STATE OF NEW YORK

4509

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

February 4, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. JENSEN -- read once and referred to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to including certain veterans in the definition of resident as it relates to community colleges and state-aided four-year colleges

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

Section 1. Subdivision 5 of section 6301 of the education law, as amended by chapter 327 of the laws of 2002, the opening paragraph as amended by chapter 669 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

5. "Resident." A person who has resided in the state for a period of at least one year and in the county, city, town, intermediate school district, school district or community college region, as the case may be, for a period of at least six months, both immediately preceding the date of such person's registration in a community college or, for the purposes of section sixty-three hundred five of this article, [~~his or her~~] **such person's** application for a certificate of residence; provided, however, that this term shall include any student who is not a resident of New York state, other than a non-immigrant noncitizen within the meaning of paragraph (15) of subsection (a) of section 1101 of title 8 of the United States Code, if such student:

(i) attended an approved New York high school for two or more years, graduated from an approved New York high school and applied for attendance at an institution or educational unit of the state university within five years of receiving a New York state high school diploma; or

(ii) attended an approved New York state program for general equivalency diploma exam preparation, received a general equivalency diploma issued within New York state and applied for attendance at an institution or educational unit of the state university within five years of receiving a general equivalency diploma issued within New York state; or

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

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(iii) was enrolled in an institution or educational unit of the state university in the fall semester or quarter of the two thousand one--two thousand two academic year and was authorized by such institution or educational unit to pay tuition at the rate or charge imposed for students who are residents of the state.

Provided, further, that a student without lawful immigration status shall also be required to file an affidavit with such institution or educational unit stating that the student has filed an application to legalize [~~his or her~~] **their** immigration status, or will file such an application as soon as [~~he or she is~~] **they are** eligible to do so.

Provided, further, that any person who is serving or has served in active duty of the United States military, including the United States navy, marines, army or air force, during a war in which the United States engaged and who has been released from such service by any means other than by dishonorable discharge, or who has been furloughed to the reserve and who is attending any community college or state-aided four-year college under the federal post-9/11 veterans educational assistance act of 2008, public law 110-252, supplemental appropriations act, 2008, shall be considered a resident for the purposes of this article.

In the event that a person qualified as above for state residence, but has been a resident of two or more counties in the state during the six months immediately preceding [~~his~~] **their** application for a certificate of residence pursuant to section sixty-three hundred five of this [~~chapter~~] **article**, the charges to the counties of residence shall be allocated among the several counties proportional to the number of months, or major fraction thereof, of residence in each county.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.