

# STATE OF NEW YORK

6874

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

May 20, 2021

Introduced by Sen. JACKSON -- 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 expanding eligibility for the tuition assistance program

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Subdivision 2 of section 667 of the education law, as  
2 amended by chapter 376 of the laws of 2019, is amended to read as  
3 follows:  
4 2. Duration. No undergraduate student shall be eligible for more than  
5 four academic years of study, or five academic years if the program of  
6 study normally requires five years. Students enrolled in a program of  
7 remedial study, approved by the commissioner in an institution of higher  
8 education and intended to culminate in a degree in undergraduate study  
9 shall, for purposes of this section, be considered as enrolled in a  
10 program of study normally requiring five years. An undergraduate student  
11 enrolled in an eligible two year program of study approved by the  
12 commissioner shall be eligible for no more than three academic years of  
13 study. An undergraduate student enrolled in an approved two or four-year  
14 program of study approved by the commissioner who must transfer to  
15 another institution as a result of permanent college closure shall be  
16 eligible for up to two additional semesters, or their equivalent, to the  
17 extent credits necessary to complete his or her program of study were  
18 deemed non-transferable from the closed institution or were deemed not  
19 applicable to such student's program of study by the new institution. No  
20 graduate student shall be eligible for more than four academic years of  
21 study provided, however, that no graduate student shall be eligible for  
22 more than one degree program at the master's, first professional or  
23 doctorate level. No student shall be eligible for a total of more than  
24 the equivalent of eight years of combined undergraduate and graduate  
25 study. Any semester, quarter, or term of attendance during which a

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

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1 student receives any award under this article, after the effective date  
 2 of the former scholar incentive program and prior to academic year nine-  
 3 teen hundred eighty-nine--nineteen hundred ninety, shall be counted  
 4 toward the maximum term of eligibility for tuition assistance under this  
 5 section, except that any semester, quarter or term of attendance during  
 6 which a student received an award pursuant to section six hundred  
 7 sixty-six of this subpart shall be counted as one-half of a semester,  
 8 quarter or term, as the case may be, toward the maximum term of eligi-  
 9 bility under this section. Any semester, quarter or term of attendance  
 10 during which a student received an award pursuant to section six hundred  
 11 sixty-seven-a of this subpart shall not be counted toward the maximum  
 12 term of eligibility under this section. For the purposes of this  
 13 section, an academic year shall include any optional academic semester,  
 14 quarter or term and any award made for such optional academic semester,  
 15 quarter or term shall not reduce the maximum term of eligibility under  
 16 this section.

17 § 2. Paragraph c of subdivision 3 of section 667 of the education law  
 18 is relettered paragraph d and a new paragraph c is added to read as  
 19 follows:

20 c. Amount. The president shall make awards to graduate students in the  
 21 following amounts:

22 (i) For each year of graduate study, assistance shall be provided as  
 23 computed on the basis of the amount which is the lesser of the follow-  
 24 ing:

25 (A) Five hundred fifty dollars; or

26 (B) One hundred percent of the amount of tuition (exclusive of educa-  
 27 tional fees).

28 (ii) Except for students as noted in subparagraph (iii) of this para-  
 29 graph, the base amount as determined in subparagraph (i) of this para-  
 30 graph, shall be reduced in relation to income as follows:

| <u>Amount of income</u>            | <u>Schedule of reduction</u>             |
|------------------------------------|--|
|                                    | <u>of base amount</u>                    |
| <u>(A) Less than two thousand</u>  | <u>None</u>                              |
| <u>dollars</u>                     |  |
| <u>(B) Two thousand dollars or</u> | <u>Seven and seven-tenths per centum</u> |
| <u>more, but not more than</u>     | <u>of the excess over two thousand</u>   |
| <u>twenty thousand dollars</u>     | <u>dollars</u>                           |

38 (iii) For students who have been granted exclusion of parental income  
 39 and were single with no dependent for income tax purposes during the tax  
 40 year next preceding the academic year for which application is made, the  
 41 base amount as determined in subparagraph (i) of this paragraph, shall  
 42 be reduced in relation to income as follows:

| <u>Amount of income</u>            | <u>Schedule of reduction</u>            |
|------------------------------------|---|
|                                    | <u>of base amount</u>                   |
| <u>(A) Less than one thousand</u>  | <u>None</u>                             |
| <u>dollars</u>                     |   |
| <u>(B) One thousand dollars or</u> | <u>Twenty-six per centum of the</u>     |
| <u>more, but not more than</u>     | <u>excess over one thousand dollars</u> |
| <u>five thousand six hundred</u>   |   |
| <u>sixty-six dollars</u>           |   |

51 (iv) If the amount of reduction is not a whole dollar, it shall be  
 52 reduced to the next lowest whole dollar.

1 (v) The award shall be the net amount of the base amount determined  
2 pursuant to subparagraph (ii) or (iii) of this paragraph but the award  
3 shall not be reduced below seventy-five dollars. If the income exceeds  
4 the maximum amount of income allowable under subparagraph (ii) or (iii)  
5 of this paragraph, no award shall be made.

6 § 3. This act shall take effect on the first of July next succeeding  
7 the date on which it shall have become a law.