the
21 first ¹~~two~~ three¹ academic years of the three plus one degree
22 program, provided the student meets the requirements for receipt of
23 the scholarship; and

24 b. shall be eligible to receive an NJSTARS II scholarship for
25 the ¹~~third and~~¹ fourth academic ¹~~years~~ year¹ of the three plus
26 one degree program, provided the student meets the requirements
27 for receipt of the scholarship. ¹~~For the third academic year the~~
28 scholarship shall be in an amount that covers the full cost of tuition
29 at the county college. ¹

30
31 4. This act shall take effect in the first full academic year
32 following the date of enactment.