

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007

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HOUSE DRH60228-LH-181 (3/10)

Short Title: Leg. Tuition Grant for Part-Time Students.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representative Yongue.

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT LEGISLATIVE TUITION GRANTS SHALL BE AWARDED ON A PRO RATA BASIS TO PART-TIME STUDENTS ATTENDING PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, TO CLARIFY THAT A LICENSURE COURSE TAKEN BY A LATERAL ENTRY STUDENT THAT IS DESIGNATED AS BOTH AN UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE COURSE IS AN UNDERGRADUATE COURSE FOR PURPOSES OF AWARDING THE LEGISLATIVE TUITION GRANT, AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE LEGISLATIVE TUITION GRANT.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 116-21.2 reads as rewritten:

"§ 116-21.2. Legislative tuition grants to aid students and licensure students attending private institutions of higher education.

(a) In addition to any funds appropriated pursuant to G.S. 116-19 and in addition to all other financial assistance made available to institutions, or to persons attending these institutions, there is granted to each ~~full-time~~ North Carolina undergraduate student attending an approved institution as defined in G.S. 116-22, a sum, to be determined by the General Assembly for each academic year which shall be distributed to the ~~full-time~~ undergraduate student as provided by this subsection. A full-time North Carolina undergraduate student shall be awarded the full amount of the tuition grant provided by this section. A part-time North Carolina undergraduate student shall be awarded a tuition grant in an amount that is calculated on a pro rata basis.

(a1) The legislative tuition grant provided by this section shall also be granted to each full-time licensure student who is enrolled in a program intended to result in a license in teaching or nursing at an approved institution. The legislative tuition grant provided by this section shall be awarded on a pro rata basis to any licensure student who is enrolled less than full-time in a program intended to result in a license in

1 teaching or nursing at an approved institution. The legislative tuition grant and prorated
2 legislative tuition grant authorized under this subsection shall be paid for undergraduate
3 courses only. If a course is required for licensure, but is designated as both an
4 undergraduate and graduate course, for purposes of this subsection, the course shall be
5 considered an undergraduate course.

6 (b) The tuition grants provided for in this section shall be administered by the
7 State Education Assistance Authority pursuant to rules adopted by the State Education
8 Assistance Authority not inconsistent with this section. The State Education Assistance
9 Authority shall not approve any grant until it receives proper certification from an
10 approved institution that the student or licensure student applying for the grant is
11 eligible. Upon receipt of the certification, the State Education Assistance Authority shall
12 remit at the times as it prescribes the grant to the approved institution on behalf, and to
13 the credit, of the student or licensure student.

14 (c) Except as provided in ~~subsection (a1)~~ subsections (a) and (a1) of this
15 section, section with regard to part-time or licensure students, in the event a student on
16 whose behalf a grant has been paid is not enrolled and carrying a minimum academic
17 load as of the tenth classroom day following the beginning of the school term for which
18 the grant was paid, the institution shall refund the full amount of the grant to the State
19 Education Assistance Authority. If a part-time student on whose behalf a prorated grant
20 has been paid in accordance with subsection (a) of this section or a licensure student on
21 whose behalf a prorated grant has been paid in accordance with subsection (a1) of this
22 section is not enrolled in the undergraduate class as of the tenth classroom day
23 following the beginning of the school term for which the grant was paid, the institution
24 shall refund the full amount of the grant to the State Education Assistance Authority.
25 Each approved institution shall be subject to examination by the State Auditor for the
26 purpose of determining whether the institution has properly certified eligibility and
27 enrollment of students and licensure students and credited grants paid on behalf of them.

28 (d) In the event there are not sufficient funds to provide each eligible student or
29 licensure student with a full or prorated grant as provided by subsection (a) of this
30 section or a full or a prorated grant as provided by subsection (a1) of this section:

- 31 (1) The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina, with the
32 approval of the Office of State Budget and Management, may transfer
33 available funds to meet the needs of the programs provided by
34 subsections (a), (a1), and (b) of this section; and
- 35 (2) Each eligible student and licensure student shall receive a pro rata
36 share of funds then available for the remainder of the academic year
37 within the fiscal period covered by the current appropriation.

38 (e) Any remaining funds shall revert to the General Fund."

39 **SECTION 2.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the State
40 Education Assistance Authority the sum of four million two hundred twenty-one
41 thousand eight hundred dollars (\$4,221,800) for the 2007-2008 fiscal year to provide
42 funds to cover the additional costs of providing pro rata legislative tuition grants to
43 part-time students other than lateral entry students as provided by G.S. 116-19 to
44 G.S. 116-22.

1 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2007.