STATE OF NEW YORK

4260

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 31, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. CUNNINGHAM -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. ALVAREZ, GIBBS -- read once and referred to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to fee waivers for applications to the state university of New York and the city university of New York

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Section 209-a of the education law, as added by chapter 926 of the laws of 1968, is amended to read as follows:

§ 209-a. Applications for admission to college. **1.** Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter to the contrary, no rule or regulation shall be adopted by the school authorities, school officers or board of education of a school district which limits the number of requests for the processing of college applications that may be submitted by the pupils in a secondary school under their or its jurisdiction. Nothing contained in this section shall prohibit school authorities, school officers or boards of education from establishing rules of procedure for the submission of such requests.

2. (a) If a pupil in the final year of high school or in a gap year completes and submits the free application for federal student aid (FAFSA), such pupil shall be awarded a fee waiver for application to the state university of New York.

(b) For the purposes of this subdivision, the term "gap year" shall mean the first year after high school graduation.

3. The state university trustees shall adopt any rules and regulations necessary for the administration of this section, including, but not limited to, specifying the form and timelines for submitting the fee waiver for application.

§ 2. The education law is amended by adding a new section 6303-b to read as follows:

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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§ 6303-b. Fee waiver for application. 1. If a pupil in the final year of high school or in a gap year completes and submits the free application for federal student aid (FAFSA), such pupil shall be awarded a fee waiver for application to the city university of New York.

2. For the purposes of this section, the term "gap year" shall mean the first year after high school graduation.

3. The state university trustees shall adopt any rules and regulations necessary for the administration of this section, including, but not limited to, specifying the form and timelines for submitting the fee waiver for application.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately.