

[First Reprint]
SENATE, No. 1842

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 10, 1997

By Senators MARTIN, Singer, Bark and Connors

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 read
8 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, ¹[1997] 1998¹ for the academic year
30 beginning in September, ¹[1997] 1998¹ the State shall grant an
31 amount as provided in paragraph (b) of this section. No student shall

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.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹ Senate SED committee amendments adopted June 12, 1997.

1 be eligible for a grant unless he has certified in a form satisfactory to
2 the Student Assistance Board that the grant is essential to his carrying
3 out his plans for attending college. No ¹[full-time]¹ student shall be
4 eligible for grants in more than four and one-half academic years ¹or
5 its equivalent¹, unless the recipient is enrolled in an undergraduate
6 program regularly requiring five academic years for completion, in
7 which case the Student Assistance Board shall permit five and one-half
8 years ¹or its equivalent¹ of eligibility. Notwithstanding the foregoing
9 provisions, a ¹[full-time]¹ student receiving aid under the provisions
10 of P.L.1968, c.142 (C.18A:71-28 et seq.) shall be entitled to a sixth
11 year of eligibility. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, a county
12 college student who transfers to a four-year institution, or any student
13 who is required to pursue 18 or more credit hours in a remedial or
14 developmental curriculum, as defined by regulations adopted by the
15 Student Assistance Board, is entitled to an additional half year of
16 eligibility. For the purpose of this amendatory act, a remedial
17 curriculum shall include only noncredit courses in which a student is
18 directed to enroll by the institution. [Eligibility for tuition aid grants
19 may be extended to part-time students through regulations developed
20 by the Student Assistance Board and approved by the commission if
21 the level of appropriated funds allows such an extension, subject to
22 prior approval by the Director of the Division of Budget and
23 Accounting in the Department of the Treasury and Joint Appropriation
24 Committee's Subcommittee on Transfers or its successor.]

25 ¹[A part-time student shall be eligible to receive a grant for as long
26 as he is enrolled in a curriculum leading to a degree or certificate
27 pursuant to the rules established by the Student Assistance Board.]
28 Each period of part-time award status shall be counted toward the
29 maximum allowable period of student eligibility as one-half of the
30 maximum allowable period of full-time student eligibility.¹

31 No student shall be eligible for grants unless he maintains such
32 minimum standards of academic performance as are required by the
33 institution in which he is enrolled. No student shall be eligible for a
34 tuition aid grant who is enrolled in a course leading to a degree in
35 theology or divinity.

36 In the event a student for any reason ceases to continue to be
37 enrolled or otherwise becomes ineligible during the course of an
38 academic year, he shall cease to be eligible for tuition aid. Both the
39 student and the institution shall have the responsibility to notify the
40 Student Assistance Board when a student ceases to be eligible to
41 receive student assistance because of withdrawal for any reason [or a
42 change in status from a full to part-time student] ¹or a change in status
43 from a full to part-time student¹.

44 (b) Amount of grant. The amount of a tuition aid grant under this
45 act to any student attending an institution of higher education in New
46 Jersey shall be established by the Student Assistance Board but shall

1 not exceed the maximum amount of tuition normally charged at a
2 public institution of higher education for students attending that
3 institution or 50% of the average tuition normally charged at the
4 independent colleges and universities for students attending those
5 institutions. Part-time grant awards shall be prorated against the full-
6 time grant award for the applicable institutional sector¹[. For the
7 purposes of this section, full-time shall be 12 credit hours and a grant
8 for part-time enrollment for nine credit hours shall equal 75 % of a
9 full-time grant award; a grant for six credit hours shall equal 50 % of
10 a full-time grant award; and a grant for three credit hours shall equal
11 25 % of a full-time grant award. At least 10% of the amount
12 appropriated for tuition aid grants shall be awarded to eligible part-
13 time students] in the following manner: an eligible student enrolled on
14 a half-time basis, six to eight credits, shall receive a part-time tuition
15 aid grant award equal to one-half of the value of the student's full-
16 time award; an eligible student enrolled on a three-quarter time basis,
17 nine to 11 credits, shall receive a part-time tuition aid grant award
18 equal to three-quarters of the student's full-time award¹. The amount
19 of a New Jersey Tuition Assistance Grant under this act to any full-
20 time student attending an institution of higher education in any state
21 other than New Jersey pursuant to this section shall not exceed
22 \$500.00 in an academic year. The amount of grant to be paid for each
23 semester or equivalent shall be based on the financial need for such a
24 grant, as determined by standards and procedures established by the
25 Student Assistance Board and approved by the commission. The
26 standards and procedures which shall be established by the Student
27 Assistance Board for the Fiscal Year 1978-79 and the standards and
28 procedures which shall be established by the Student Assistance Board
29 for part-time students for Fiscal Year 1997-98, shall be submitted to
30 the Legislature, together with appropriate supporting information, and
31 such standards and procedures shall be deemed approved by the
32 Legislature at the end of 30 calendar days after the date on which they
33 are transmitted to the Legislature, or if the Legislature is not in session
34 on the 30th day, then on the next succeeding day on which it shall be
35 meeting, unless between the date of transmittal and the end of the
36 30-day period the Legislature passes a concurrent resolution rejecting
37 the standards and procedures, in which case the standards and
38 procedures then in effect shall continue in effect.

39 Any subsequent revisions of said standards and procedures shall be
40 submitted to the Legislature, together with appropriate supporting
41 information, and such standards and procedures shall be deemed
42 approved by the Legislature at the end of 60 calendar days after the
43 date on which they are transmitted to the Legislature, or if the
44 Legislature is not in session on the 60th day, then on the next
45 succeeding day on which it shall be meeting, unless between the date
46 of transmittal and the end of the 60-day period the Legislature passes

1 a concurrent resolution rejecting the standards and procedures, in
2 which case the standards and procedures then in effect shall continue
3 in effect.

4 (c) Appropriations for each program category of ¹full-time¹ tuition
5 aid grants shall be separately made by line item.

6 ¹(d) Appropriations for each program category of part-time tuition
7 aid grants shall be separately made by line item.¹

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

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10 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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