

7646

I N   S E N A T E

May 12, 2016

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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 "help individuals reach employment program" (HIRE)

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 355-d  
2     to read as follows:

3     S 355-D. HELP INDIVIDUALS REACH EMPLOYMENT. 1. THE "HELP INDIVIDUALS  
4     REACH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM" (HIRE) IS HEREBY ESTABLISHED TO PROVIDE ADDI-  
5     TIONAL SKILLS FOR COLLEGE GRADUATES TO INCREASE THEIR EMPLOYMENT MARKET-  
6     ABILITY AND ATTAIN SUCCESSFUL JOB PLACEMENT.

7     2. TO BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE HIRE PROGRAM, AN APPLICANT  
8     SHALL HAVE: (A) RECEIVED AN UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE FROM THE STATE UNIVER-  
9     SITY OF NEW YORK AND HAVE ACHIEVED A GRADE POINT AVERAGE OF 3.0 OR HIGH-  
10    ER; (B) COMPLETED THEIR DEGREE IN NO MORE THAN FIVE YEARS, OR SIX YEARS  
11    IF THE DEGREE TYPICALLY REQUIRES FIVE YEARS; (C) COMPLETED AN APPROVED  
12    EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING ACTIVITY, AS DEFINED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES; (D)  
13    GRADUATED AND SOUGHT EMPLOYMENT FOR AT LEAST SIX MONTHS PRIOR TO THE  
14    DATE OF APPLICATION; (E) BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL IN OBTAINING FULL-TIME  
15    EMPLOYMENT; (F) PROVIDED DOCUMENTATION THAT SUCH APPLICANT HAS SOUGHT  
16    EMPLOYMENT FOR SUCH A JOB IN NEW YORK STATE; AND (G) APPLIED FOR THE  
17    DEGREE ENHANCEMENT FOR EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM WITHIN ONE YEAR AFTER THE DATE  
18    OF GRADUATION.

19    3. THE TRUSTEES OF THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK SHALL ESTABLISH OR  
20    IDENTIFY EXISTING CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS THAT PROVIDE SKILLS FOR COLLEGE  
21    GRADUATES TO ENHANCE THEIR EMPLOYMENT MARKETABILITY THAT ARE TAILORED TO  
22    JOB MARKET NEEDS WHICH SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO ALL ELIGIBLE APPLI-  
23    CANTS FREE OF CHARGE TO SUCH APPLICANT. THE TRUSTEES SHALL PROMULGATE  
24    RULES AND REGULATIONS IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR TO  
25    ENSURE SUCH PROGRAMS ARE ALIGNED WITH JOB MARKET AND INDUSTRY NEEDS. IF  
26    THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK DOES NOT CURRENTLY OFFER CERTIFICATE  
27    PROGRAMS THAT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION, OR IF CURRENT  
28    CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS ARE AT CAPACITY OR CAN NOT BE EXPANDED TO ADMIT ALL

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

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1 ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS, SUCH PROGRAMS MAY BE OFFERED IN AN ON-LINE FORMAT  
2 TO SATISFY THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.

3 4. IF THE COLLEGE FROM WHICH THE APPLICANT GRADUATED CURRENTLY OFFERS  
4 A CERTIFICATE PROGRAM THAT MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH IN SUBDIVI-  
5 SION THREE OF THIS SECTION, THEN IT SHALL BE THE CHOICE OF THE APPLICANT  
6 TO EITHER ATTEND SUCH PROGRAM AT THAT CAMPUS OR COMPLETE SUCH PROGRAM  
7 ON-LINE; OR IF A COMMUNITY COLLEGE IS CURRENTLY OFFERING A CERTIFICATE  
8 PROGRAM THAT MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS IN SUBDIVISION THREE OF THIS  
9 SECTION, SUCH APPLICANT SHALL HAVE THE CHOICE OF OBTAINING SUCH CERTIF-  
10 ICATE FROM SUCH COMMUNITY COLLEGE FREE OF CHARGE TO THE APPLICANT. SUCH  
11 COMMUNITY COLLEGE SHALL BE ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR THE COST OF  
12 SUCH APPLICANT'S ATTENDANCE IN THE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM FROM THE STATE  
13 UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK FOUR YEAR INSTITUTION FROM WHICH THE APPLICANT  
14 RECEIVED HIS OR HER BACHELOR'S DEGREE.

15 5. EACH STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK INSTITUTION THAT CONFERS FOUR  
16 YEAR DEGREES SHALL INFORM ALL INCOMING FRESHMAN AND TRANSFER STUDENTS  
17 ABOUT ANTICIPATED JOB AVAILABILITY PER EACH MAJOR AND APPROXIMATE SALARY  
18 RANGES PER EACH MAJOR, WHICH DEGREES WILL TYPICALLY REQUIRE A GRADUATE  
19 DEGREE OR ADDITIONAL EDUCATION BEYOND A BACHELOR'S DEGREE AND ABOUT SUCH  
20 INSTITUTION'S UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT EMPLOYMENT RATES MEASURED WITHIN ONE  
21 YEAR OF SUCH STUDENTS' GRADUATION.

22 S 2. Section 6206 of the education law is amended by adding a new  
23 subdivision 19 to read as follows:

24 19. A. THE "HELP INDIVIDUALS REACH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM" (HIRE) IS HERE-  
25 BY ESTABLISHED TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SKILLS FOR COLLEGE GRADUATES TO  
26 INCREASE THEIR EMPLOYMENT MARKETABILITY AND ATTAIN SUCCESSFUL JOB PLACE-  
27 MENT.

28 B. TO BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE HIRE PROGRAM, AN APPLICANT  
29 SHALL HAVE: (I) RECEIVED AN UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE FROM THE CITY UNIVERSI-  
30 TY OF NEW YORK AND HAVE ACHIEVED A GRADE POINT AVERAGE OF 3.0 OR HIGHER;  
31 (II) COMPLETED THEIR DEGREE IN NO MORE THAN FIVE YEARS, OR SIX YEARS IF  
32 THE DEGREE TYPICALLY REQUIRES FIVE YEARS; (III) COMPLETED AN APPROVED  
33 EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING ACTIVITY, AS DEFINED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES;  
34 (IV) GRADUATED AND SOUGHT EMPLOYMENT FOR AT LEAST SIX MONTHS PRIOR TO  
35 THE DATE OF APPLICATION; (V) BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL IN OBTAINING FULL-TIME  
36 EMPLOYMENT; (VI) PROVIDED DOCUMENTATION THAT SUCH APPLICANT HAS SOUGHT  
37 EMPLOYMENT FOR SUCH A JOB IN NEW YORK STATE; AND (VII) APPLIED FOR THE  
38 DEGREE ENHANCEMENT FOR EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM WITHIN ONE YEAR AFTER THE DATE  
39 OF GRADUATION.

40 C. THE TRUSTEES OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK SHALL ESTABLISH OR  
41 IDENTIFY EXISTING CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS THAT PROVIDE SKILLS FOR COLLEGE  
42 GRADUATES TO ENHANCE THEIR EMPLOYMENT MARKETABILITY THAT ARE TAILORED TO  
43 JOB MARKET NEEDS, WHICH SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO ALL ELIGIBLE APPLI-  
44 CANTS FREE OF CHARGE TO SUCH APPLICANT. THE TRUSTEES SHALL PROMULGATE  
45 RULES AND REGULATIONS IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR TO  
46 ENSURE SUCH PROGRAMS ARE ALIGNED WITH JOB MARKET AND INDUSTRY NEEDS. IF  
47 THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK DOES NOT CURRENTLY OFFER CERTIFICATE  
48 PROGRAMS THAT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBDIVISION, OR IF CURRENT  
49 CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS ARE AT CAPACITY OR CANNOT BE EXPANDED TO ADMIT ALL  
50 ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS, SUCH PROGRAMS MAY BE OFFERED IN AN ON-LINE FORMAT  
51 TO SATISFY THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBDIVISION.

52 D. IF THE COLLEGE FROM WHICH THE APPLICANT GRADUATED CURRENTLY OFFERS  
53 A CERTIFICATE PROGRAM THAT MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS IN PARAGRAPH C OF THIS  
54 SUBDIVISION, THEN IT SHALL BE THE CHOICE OF THE APPLICANT TO EITHER  
55 ATTEND SUCH PROGRAM AT THAT CAMPUS OR COMPLETE SUCH PROGRAM ON-LINE; OR  
56 IF A COMMUNITY COLLEGE IS CURRENTLY OFFERING A CERTIFICATE PROGRAM THAT

1 MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS IN PARAGRAPH C OF THIS SUBDIVISION, SUCH APPLI-  
2 CANT SHALL HAVE THE CHOICE OF OBTAINING SUCH CERTIFICATE FROM SUCH  
3 COMMUNITY COLLEGE FREE OF CHARGE TO THE APPLICANT. SUCH COMMUNITY  
4 COLLEGE SHALL BE ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR THE COST OF SUCH APPLI-  
5 CANT'S ATTENDANCE IN THE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM FROM THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF  
6 NEW YORK FOUR YEAR INSTITUTION FROM WHICH THE APPLICANT RECEIVED HIS OR  
7 HER BACHELOR'S DEGREE.

8 E. EACH CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK INSTITUTION THAT CONFERS FOUR YEAR  
9 DEGREES SHALL INFORM ALL INCOMING FRESHMEN AND TRANSFER STUDENTS ABOUT  
10 ANTICIPATED JOB AVAILABILITY PER EACH MAJOR AND APPROXIMATE SALARY RANG-  
11 ES PER EACH MAJOR, WHICH DEGREES WILL TYPICALLY REQUIRE A GRADUATE  
12 DEGREE OR ADDITIONAL EDUCATION BEYOND A BACHELOR'S DEGREE AND ABOUT SUCH  
13 INSTITUTION'S UNDER GRADUATE STUDENT EMPLOYMENT RATES MEASURED WITHIN  
14 ONE YEAR OF SUCH STUDENTS' GRADUATION.

15 S 3. This act shall take effect one year after it shall have become a  
16 law.