

1 State of Arkansas  
2 89th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2013  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2125

5 By: Representative Hammer  
6

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO REDUCE THE COST OF REMEDIAL COURSES PAID  
9 FROM THE ARKANSAS ACADEMIC CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP  
10 PROGRAM - PART 2; TO ESTABLISH A TIME FRAME FOR  
11 COMPLETING REMEDIATION; TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDS  
12 FOR NONTRADITIONAL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS; AND FOR  
13 OTHER PURPOSES.  
14

## Subtitle

15  
16 TO REDUCE THE COST OF REMEDIAL COURSES  
17 PAID FROM THE ARKANSAS ACADEMIC CHALLENGE  
18 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM - PART 2; TO PROVIDE  
19 ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR NONTRADITIONAL  
20 STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS.  
21  
22  
23

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

26 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-61-110 is amended to read as follows:

27 6-61-110. Testing of entering freshmen for remedial courses.

28 (a) A first-time entering freshman at a state-supported institution of  
29 higher education who is admitted to enroll in an associate or a bachelor's  
30 degree program shall be tested by the admitting institution for purposes of  
31 placement in either college-level credit courses in English and mathematics  
32 or remedial courses in English composition, reading, and mathematics.

33 (b)(1) The cost of a remedial course taken by a student who is  
34 subject to § 6-85-206(b) shall be the joint responsibility of the:

35 (A) High school that graduated the student for one-third  
36 (1/3) of the tuition;



1                    (B) Student for one-third (1/3) of the tuition; and  
 2                    (C) Institution of higher education for one-third (1/3) of  
 3 the tuition.

4                    (2) The student shall not pay his or her part of the tuition  
 5 with an Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship.

6                    ~~(b)(c)~~ Remedial courses shall not provide credit toward a degree.

7                    ~~(e)-(1)(d)(1)~~ The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall  
 8 determine the:

9                    (A) Test or other criteria to be used;

10                   (B) Testing procedures and exemptions;

11                   (C) Minimum scores or criteria below which ~~students a~~  
 12 student at all a state-supported institutions institution of higher education  
 13 ~~must~~ is required to take remedial courses; and

14                   (D) Minimum scores or criteria to allow simultaneous  
 15 enrollment in college-level credit and remedial courses.

16                   (2) The board shall base these decisions on:

17                   (A) Consultation with representatives of the state-  
 18 supported institutions of higher education;

19                   (B) Analysis of the placement procedures presently used by  
 20 institutions in the state;

21                   (C) Statewide placement testing programs in other states;  
 22 and

23                   (D) Pilot projects involving testing of entering freshmen  
 24 at selected institutions in the state.

25                   (3) The board, in collaboration with state-supported  
 26 institutions of higher education, shall develop by institution uniform  
 27 measurable exit standards for remedial courses that are comparable to the ACT  
 28 or SAT equivalent required for college-level enrollment in credit courses ~~to~~  
 29 ~~be implemented no later than the fall semester of 2010.~~

30                   ~~(d)-(1)(e)~~ The board shall work with state-supported institutions of  
 31 higher education to:

32                   ~~(A)(1)~~ Develop innovative alternatives to traditional  
 33 instruction and delivery methods for remedial courses; and

34                   ~~(B)(2)~~ Provide professional development opportunities to help  
 35 remedial education faculty gain knowledge in best practices and trends in the  
 36 instruction and delivery of remedial education.

1           ~~(2) The board shall report to the House Committee on Education~~  
 2 ~~and the Senate Committee on Education by February 1, 2010, on the progress~~  
 3 ~~made in addressing the requirements in subdivision (d)(1) of this section.~~  
 4

5           SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-85-206, concerning basic eligibility  
 6 requirements for a scholarship under the Arkansas Academic Challenge  
 7 Scholarship Program - Part 2, is amended to add an additional subsection to  
 8 read as follows:

9           (b)(1) A traditional student who is otherwise eligible for a  
 10 scholarship under this subchapter shall forfeit a scholarship award if the  
 11 student:

12                   (A) Has graduated from an Arkansas public high school;

13                   (B) Is required to complete one (1) or more remedial  
 14 courses under § 6-61-110; and

15                   (C) Does not successfully complete all required remedial  
 16 courses by July 31 before the first semester for which the scholarship is  
 17 awarded.

18           (2) The Department of Higher Education shall add the amount of a  
 19 scholarship award that is forfeited under this subsection to the total amount  
 20 of scholarship awards for nontraditional students under § 6-85-212(e)(2)(A).  
 21

22           SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-85-210(b)(3), concerning continuing  
 23 eligibility for a scholarship, is amended to read as follows:

24           (3) A nontraditional recipient who enrolls in one (1) or more  
 25 remedial courses shall complete all remedial courses required by the approved  
 26 institution of higher education by the time the student completes the first  
 27 thirty (30) semester hours attempted after receiving the scholarship;  
 28

29           SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 6-85-212(e)(2)(A), concerning aggregate  
 30 scholarship award amounts for nontraditional students, is amended to read as  
 31 follows:

32           (2)(A) The department shall award ~~an aggregate amount of~~  
 33 ~~scholarship awards~~ scholarships to nontraditional students beginning with the  
 34 2010-2011 academic year in the total amount of twelve million dollars  
 35 (\$12,000,000) plus any additional amounts provided by law.  
 36