

# STATE OF NEW YORK

2680--A

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

January 22, 2021

Introduced by Sens. ADDABBO, BROOKS, GAUGHRAN, HARCKHAM, KAPLAN, LIU, SANDERS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Higher Education -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to granting academic credit at state operated institutions of the state university of New York and the city university of New York to veterans

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

1 Section 1. Section 355 of the education law is amended by adding a new  
2 subdivision 21 to read as follows:

3 21. a. For purposes of this subdivision, the term "veteran" means a  
4 person who served in the United States army, navy, air force, marines,  
5 coast guard, and/or reserves thereof, and/or in the army national guard,  
6 air national guard, New York guard and/or New York naval militia and who  
7 (1) has received an honorable or general discharge from such service, or  
8 (2) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section three hundred  
9 fifty of the executive law, and has received a discharge other than bad  
10 conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (3) is a discharged LGBT  
11 veteran, as defined in section three hundred fifty of the executive law,  
12 and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from  
13 such service.

14 b. Every veteran who is enrolled on a full-time basis as an undergrad-  
15 uate student in good standing, at an institution within the state  
16 university system, shall upon application be granted academic credits  
17 without limitation towards his or her degree for completion of courses  
18 that were part of such veteran's military training or service if the  
19 completed courses meet the standards of the institution awarding such  
20 credits. No fee, tuition or other charge shall be assessed against a  
21 veteran who qualifies for such credit pursuant to this subdivision.

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

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1 c. The board of trustees shall adopt such procedures as are necessary  
2 to fully implement the provisions of this subdivision.

3 § 2. Section 6206 of the education law is amended by adding a new  
4 subdivision 21 to read as follows:

5 21. a. For purposes of this subdivision, the term "veteran" means a  
6 person who served in the United States army, navy, air force, marines,  
7 coast guard, and/or reserves thereof, and/or in the army national guard,  
8 air national guard, New York guard and/or New York naval militia and who  
9 (1) has received an honorable or general discharge from such service, or  
10 (2) has a qualifying condition, as defined in section three hundred  
11 fifty of the executive law, and has received a discharge other than bad  
12 conduct or dishonorable from such service, or (3) is a discharged LGBT  
13 veteran, as defined in section three hundred fifty of the executive law,  
14 and has received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from  
15 such service.

16 b. Every veteran who is enrolled on a full-time basis as an undergrad-  
17 uate student in good standing, at an institution within the city univer-  
18 sity system, shall upon application be granted academic credits without  
19 limitation towards his or her degree for completion of courses that were  
20 part of such veteran's military training or service if the completed  
21 courses meet the standards of the institution awarding such credits. No  
22 fee, tuition or other charge shall be assessed against a veteran who  
23 qualifies for such credit pursuant to this subdivision.

24 c. The board of trustees shall adopt such procedures as are necessary  
25 to fully implement the provisions of this subdivision.

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