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

6841

I N S E N A T E

February 26, 2016

Introduced by Sen. ORTT -- 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 community college merit and mobility scholarship

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 669-h to read as follows:

S 669-H. THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE MERIT AND MOBILITY SCHOLARSHIP. 1. PURPOSE. THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE MERIT AND MOBILITY SCHOLARSHIP IS HEREBY ESTABLISHED FOR THE PURPOSE OF GRANTING MERIT BASED SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDENTS WHO ATTEND A NEW YORK STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

2. ELIGIBILITY. TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR SUCH AWARDS, AN APPLICANT MUST HAVE GRADUATED FROM A NEW YORK STATE HIGH SCHOOL WITHIN THE TOP TWENTY PERCENT OF HIS OR HER HIGH SCHOOL CLASS AND ACHIEVE THE FOLLOWING:

A. REMAIN IN GOOD ACADEMIC STANDING, AND

B. MAINTAIN A GRADE POINT AVERAGE OF 3.3 OR ABOVE.

3. AWARDS. ONE THOUSAND SCHOLARSHIPS SHALL BE AWARDED IN THE TWO THOUSAND SIXTEEN -- TWO THOUSAND SEVENTEEN ACADEMIC YEAR, AND THEREAFTER. THE ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP SHALL BE AWARDED TO ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS PER YEAR FOR NOT MORE THAN TWO ACADEMIC YEARS. THE MAXIMUM SCHOLARSHIP AWARD SHALL NOT EXCEED TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL PROMULGATE RULES AND REGULATIONS NECESSARY TO MAKE SUCH SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE ON AN ANNUAL BASIS TO FULL-TIME RECIPIENTS OR PER CREDIT BASIS TO PART-TIME RECIPIENTS. PART-TIME STUDENTS SHALL NOT BE IMPACTED BY THE TWO-YEAR ACADEMIC YEAR AWARD LIMITATION. UP TO ONE THOUSAND SCHOLARSHIPS MAY BE GRANTED TO NEW RECIPIENTS ANNUALLY. THE RECEIPT OF SUCH SCHOLARSHIPS SHALL NOT AFFECT TUITION ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY. IN NO EVENT SHALL THE AMOUNT OF THE ANNUAL AWARD EXCEED THE RECIPIENT'S COST OF ATTENDANCE AT THE INSTITUTION ATTENDED. COST OF ATTENDANCE SHALL MEAN TUITION, REQUIRED FEES, LABORATORY AND OTHER INSTRUCTION RELATED TO EXPENSES, BOOKS, TRANSPORTATION, AND ROOM AND BOARD.

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

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4. PRIORITY. IN THE EVENT THAT THERE ARE MORE APPLICANTS WHO HAVE THE SAME PRIORITY THAN THERE ARE REMAINING SCHOLARSHIPS, THE PRESIDENT SHALL DISTRIBUTE THE REMAINING NUMBER OF SUCH SCHOLARSHIPS BY MEANS OF A LOTTERY OR OTHER FORM OF RANDOM SELECTION.

5. RULES. THE CORPORATION IS AUTHORIZED TO PROMULGATE RULES AND REGULATIONS, AND MAY PROMULGATE EMERGENCY REGULATIONS, FOR THE NECESSARY IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.

S 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after it shall have become a law.