

1 State of Arkansas
2 90th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2015
4

As Engrossed: S3/23/15

A Bill

SENATE BILL 3

5 By: Senator Hickey
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO MODIFY THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE
9 ACADEMIC CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM - PART 2; TO
10 CLARIFY FUNDING AMOUNTS AND PROVISIONS; AND FOR OTHER
11 PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

14 TO MODIFY THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS
15 FOR THE ACADEMIC CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP
16 PROGRAM - PART 2; AND TO CLARIFY FUNDING
17 AMOUNTS AND PROVISIONS.
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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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23 *SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-85-212(i), concerning scholarship award*
24 *amounts, is amended to read as follows:*

25 *(i)(1) If the department has less than a sufficient amount from net*
26 *proceeds from the state lottery to provide for the scholarship commitments*
27 *under this subchapter, the department shall give priority for continued*
28 *financial support under this subchapter to a ~~recipient who has~~ student with*
29 *continuing eligibility superior to first-time applicants.*

30 *(2) If the funding is ~~still~~ insufficient to fully fund the*
31 *scholarships for students with continuing eligibility created under this*
32 *subchapter, the department shall award scholarships ~~after considering~~*
33 *~~applicants~~ to students with continuing eligibility based upon the following*
34 *criteria:*

35 *(A) ~~With~~ First, to students who have the highest level of*
36 *progress toward completion of a certificate, an associate degree, or a*



1 baccalaureate degree and who are enrolled in a program of study that is:

2 (i) In an area of critical workforce need as
3 determined by the department; or

4 (ii) In a science, technology, engineering, or
5 mathematics field;

6 (B) Second, to students who have the highest level of
7 progress toward completion of a certificate, an associate degree, or a
8 baccalaureate degree and who are enrolled in a program of study other than
9 those listed in subdivision (i)(2)(A) of this section; and

10 (C) ~~With~~ Third, in the event funding is insufficient to
11 fully fund students under subdivision (i)(2)(A) or (B) of this section, to
12 students who have the highest ~~high school or~~ postsecondary grade point
13 average, ~~as applicable to the applicant; and~~

14 ~~(C) Who are enrolled in or intend to enroll in a program~~
15 ~~of study that is:~~

16 ~~(i) In an area of critical workforce need as~~
17 ~~determined by the department; or~~

18 ~~(ii) In a science, technology, engineering, or~~
19 ~~mathematics field.~~

20 (3)(A) If, after funding all students with continuing
21 eligibility under this section, funding is insufficient to fund all qualified
22 first-time applicants, the department shall award scholarships to first-time
23 applicants in order of priority based upon the first-time applicants' highest
24 ACT or ACT equivalent scores.

25 (B) If, after prioritizing first-time applicants based
26 upon the applicants' ACT or ACT equivalent scores, funding is insufficient to
27 fund all applicants with equivalent ACT or ACT equivalent scores, the
28 department shall determine who receives an award by random drawing.

30 /s/Hickey

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