

HB3097



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB3097

Introduced 2/18/2025, by Rep. Theresa Mah

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/22-87

Amends the School Code. Provides that, beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, the required support regarding the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) shall include providing time during the school day, not requiring a student to be excused from regularly scheduled class time, to complete or receive help with completion of a financial aid application. Effective immediately.

LRB104 10902 LNS 20984 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Section
5 22-87 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/22-87)

7 Sec. 22-87. Graduation requirements; Free Application for
8 Federal Student Aid.

9 (a) Beginning with the 2020-2021 school year, in addition
10 to any other requirements under this Code, as a prerequisite
11 to receiving a high school diploma from a public high school,
12 the parent or guardian of each student or, if a student is at
13 least 18 years of age or legally emancipated, the student must
14 comply with either of the following:

15 (1) File a Free Application for Federal Student Aid
16 with the United States Department of Education or, if
17 applicable, an application for State financial aid.

18 (2) On a form created by the State Board of Education,
19 file a waiver with the student's school district
20 indicating that the parent or guardian or, if applicable,
21 the student understands what the Free Application for
22 Federal Student Aid and application for State financial
23 aid are and has chosen not to file an application under

1 paragraph (1).

2 (b) Each school district with a high school must require
3 each high school student to comply with this Section and must
4 provide to each high school student and, if applicable, his or
5 her parent or guardian any support or assistance necessary to
6 comply with this Section.

7 Beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, this support
8 shall include providing time during the school day, not
9 requiring a student to be excused from regularly scheduled
10 class time, to complete or receive help with completion of a
11 financial aid application as described in subsection (a). The
12 high school may request assistance from the Illinois Student
13 Assistance Commission to support financial aid application
14 completion events at no cost to the high school.

15 A school district must award a high school diploma to a
16 student who is unable to meet the requirements of subsection
17 (a) due to extenuating circumstances, as determined by the
18 school district, if (i) the student has met all other
19 graduation requirements under this Code and (ii) the principal
20 attests that the school district has made a good faith effort
21 to assist the student or, if applicable, his or her parent or
22 guardian in filing an application or a waiver under subsection
23 (a).

24 (c) The State Board of Education may adopt rules to
25 implement this Section.

26 (Source: P.A. 101-180, eff. 6-1-20; 102-558, eff. 8-20-21.)

1 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
2 becoming law.