

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION
LEGISLATIVE BILL 478

Introduced by Smith, 14.

Read first time January 22, 2013

Committee: Education

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to the Access College Early Scholarship Program
2 Act; to amend section 85-2102, Reissue Revised Statutes
3 of Nebraska, and section 85-2105, Revised Statutes
4 Cumulative Supplement, 2012; to define a term; to change
5 provisions relating to awards; to harmonize provisions;
6 and to repeal the original sections.
7 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 85-2102, Reissue Revised Statutes of
2 Nebraska, is amended to read:

3 85-2102 For purposes of the Access College Early
4 Scholarship Program Act:

5 (1) Commission means the Coordinating Commission for
6 Postsecondary Education;

7 (2) Extreme hardship means any event, including fire,
8 illness, accident, or job loss, that has recently resulted in a
9 significant financial difficulty for a student or the student's
10 parent or legal guardian;

11 (3) Postsecondary educational institution means a two-
12 year or four-year college or university which is a member institution
13 of an accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of
14 Education;

15 (4) Qualified postsecondary educational institution means
16 a postsecondary educational institution located in Nebraska which has
17 agreed, on a form developed and provided by the commission, to comply
18 with the requirements of the act; ~~and~~

19 (5) Skilled and technical sciences program means a
20 curriculum of instruction that includes, but is not limited to:
21 Housing and home furnishings; woods and construction; construction-
22 electricity; construction-home maintenance; computer-assisted
23 drafting; metals and welding; manufacturing-metalworking;
24 manufacturing-woodworking; millwork and cabinetmaking; electronics;
25 technology engineering education; principles of technology;

1 technology education; transportation power; auto mechanics;
2 automotive services; data base management; and computer applications;
3 and

4 ~~(5)~~(6) Student means a student attending a Nebraska high
5 school with a reasonable expectation that such student will meet the
6 residency requirements of section 85-502 upon graduation from a
7 Nebraska high school.

8 Sec. 2. Section 85-2105, Revised Statutes Cumulative
9 Supplement, 2012, is amended to read:

10 85-2105 (1) An applicant for the Access College Early
11 Scholarship Program shall complete an application form developed and
12 provided by the commission and shall forward the form to his or her
13 guidance counselor. Such application shall include, but not be
14 limited to, the applicant's high school, social security number, date
15 of birth, grade point average, grade level, qualified postsecondary
16 educational institution, and information necessary to determine the
17 student's eligibility for an award. The guidance counselor shall
18 verify the student's eligibility under the Access College Early
19 Scholarship Program Act and shall forward the application to the
20 commission for review within fifteen days following receipt of the
21 form from the student. Notification of tuition and mandatory fees to
22 be accrued by the student shall be provided to the commission by the
23 student, high school, or qualified postsecondary educational
24 institution as determined by the commission.

25 (2) The commission shall review the application and

1 verify the student's eligibility under the act. The commission shall
2 notify the student and the student's guidance counselor of the
3 verification of eligibility and the estimated award amount in writing
4 within thirty days following receipt of the form from the student's
5 guidance counselor. The scholarship award shall equal the lesser of
6 tuition and mandatory fees accrued by the student after any discounts
7 applicable to such student from the qualified postsecondary
8 educational institution or the tuition and mandatory fees that would
9 have been accrued by the student for the same number of credit hours
10 if the student were taking the course as a full-time, resident,
11 undergraduate student from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The
12 commission shall forward such amount directly to the qualified
13 postsecondary educational institution as payment of such student's
14 tuition and mandatory fees.

15 (3) The commission shall make such payments in the order
16 the applications are received, except that ~~the~~at least twenty-five
17 percent of the award recipients shall be enrolled in a skilled and
18 technical sciences program. The commission may limit the number of
19 scholarships awarded in each term.

20 (4) The commission may limit the number of scholarships a
21 student may receive.

22 (5) For any student receiving a scholarship pursuant to
23 the act for tuition and mandatory fees, the qualified postsecondary
24 educational institution receiving the payment shall report either the
25 student's grade for the course or the student's failure to complete

1 the course to the commission within thirty days after the end of the
2 course or within one hundred eighty days after receipt of a payment
3 pursuant to the act if the course for which the scholarship was
4 awarded does not have a specified ending date. The commission shall
5 keep the identity of students receiving scholarships confidential,
6 except as necessary to comply with the requirements of the act.

7 Sec. 3. Original section 85-2102, Reissue Revised
8 Statutes of Nebraska, and section 85-2105, Revised Statutes
9 Cumulative Supplement, 2012, are repealed.