

1           AN    ACT    in    relation    to    higher    education    student  
2    assistance.

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

5           Section 5.    The Higher Education Student Assistance Act  
6    is amended by changing Section 35 as follows:

7           (110 ILCS 947/35)

8           Sec. 35. Monetary award program.

9           (a) The Commission shall, each year, receive and  
10    consider applications for grant assistance under this  
11    Section. Subject to a separate appropriation for such  
12    purposes, an applicant is eligible for a grant under this  
13    Section when the Commission finds that the applicant:

14           (1) is a resident of this State and a citizen or  
15    permanent resident of the United States; and

16           (2) in the absence of grant assistance, will be  
17    deterred by financial considerations from completing an  
18    educational program at the qualified institution of his  
19    or her choice.

20           (b) The Commission shall award renewals only upon the  
21    student's application and upon the Commission's finding that  
22    the applicant:

23           (1) has remained a student in good standing;

24           (2) remains a resident of this State; and

25           (3) is in a financial situation that continues to  
26    warrant assistance.

27           (c) All grants shall be applicable only to tuition and  
28    necessary fee costs for 2 semesters or 3 quarters in an  
29    academic year. Requests for summer term assistance will be  
30    made separately and shall be considered on an individual  
31    basis according to Commission policy. Each student who is

1 awarded a grant under this Section and is enrolled in summer  
2 school classes shall be eligible for a summer school grant.  
3 The summer school grant amount shall not exceed the lesser of  
4 50 percent of the maximum annual grant amount authorized by  
5 this Section or the actual cost of tuition and fees at the  
6 institution at which the student is enrolled at least  
7 part-time. For the regular academic year, the Commission  
8 shall determine the grant amount for each full-time and  
9 part-time student, which shall be the smallest of the  
10 following amounts:

11 (1) \$4,968 ~~\$4,740~~ for 2 semesters or 3 quarters of  
12 full-time undergraduate enrollment or \$2,484 ~~\$2,370~~ for 2  
13 semesters or 3 quarters of part-time undergraduate  
14 enrollment, or such lesser amount as the Commission finds  
15 to be available; or

16 (2) the amount which equals the 2 semesters or 3  
17 quarters tuition and other necessary fees required  
18 generally by the institution of all full-time  
19 undergraduate students, or in the case of part-time  
20 students an amount of tuition and fees for 2 semesters or  
21 3 quarters which shall not exceed one-half the amount of  
22 tuition and necessary fees generally charged to full-time  
23 undergraduate students by the institution; or

24 (3) such amount as the Commission finds to be  
25 appropriate in view of the applicant's financial  
26 resources.

27 "Tuition and other necessary fees" as used in this Section  
28 include the customary charge for instruction and use of  
29 facilities in general, and the additional fixed fees charged  
30 for specified purposes, which are required generally of  
31 nongrant recipients for each academic period for which the  
32 grant applicant actually enrolls, but do not include fees  
33 payable only once or breakage fees and other contingent  
34 deposits which are refundable in whole or in part. The

1 Commission may prescribe, by rule not inconsistent with this  
2 Section, detailed provisions concerning the computation of  
3 tuition and other necessary fees.

4 (d) No applicant, including those presently receiving  
5 scholarship assistance under this Act, is eligible for  
6 monetary award program consideration under this Act after  
7 receiving a baccalaureate degree or the equivalent of 10  
8 semesters or 15 quarters of award payments. The Commission  
9 shall determine when award payments for part-time enrollment  
10 or interim or summer terms shall be counted as a partial  
11 semester or quarter of payment.

12 (e) The Commission, in determining the number of grants  
13 to be offered, shall take into consideration past experience  
14 with the rate of grant funds unclaimed by recipients. The  
15 Commission shall notify applicants that grant assistance is  
16 contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds.

17 (f) The Commission may request appropriations for  
18 deposit into the Monetary Award Program Reserve Fund. Monies  
19 deposited into the Monetary Award Program Reserve Fund may be  
20 expended exclusively for one purpose: to make Monetary Award  
21 Program grants to eligible students. Amounts on deposit in  
22 the Monetary Award Program Reserve Fund may not exceed 2% of  
23 the current annual State appropriation for the Monetary Award  
24 Program.

25 The purpose of the Monetary Award Program Reserve Fund is  
26 to enable the Commission each year to assure as many students  
27 as possible of their eligibility for a Monetary Award Program  
28 grant and to do so before commencement of the academic year.  
29 Moneys deposited in this Reserve Fund are intended to enhance  
30 the Commission's management of the Monetary Award Program,  
31 minimizing the necessity, magnitude, and frequency of  
32 adjusting award amounts and ensuring that the annual Monetary  
33 Award Program appropriation can be fully utilized.

34 (g) The Commission shall determine the eligibility of

1 and make grants to applicants enrolled at qualified  
2 for-profit institutions in accordance with the criteria set  
3 forth in this Section. The eligibility of applicants  
4 enrolled at such for-profit institutions shall be limited as  
5 follows:

6 (1) Beginning with the academic year 1997, only to  
7 eligible first-time freshmen and first-time transfer  
8 students who have attained an associate degree.

9 (2) Beginning with the academic year 1998, only to  
10 eligible freshmen students, transfer students who have  
11 attained an associate degree, and students who receive a  
12 grant under paragraph (1) for the academic year 1997 and  
13 whose grants are being renewed for the academic year  
14 1998.

15 (3) Beginning with the academic year 1999, to all  
16 eligible students.

17 (Source: P.A. 90-122, eff. 7-17-97; 90-647, eff. 7-24-98;  
18 90-769, eff. 8-14-98; 91-249, eff. 7-22-99; 91-250, eff.  
19 7-22-99; 91-357, eff. 7-29-99; 91-747, eff. 7-1-00.)

20 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect on  
21 July 1, 2001.