STATE OF NEW YORK

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2354

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 16, 2025
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Introduced by M. of A. EPSTEIN, SEAWRIGHT, CLARK, SIMON, COLTON, JACOB-
  SON, KELLES, CRUZ, ZINERMAN, GIBBS, RAMOS, SAYEGH, CUNNINGHAM, LEVEN-
  BERG, REYES, RAGA, FORREST -- read once and referred 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 Assem-
  bly, 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~~] **such undergraduate**
18 **student's** program of study were deemed non-transferable from the closed
19 institution or were deemed not applicable to such student's program of
20 study by the new institution. **No graduate student shall be eligible for**
21 **more than four academic years of study provided, however, that no grad-**
22 **uate student shall be eligible for more than one degree program at the**
23 **master's, first professional or doctorate level. No student shall be**

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

1 **eligible for a total of more than the equivalent of eight years of**
2 **combined undergraduate and graduate study.** Any semester, quarter, or
3 term of attendance during which a student receives any award under this
4 article, after the effective date of the former scholar incentive
5 program and prior to academic year nineteen hundred eighty-nine--nine-
6 teen hundred ninety, shall be counted toward the maximum term of eligi-
7 bility for tuition assistance under this section, except that any semes-
8 ter, quarter or term of attendance during which a student received an
9 award pursuant to section six hundred sixty-six of this subpart shall be
10 counted as one-half of a semester, quarter or term, as the case may be,
11 toward the maximum term of eligibility under this section. Any semester,
12 quarter or term of attendance during which a student received an award
13 pursuant to section six hundred sixty-seven-a of this subpart shall not
14 be counted toward the maximum term of eligibility under this section.
15 **For the purposes of this section, an academic year shall include any**
16 **optional academic semester, quarter or term and any award made for such**
17 **optional academic semester, quarter or term shall not reduce the maximum**
18 **term of eligibility under this section.**
19   § 2. Paragraph c of subdivision 3 of section 667 of the education law,
20 as relettered by section 2 of part J of chapter 58 of the laws of 2011,
21 is relettered paragraph d and a new paragraph c is added to read as
22 follows:
23   **c. Amount. The president shall make awards to graduate students in the**
24 **following amounts:**
25   **(i) For each year of graduate study, assistance shall be provided as**
26 **computed on the basis of the amount which is the lesser of the follow-**
27 **ing:**
28   **(A) Five hundred fifty dollars; or**
29   **(B) One hundred percent of the amount of tuition (exclusive of educa-**
30 **tional fees).**
31   **(ii) Except for students as noted in subparagraph (iii) of this para-**
32 **graph, the base amount as determined in subparagraph (i) of this para-**
33 **graph, shall be reduced in relation to income as follows:**

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

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

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

1   **(iv) If the amount of reduction is not a whole dollar, it shall be**
2   **reduced to the next lowest whole dollar.**
3   **(v) The award shall be the net amount of the base amount determined**
4   **pursuant to subparagraph (ii) or (iii) of this paragraph but the award**
5   **shall not be reduced below seventy-five dollars. If the income exceeds**
6   **the maximum amount of income allowable under subparagraph (ii) or (iii)**
7   **of this paragraph, no award shall be made.**
8   § 3. This act shall take effect on the first of July next succeeding
9   the date on which it shall have become a law.