

# STATE OF NEW YORK

2603

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

January 13, 2017

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 § 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

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

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1 the state university of New York does not currently offer certificate  
2 programs that meet the requirements of this section, or if current  
3 certificate programs are at capacity or can not be expanded to admit all  
4 eligible applicants, such programs may be offered in an on-line format  
5 to satisfy the requirements of this section.

6 4. If the college from which the applicant graduated currently offers  
7 a certificate program that meets the requirements set forth in subdivi-  
8 sion three of this section, then it shall be the choice of the applicant  
9 to either attend such program at that campus or complete such program  
10 on-line; or if a community college is currently offering a certificate  
11 program that meets the requirements in subdivision three of this  
12 section, such applicant shall have the choice of obtaining such certif-  
13 icate from such community college free of charge to the applicant. Such  
14 community college shall be entitled to reimbursement for the cost of  
15 such applicant's attendance in the certificate program from the state  
16 university of New York four year institution from which the applicant  
17 received his or her bachelor's degree.

18 5. Each state university of New York institution that confers four  
19 year degrees shall inform all incoming freshman and transfer students  
20 about anticipated job availability per each major and approximate salary  
21 ranges per each major, which degrees will typically require a graduate  
22 degree or additional education beyond a bachelor's degree and about such  
23 institution's undergraduate student employment rates measured within one  
24 year of such students' graduation.

25 § 2. Section 6206 of the education law is amended by adding a new  
26 subdivision 19 to read as follows:

27 19. a. The "help individuals reach employment program" (HIRE) is here-  
28 by established to provide additional skills for college graduates to  
29 increase their employment marketability and attain successful job place-  
30 ment.

31 b. To be eligible to participate in the HIRE program, an applicant  
32 shall have: (i) received an undergraduate degree from the city universi-  
33 ty of New York and have achieved a grade point average of 3.0 or higher;  
34 (ii) completed their degree in no more than five years, or six years if  
35 the degree typically requires five years; (iii) completed an approved  
36 experiential learning activity, as defined by the board of trustees;  
37 (iv) graduated and sought employment for at least six months prior to  
38 the date of application; (v) been unsuccessful in obtaining full-time  
39 employment; (vi) provided documentation that such applicant has sought  
40 employment for such a job in New York state; and (vii) applied for the  
41 degree enhancement for employment program within one year after the date  
42 of graduation.

43 c. The trustees of the city university of New York shall establish or  
44 identify existing certificate programs that provide skills for college  
45 graduates to enhance their employment marketability that are tailored to  
46 job market needs, which shall be made available to all eligible appli-  
47 cants free of charge to such applicant. The trustees shall promulgate  
48 rules and regulations in consultation with the department of labor to  
49 ensure such programs are aligned with job market and industry needs. If  
50 the city university of New York does not currently offer certificate  
51 programs that meet the requirements of this subdivision, or if current  
52 certificate programs are at capacity or cannot be expanded to admit all  
53 eligible applicants, such programs may be offered in an on-line format  
54 to satisfy the requirements of this subdivision.

55 d. If the college from which the applicant graduated currently offers  
56 a certificate program that meets the requirements in paragraph c of this

1 subdivision, then it shall be the choice of the applicant to either  
2 attend such program at that campus or complete such program on-line; or  
3 if a community college is currently offering a certificate program that  
4 meets the requirements in paragraph c of this subdivision, such appli-  
5 cant shall have the choice of obtaining such certificate from such  
6 community college free of charge to the applicant. Such community  
7 college shall be entitled to reimbursement for the cost of such appli-  
8 cant's attendance in the certificate program from the city university of  
9 New York four year institution from which the applicant received his or  
10 her bachelor's degree.

11 e. Each city university of New York institution that confers four year  
12 degrees shall inform all incoming freshmen and transfer students about  
13 anticipated job availability per each major and approximate salary rang-  
14 es per each major, which degrees will typically require a graduate  
15 degree or additional education beyond a bachelor's degree and about such  
16 institution's under graduate student employment rates measured within  
17 one year of such students' graduation.

18 § 3. This act shall take effect one year after it shall have become a  
19 law.