

1 State of Arkansas
2 93rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2021
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 126

5 By: Senator J. Sturch
6 By: Representative L. Johnson
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CODE
10 CONCERNING THE APPLICABILITY AND ADDITIONAL
11 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS OF THE ARKANSAS ACADEMIC
12 CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM - PART 2; AND FOR OTHER
13 PURPOSES.
14
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Subtitle

16 TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CODE
17 CONCERNING THE APPLICABILITY AND
18 ADDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS OF
19 THE ARKANSAS ACADEMIC CHALLENGE
20 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM - PART 2.
21
22
23

24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
25

26 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-85-203(c), concerning the applicability
27 of the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program – Part 2, is amended
28 to read as follows:

29 (c)(1) Recipients of Arkansas Governor's Distinguished Scholarships
30 ~~are prohibited from receiving Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarships~~ may
31 receive an Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship under this subchapter.

32 (2) The amount of an Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship
33 awarded to a recipient of an Arkansas Governor's Distinguished Scholarship
34 shall not be more than the maximum scholarship amount provided to a recipient
35 of an Arkansas Governor's Distinguished Scholarship under § 6-82-312.
36



1 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-85-208(1), concerning additional
 2 eligibility requirements for a nontraditional student under the Arkansas
 3 Academic Challenge Scholarship Program Part – 2, is amended to read as
 4 follows:

5 (1)(A) If the applicant has not been enrolled in an approved
 6 institution of higher education, has ~~either:~~

7 ~~(A) Graduated from an Arkansas public high school and~~
 8 ~~achieved a 2.5 high school grade point average; or~~

9 ~~(B)(i) Graduated~~ graduated from an Arkansas public high
 10 school, a private high school, an out-of-state high school, a home school
 11 high school, or obtained a high school equivalency diploma approved by the
 12 Adult Education Section and had a superscore of nineteen (19) on the ACT or
 13 the equivalent score on an ACT equivalent.

14 ~~(ii)(B)~~ (B) The Division of Higher Education shall
 15 promulgate rules in consultation with ACT, Inc. to determine the mechanism
 16 for calculating and disseminating an applicant's superscore on the ACT; or
 17

18 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-85-216(a)(1) and (2), concerning reports
 19 submitted to the Division of Higher Education by institutions of higher
 20 education, are amended to read as follows:

21 (a)(1)(A) An approved institution of higher education that enrolls
 22 students receiving scholarships under this subchapter annually shall provide
 23 information and semiannually shall provide updated information to the
 24 Division of Higher Education regarding all state-supported student financial
 25 assistance, whether or not the state-supported student financial assistance
 26 is awarded under this subchapter.

27 (B) An approved institution of higher education is not
 28 required to provide the information described in subdivision (a)(1)(A) of
 29 this section to the division if the information has previously been reported
 30 to the division through the Arkansas Higher Education Information System or
 31 the state financial aid information system.

32 (2) The information described in subdivision (a)(1)(A) of this
 33 section shall be provided in the form of individual student records and shall
 34 include without limitation information regarding:

35 ~~(A) State-supported student financial assistance~~ The
 36 criteria for determining eligibility for scholarships under this subchapter;

- (B) Demographic student data; and
- (C) Disaggregated data on remedial courses.

SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 6-85-219(c), concerning reports that are required to be submitted to legislative committees by the Division of Higher Education, is amended to read as follows:

(c) Annually by December 31, the division shall report to the Legislative Council ~~the following information~~ summary-level data, in accordance with § 6-85-216, on recipients of ~~the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program — Part 2~~ scholarships under this subchapter ~~who applied as of June 1:~~

- ~~(1) Race;~~
- ~~(2) Grade point average;~~
- ~~(3) Composite score on the ACT or the equivalent score on an ACT equivalent; and~~
- ~~(4) Family or individual income as reported on the student's Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).~~

APPROVED: 2/9/21