STATE OF NEW YORK

6948

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 27, 2025

Introduced by Sen. LANZA -- 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 John J. Marchi government studies scholarship program

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

Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new section 679-k to read as follows:

§ 679-k. Senator John J. Marchi government studies scholarship program. 1. Purpose. a. The president shall grant scholarship awards to students of the city university of New York who are enrolled in government or government related studies. Such awards shall be made on a competitive basis, as promulgated by the corporation through rules and regulations to applicants who are enrolling in an approved program to obtain a degree in government or government related studies from the city university of New York.

b. To be eligible for an award pursuant to this subdivision, applicants shall (1) be a resident of the state; (2) enroll in a degree program in government or government related studies; (3) attend a city university of New York school; and (4) comply with subdivision five of section six hundred sixty-one of this part.

2. Award conditions and requirements. Scholarships shall be awarded on a competitive basis as promulgated by the corporation through rules and regulations to applicants whom the corporation has certified are eligible to receive such awards; and who agree to provide not less than twelve academic credit hours or its equivalent for the duration of at least four years upon completion of the degree program.

3. Amount. The corporation shall grant such awards within the amounts appropriated for such purpose and based on availability of funds according to a schedule to be determined by the corporation in an amount:

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

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a. Equal to the tuition charged to state resident students enrolled in a degree program with a major in government or government related studies; the average mandatory fees charged at the city university of New York, or the actual tuition and fees charged to the recipient, whichever is less; and the average non-tuition cost of attendance, as determined by the corporation and as approved by the director of the budget, for a student at the city university of New York or actual non-tuition cost of attendance at such institution, whichever is less, provided that the scholarship shall not exceed an amount that is equal to the total cost of attendance determined for federal Title IV student financial aid purposes, less all other scholarships and grants provided by the state, other states, the federal government or other governments, and the amount of educational benefits paid under any program that would duplicate the purposes of this program, provided that any scholarships or grants provided to a recipient by the institution which are intended to fund any portion of the difference between the annual state award and the actual costs of attendance at any such institution shall not be considered to duplicate the purposes of this program.

b. The total cost of the Senator John J. Marchi government studies scholarship program shall not exceed an annual cost of two million dollars, and no annual award shall exceed twenty thousand dollars.

4. Other awards. Award recipients shall be eligible to apply for other awards.

5. Penalties for noncompliance. a. The corporation shall convert to a student loan the full amount of the award given pursuant to this section, plus interest, according to a schedule to be determined by the corporation if the student fails to receive a degree in government or government related studies.

b. The rate of interest charged for repayment of the student loan shall be determined pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated by the corporation.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.