

ASSEMBLY, No. 2747

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 27, 1997

By Assemblywoman VANDERVALK and  
Assemblyman AUGUSTINE

1 AN ACT concerning State tuition aid grants and amending P.L.1968,  
2 c. 429.

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

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7 1. Section 7 of P.L.1968, c.429 (C.18A:71-47) is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 7. A college tuition aid grant shall be awarded annually to each  
10 eligible, qualified full-time undergraduate student enrolled in a  
11 curriculum leading to a degree or certificate in an institution of  
12 collegiate grade in New Jersey licensed by the Commission on Higher  
13 Education, or in an institution of collegiate grade in another state,  
14 provided that such state permits its residents to utilize its state student  
15 financial assistance grants in New Jersey institutions of higher  
16 education through reciprocity agreements approved by the Student  
17 Assistance Board and the commission. In no event shall a New Jersey  
18 tuition aid grant be utilized at an out-of-State institution which is not  
19 licensed by that state and accredited by a regional accrediting  
20 association recognized by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation.

21 A college tuition aid grant shall also be awarded annually to each  
22 eligible, qualified part-time undergraduate student enrolled in a  
23 curriculum leading to a degree or certificate in an institution of  
24 collegiate grade in New Jersey licensed by the Commission on Higher  
25 Education.

26 (a) Eligibility. To each New Jersey resident enrolled as a full-time  
27 student after July 1, 1978 for the academic year beginning in  
28 September of 1978 and to each New Jersey resident enrolled as a part-  
29 time student after July 1, 1997 for the academic year beginning in  
30 September, 1997 the State shall grant an amount as provided in  
31 paragraph (b) of this section. No student shall be eligible for a grant  
32 unless he has certified in a form satisfactory to the Student Assistance  
33 Board that the grant is essential to his carrying out his plans for

**EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and intended to be omitted in the law.**

**Matter underlined thus is new matter.**

1 attending college. No full-time student shall be eligible for grants in  
2 more than four and one-half academic years, unless the recipient is  
3 enrolled in an undergraduate program regularly requiring five  
4 academic years for completion, in which case the Student Assistance  
5 Board shall permit five and one-half years of eligibility.  
6 Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, a full-time student receiving  
7 aid under the provisions of P.L.1968, c.142 (C.18A:71-28 et seq.)  
8 shall be entitled to a sixth year of eligibility. Notwithstanding the  
9 foregoing provisions, a county college student who transfers to a  
10 four-year institution, or any student who is required to pursue 18 or  
11 more credit hours in a remedial or developmental curriculum, as  
12 defined by regulations adopted by the Student Assistance Board, is  
13 entitled to an additional half year of eligibility. For the purpose of this  
14 amendatory act, a remedial curriculum shall include only noncredit  
15 courses in which a student is directed to enroll by the institution.  
16 [Eligibility for tuition aid grants may be extended to part-time students  
17 through regulations developed by the Student Assistance Board and  
18 approved by the commission if the level of appropriated funds allows  
19 such an extension, subject to prior approval by the Director of the  
20 Division of Budget and Accounting in the Department of the Treasury  
21 and Joint Appropriation Committee's Subcommittee on Transfers or  
22 its successor.] A part-time student shall be eligible to receive a grant  
23 for as long as he is enrolled in a curriculum leading to a degree or  
24 certificate pursuant to the rules established by the Student Assistance  
25 Board. No student shall be eligible for grants unless he maintains such  
26 minimum standards of academic performance as are required by the  
27 institution in which he is enrolled. No student shall be eligible for a  
28 tuition aid grant who is enrolled in a course leading to a degree in  
29 theology or divinity.

30 In the event a student for any reason ceases to continue to be  
31 enrolled or otherwise becomes ineligible during the course of an  
32 academic year, he shall cease to be eligible for tuition aid. Both the  
33 student and the institution shall have the responsibility to notify the  
34 Student Assistance Board when a student ceases to be eligible to  
35 receive student assistance because of withdrawal for any reason [or a  
36 change in status from a full to part-time student].

37 (b) Amount of grant. The amount of a tuition aid grant under this  
38 act to any student attending an institution of higher education in New  
39 Jersey shall be established by the Student Assistance Board but shall  
40 not exceed the maximum amount of tuition normally charged at a  
41 public institution of higher education for students attending that  
42 institution or 50% of the average tuition normally charged at the  
43 independent colleges and universities for students attending those  
44 institutions. Part-time grant awards shall be prorated against the full-  
45 time grant award for the applicable institutional sector. For the  
46 purposes of this section, full-time shall be 12 credit hours and a grant

1 for part-time enrollment for nine credit hours shall equal 75 % of a  
2 full-time grant award; a grant for six credit hours shall equal 50 % of  
3 a full-time grant award; and a grant for three credit hours shall equal  
4 25% of a full-time grant award. At least 10% of the amount  
5 appropriated for tuition aid grants shall be awarded to eligible part-  
6 time students. The amount of a New Jersey Tuition Assistance Grant  
7 under this act to any full-time student attending an institution of higher  
8 education in any state other than New Jersey pursuant to this section  
9 shall not exceed \$500.00 in an academic year. The amount of grant to  
10 be paid for each semester or equivalent shall be based on the financial  
11 need for such a grant, as determined by standards and procedures  
12 established by the Student Assistance Board and approved by the  
13 commission. The standards and procedures which shall be established  
14 by the Student Assistance Board for the Fiscal Year 1978-79 and the  
15 standards and procedures which shall be established by the Student  
16 Assistance Board for part-time students for Fiscal Year 1997-98, shall  
17 be submitted to the Legislature, together with appropriate supporting  
18 information, and such standards and procedures shall be deemed  
19 approved by the Legislature at the end of 30 calendar days after the  
20 date on which they are transmitted to the Legislature, or if the  
21 Legislature is not in session on the 30th day, then on the next  
22 succeeding day on which it shall be meeting, unless between the date  
23 of transmittal and the end of the 30-day period the Legislature passes  
24 a concurrent resolution rejecting the standards and procedures, in  
25 which case the standards and procedures then in effect shall continue  
26 in effect.

27 Any subsequent revisions of said standards and procedures shall be  
28 submitted to the Legislature, together with appropriate supporting  
29 information, and such standards and procedures shall be deemed  
30 approved by the Legislature at the end of 60 calendar days after the  
31 date on which they are transmitted to the Legislature, or if the  
32 Legislature is not in session on the 60th day, then on the next  
33 succeeding day on which it shall be meeting, unless between the date  
34 of transmittal and the end of the 60-day period the Legislature passes  
35 a concurrent resolution rejecting the standards and procedures, in  
36 which case the standards and procedures then in effect shall continue  
37 in effect.

38 (c) Appropriations for each program category of tuition aid grants  
39 shall be separately made by line item.

40 (cf: P.L.1994, c.48, s.220)

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42 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

This bill expands the tuition aid grant program to part-time undergraduates that are enrolled in a degree or certificate program and requires that at least 10 percent of the amount appropriated for the tuition aid grant program be set aside and used to provide grants to students enrolled in institutions of higher education on a part-time basis. The bill provides that the amount of a part-time tuition aid grant shall be based on a percentage of full-time grant awards for each institutional sector.

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Expands the Tuition Aid Grant program to part-time undergraduates.