S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

8590

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

December 2, 2015

Introduced by M. of A. RICHARDSON -- read once and referred to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to state college attendance awards for students who maintain a certain minimum cumulative average throughout high school

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

Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new section 670-c to read as follows:

S 670-C. STATE COLLEGE ATTENDANCE AWARDS. 1. IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE AWARD GRANTED PURSUANT TO THIS CHAPTER, AN ELIGIBLE STUDENT SHALL RECEIVE ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS ANNUALLY, PROVIDED SUCH STUDENT ENROLLS IN AN ASSOCIATE OR BACCALAUREATE DEGREE PROGRAM AT A PUBLIC POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION LOCATED IN THIS STATE WITHIN ONE YEAR OF SUCH STUDENT'S COMPLETION OF THE CORE REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION FROM A PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL LOCATED IN THIS STATE.

2. ELIGIBILITY. AN ELIGIBLE STUDENT SHALL BE A STUDENT WHO:

(A) HAS ATTENDED AN APPROVED PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM LOCATED IN THIS STATE FROM GRADES NINE THROUGH TWELVE; AND

(B) HAS MAINTAINED A MINIMUM 3.0 CUMULATIVE AVERAGE FOR EACH OF ALL SEMESTERS OF SUCH STUDENT'S ATTENDANCE IN SUCH APPROVED HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM LOCATED IN THIS STATE.

3. DURATION. A STATE COLLEGE ATTENDANCE AWARD SHALL ENTITLE THE RECIPIENT TO AN ANNUAL AWARD FOR NOT MORE THAN FOUR ACADEMIC YEARS OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDY, PROVIDED SUCH STUDENT MAINTAINS THE MINIMUM ACADEMIC STANDARDS FOR SUCH POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION; AND PROVIDED FURTHER SUCH STUDENT REMAINS ENROLLED IN A PUBLIC POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION UNTIL THE COMPLETION OF HIS OR HER TERMINAL DEGREE.

4. AMOUNT. (A) ELIGIBLE STUDENTS ENTERING A COMMUNITY COLLEGE WITH A TWO YEAR DEGREE PROGRAM SHALL RECEIVE ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR EACH OF TWO YEARS, OR A MAXIMUM OF TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS; AND

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

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(B) ELIGIBLE STUDENTS ENTERING A PUBLIC FOUR YEAR COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY SHALL RECEIVE ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR EACH OF FOUR YEARS, OR A MAXIMUM OF FOUR THOUSAND DOLLARS.

(C) IN NO EVENT SHALL THE AMOUNT OF THE ANNUAL AWARDS EXCEED THE RECIPIENT'S COST OF ATTENDANCE AT THE INSTITUTION ATTENDED. COST OF ATTENDANCE SHALL MEAN TUITION, REQUIRED FEES, LABORATORY AND OTHER INSTRUCTION RELATED EXPENSES, BOOKS, TRANSPORTATION, AND ROOM AND BOARD. ANYTHING IN THIS ARTICLE TO THE CONTRARY NOTWITHSTANDING, A RECIPIENT OF A SCHOLARSHIP PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION MAY CONCURRENTLY RECEIVE WITH SUCH AWARD ANY OTHER ACADEMIC OR GENERAL AWARD FOR WHICH HE OR SHE MAY BE ELIGIBLE; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, IN NO EVENT SHALL A RECIPIENT BE AWARDED A SCHOLARSHIP IN ANY AMOUNT WHERE THE COMBINATION OF ALL SUCH AWARDS WOULD EXCEED THE RECIPIENT'S COST OF ATTENDANCE AT THE INSTITUTION.

S 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after it shall have become a law; provided, however, that effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date is authorized and directed to be made and completed on or before such effective date.