



102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2021 and 2022

HB4267

Introduced 1/5/2022, by Rep. Dave Vella and Michael J. Zalewski

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

110 ILCS 947/54 new

Amends the Higher Education Student Assistance Act. Beginning with the 2022-2023 academic year, requires the Illinois Student Assistance Commission to award grants for the payment of tuition and fees to eligible applicants who agree to serve a minimum of 4 years as a law enforcement officer in a local community in this State following graduation from a public institution of higher learning. Sets forth provisions concerning applicant eligibility, conditions for maintaining grant eligibility, and conditions requiring the repayment of grant assistance. Provides for rulemaking. Effective immediately.

LRB102 21808 CMG 30928 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

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 Higher Education Student Assistance Act is
5 amended by adding Section 54 as follows:

6 (110 ILCS 947/54 new)

7 Sec. 54. Law enforcement officer grant program.

8 (a) To encourage students to serve local communities in
9 this State as a law enforcement officer and to increase
10 diversity within the ranks of law enforcement, each year,
11 beginning with the 2022-2023 academic year, the Commission
12 shall receive and consider applications for grant assistance
13 under this Section.

14 (b) An applicant is eligible for grant assistance under
15 this Section if the Commission finds that the applicant meets
16 all of the following qualifications:

17 (1) The applicant is a United States citizen or
18 eligible noncitizen.

19 (2) The applicant is a resident of this State.

20 (3) The applicant is accepted for enrollment or
21 enrolled full time or part time at a public institution of
22 higher learning.

23 (4) The applicant commits to serve a minimum of 4

1 years in a local community in this State as a law
2 enforcement officer following graduation from a public
3 institution.

4 (c) Each grant awarded under this Section shall be in an
5 amount sufficient to pay the tuition and fees of the public
6 institution at which the recipient is enrolled. The total
7 amount of grant assistance awarded by the Commission under
8 this Section to an individual in any given fiscal year, when
9 added to other financial assistance awarded to that individual
10 for that year, shall not exceed the cost of attendance at the
11 public institution at which the student is enrolled. Subject
12 to a separate appropriation made for such purposes, payment of
13 any grant awarded under this Section shall be determined by
14 the Commission. All grant funds distributed in accordance with
15 this Section shall be paid to the public institution on behalf
16 of the recipients.

17 (d) A student shall remain eligible for grant assistance
18 under this Section until the occurrence of the first of the
19 following events:

20 (1) The student graduates from a public institution.

21 (2) The sum of the number of years the student has
22 attended a public institution, exclusive of approved
23 leaves of absence, equals 4 years from the date of the
24 student's initial enrollment in a public institution.

25 (3) The student ceases to be enrolled at a public
26 institution.

1 (4) The student ceases to be a student in good
2 standing.

3 (e) If a recipient of grant assistance under this Section
4 fails to serve as a law enforcement officer in a local
5 community in this State for a minimum of 4 years following
6 graduation from a public institution, the grant recipient
7 shall repay the amount of all grant assistance received under
8 this Section. The repayment amount may be prorated according
9 to the fraction of the law enforcement service obligation not
10 completed by the grant recipient.

11 (f) All applications for grant assistance to be awarded
12 under this Section shall be made to the Commission in a form as
13 set forth by the Commission. The form of application and the
14 information required to be set forth in the application shall
15 be determined by the Commission, and the Commission shall
16 require eligible applicants to submit with their applications
17 such supporting documents as the Commission deems necessary.

18 (g) The Commission may adopt any rules necessary to
19 implement and administer this Section.

20 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
21 becoming law.