

7793

I N S E N A T E

June 9, 2014

Introduced by Sen. LAVALLE -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to establishing the free reimbursement for excellence in education community colleges program

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new section 679-g
2 to read as follows:

3 S 679-G. FREE REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION FOR COMMUNITY
4 COLLEGES (FREE CC) PROGRAM. 1. THE NEW YORK STATE FREE CC PROGRAM IS
5 HEREBY ESTABLISHED TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE CORPORATION FOR THE
6 PURPOSES OF REIMBURSING STUDENTS' STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK (SUNY) OR
7 CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK (CUNY) COMMUNITY COLLEGE TUITION COSTS.

8 2. TO BE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR THIS PROGRAM AN APPLICANT MUST HAVE (A)
9 GRADUATED FROM NEW YORK STATE HIGH SCHOOL OR COMPLETED A NEW YORK STATE
10 GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM AND RECEIVED A GED; (B) MUST APPLY FOR ADMIS-
11 SION AT A SUNY OR CUNY COMMUNITY COLLEGE WITHIN ONE YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL
12 GRADUATION OR RECEIPT OF SUCH GED; (C) MUST ENROLL IN A SUNY OR CUNY
13 COMMUNITY COLLEGE BEGINNING IN THE FALL OF TWO THOUSAND FIFTEEN OR THERE-
14 AFTER; (D) MUST HAVE FILED THE FEDERAL APPLICATION FOR STUDENT FINAN-
15 CIAL AID (FASFA); (E) MUST ATTEND SUCH COMMUNITY COLLEGE ON A FULL-TIME
16 BASIS; (F) MUST GRADUATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE WITH A 2.5 GRADE POINT AVER-
17 AGE OR ABOVE; (G) MUST GRADUATE WITHIN THREE YEARS FROM THE FIRST YEAR
18 OF ENROLLMENT; AND (H) MUST FILE AN APPLICATION WITH THE NEW YORK STATE
19 HIGHER EDUCATION SERVICES CORPORATION WITHIN ONE YEAR OF GRADUATING FROM
20 SUCH COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

21 3. THE CORPORATION SHALL GRANT AWARDS TO STUDENTS WHO MEET THE ELIGI-
22 BILITY REQUIREMENTS IN SUBDIVISION TWO OF THIS SECTION IN AN AMOUNT THAT
23 REIMBURSES THE STUDENT FOR THE TOTAL OUT-OF-POCKET TUITION COSTS PAID BY
24 SUCH STUDENT FOR ATTENDANCE AT A SUNY OR CUNY COMMUNITY COLLEGE, MINUS
25 ANY OTHER AWARDS OR SCHOLARSHIPS RECEIVED BY SUCH STUDENT THAT WERE
26 APPLIED TO TUITION COSTS. OTHER AWARDS THAT SHALL BE SUBTRACTED FROM THE
27 FREE CC PROGRAM AWARD SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO, TUITION
28 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AWARDS OR FEDERAL PELL AWARDS.

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

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1 4. FREE CC PROGRAM AWARDS SHALL BE GRANTED PURSUANT TO APPROPRIATIONS
2 MADE FOR SUCH PURPOSES AND PURSUANT TO RULES AND REGULATIONS PROMULGATED
3 BY THE CORPORATION.
4 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.