

1 State of Arkansas *As Engrossed: H3/13/15 H3/23/15 S3/31/15*  
2 90th General Assembly **A Bill**  
3 Regular Session, 2015

HOUSE BILL 1779

4  
5 By: Representatives Tosh, Davis  
6 *By: Senator Hickey*

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8 **For An Act To Be Entitled**

9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE WAY THE ARKANSAS ACADEMIC  
10 CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM – PART 2 AWARD AMOUNTS  
11 ARE DISTRIBUTED; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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14 **Subtitle**

15 TO AMEND THE WAY THE ARKANSAS ACADEMIC  
16 CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM – PART 2  
17 AWARD AMOUNTS ARE DISTRIBUTED.

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20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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22 *SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-85-210(a)(1), concerning continuing*  
23 *eligibility, is amended to read as follows:*

24 *(a)(1) A recipient who meets continuing eligibility criteria under this*  
25 *subchapter shall receive a scholarship for one (1) academic year renewable*  
26 *annually until the recipient first:*

27 *(A) Earns a baccalaureate degree;*

28 *(B)(i) ~~Has enrolled in eight (8) semesters at an~~*  
29 *~~institution of higher education as an undergraduate full-time student; or~~*

30 *~~(C) Has enrolled in sixteen (16) semesters at an~~*  
31 *~~institution of higher education as an undergraduate part-time student~~ earned*  
32 *one hundred twenty (120) semester credit hours.*

33 *(ii) A recipient may continue to receive a*  
34 *scholarship after he or she has earned one hundred twenty (120) semester*  
35 *credit hours, but not more than one hundred thirty (130) semester credit*  
36 *hours, if the student is enrolled in a baccalaureate degree program that*



1 requires more than one hundred twenty (120) semester credit hours as provided  
2 under § 6-61-232.

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4 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-85-212(e)(1)(A), concerning scholarship  
5 award amounts, is amended to read as follows:

6 (e)(1)(A) Beginning with the ~~2015-2016~~ 2016-2017 academic year, the  
7 scholarship award amount under this subchapter for an academic year for a  
8 full-time recipient enrolled in a four-year approved institution of higher  
9 education is:

10 (i) ~~Two thousand dollars (\$2,000)~~ One thousand  
11 dollars (\$1,000) for a recipient in his or her freshman year who has earned  
12 less than twenty-seven (27) semester credit hours;

13 (ii) ~~Three thousand dollars (\$3,000)~~ Four thousand  
14 dollars (\$4,000) for a recipient in his or her sophomore year who has earned  
15 at least twenty-seven (27) semester credit hours but less than fifty-seven  
16 (57) semester credit hours;

17 (iii) Four thousand dollars (\$4,000) for a recipient  
18 in his or her junior year who has earned at least fifty-seven (57) semester  
19 credit hours but less than eighty-seven (87) semester credit hours; and

20 (iv)(a) Five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for a  
21 recipient in his or her senior year who has earned at least eighty-seven (87)  
22 semester credit hours but no more than one hundred twenty (120) semester  
23 credit hours unless the recipient is enrolled in a baccalaureate degree  
24 program that requires more than one hundred twenty (120) semester credit  
25 hours, but not more than one hundred thirty (130) semester credit hours, as  
26 provided under § 6-61-232, then up to the number of credit hours required to  
27 complete the baccalaureate program.

28 (b) A recipient shall receive no more than one  
29 (1) year of a five-thousand-dollar scholarship provided under subdivision  
30 (e)(1)(A)(vi)(a) of this section unless the recipient is enrolled in a  
31 baccalaureate degree program that requires more than one hundred twenty (120)  
32 semester credit hours as provided under § 6-61-232.

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34 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-85-212(e)(1), concerning scholarship  
35 award amounts, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as  
36 follows:

1                    (C)(i) To determine the correct scholarship award amount  
2 based on credit hours, a recipient shall submit a current transcript to the  
3 Department of Higher Education no later than June 1 each year.

4                    (ii) A first-time recipient who does not submit a  
5 transcript to the department on or before June 1 shall receive the award  
6 amount under subdivision (e)(1)(A)(i) of this section.

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8                    SECTION 4. DO NOT CODIFY. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE.

9                    For the 2015-2016 school year, a student participating in the Arkansas  
10 Academic Challenge Scholarship Program – Part 2 may elect to be subject to  
11 the provisions of § 6-85-212(e)(1)(A) in effect for the 2016-2017 school year  
12 and thereafter.

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14                    /s/Tosh  
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