

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.

STATEMENT

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

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