

As Introduced

131st General Assembly

Regular Session

2015-2016

S. B. No. 24

Senator Williams

**Cosponsors: Senators Brown, Cafaro, Gentile, Sawyer, Schiavoni, Tavares,
Thomas, Yuko**

A BILL

To amend sections 3333.122 and 3333.20 and to enact
section 3333.165 of the Revised Code to qualify
students in noncredit community college programs
for Ohio College Opportunity Grants and to
require the awarding of academic credit for
community colleges' career certification
programs. 1
2
3
4
5
6
7

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That sections 3333.122 and 3333.20 be amended
and section 3333.165 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as
follows: 8
9
10

Sec. 3333.122. (A) The chancellor of the Ohio board of
regents shall adopt rules to carry out this section and as
authorized under section 3333.123 of the Revised Code. The rules
shall include definitions of the terms "resident," "expected
family contribution," "full-time student," "three-quarters-time
student," "half-time student," "one-quarter-time student,"
"state cost of attendance," and "accredited" for the purpose of
those sections. 11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18

(B) Only an Ohio resident who meets both of the following 19
is eligible for a grant awarded under this section: 20

(1) The resident has an expected family contribution of 21
two thousand one hundred ninety dollars or less; 22

(2) The resident enrolls in one of the following: 23

(a) An undergraduate program, or a nursing diploma program 24
approved by the board of nursing under division (A) (5) of 25
section 4723.06 of the Revised Code, at a state-assisted state 26
institution of higher education, as defined in section 3345.12 27
of the Revised Code, that meets the requirements of Title VI of 28
the Civil Rights Act of 1964~~r~~. For purposes of division (B) (2) 29
(a) of this section, enrollment in an undergraduate program 30
shall include enrollment in a community college or state 31
community college in a program for which credit is not awarded. 32

(b) An undergraduate program, or a nursing diploma program 33
approved by the board of nursing under division (A) (5) of 34
section 4723.06 of the Revised Code, at a private, nonprofit 35
institution in this state holding a certificate of authorization 36
pursuant to Chapter 1713. of the Revised Code; 37

(c) An undergraduate program, or a nursing diploma program 38
approved by the board of nursing under division (A) (5) of 39
section 4723.06 of the Revised Code, at a career college in this 40
state that holds a certificate of registration from the state 41
board of career colleges and schools under Chapter 3332. of the 42
Revised Code or at a private institution exempt from regulation 43
under Chapter 3332. of the Revised Code as prescribed in section 44
3333.046 of the Revised Code, if the program has a certificate 45
of authorization pursuant to Chapter 1713. of the Revised Code. 46

(C) (1) The chancellor shall establish and administer a 47

needs-based financial aid grants program based on the United States department of education's method of determining financial need. The program shall be known as the Ohio college opportunity grant program. The general assembly shall support the needs-based financial aid program by such sums and in such manner as it may provide, but the chancellor also may receive funds from other sources to support the program. If, for any academic year, the amounts available for support of the program are inadequate to provide grants to all eligible students, the chancellor shall do one of the following:

(a) Give preference in the payment of grants based upon expected family contribution, beginning with the lowest expected family contribution category and proceeding upward by category to the highest expected family contribution category;

(b) Proportionately reduce the amount of each grant to be awarded for the academic year under this section;

(c) Use an alternate formula for such grants that addresses the shortage of available funds and has been submitted to and approved by the controlling board.

(2) The needs-based financial aid grant shall be paid to the eligible student through the institution in which the student is enrolled, except that no needs-based financial aid grant shall be paid to any person serving a term of imprisonment. Applications for the grants shall be made as prescribed by the chancellor, and such applications may be made in conjunction with and upon the basis of information provided in conjunction with student assistance programs funded by agencies of the United States government or from financial resources of the institution of higher education. The institution shall certify that the student applicant meets the

requirements set forth in division (B) of this section. Needs- 78
based financial aid grants shall be provided to an eligible 79
student only as long as the student is making appropriate 80
progress toward a nursing diploma or an associate or bachelor's 81
degree or, if the student is enrolled in a program for which 82
credit is not awarded, is meeting progress standards adopted by 83
the chancellor. No student shall be eligible to receive a grant 84
for more than ten semesters, fifteen quarters, or the equivalent 85
of five academic years. A grant made to an eligible student on 86
the basis of less than full-time enrollment shall be based on 87
the number of credit hours for which the student is enrolled and 88
shall be computed in accordance with a formula adopted by rule 89
issued by the chancellor. No student shall receive more than one 90
grant on the basis of less than full-time enrollment. 91

(D) (1) Except as provided in division (D) (4) of this 92
section, no grant awarded under this section shall exceed the 93
total state cost of attendance. 94

(2) Subject to divisions (D) (1), (3), and (4) of this 95
section, the amount of a grant awarded to a student under this 96
section shall equal the student's remaining state cost of 97
attendance after the student's Pell grant and expected family 98
contribution are applied to the instructional and general 99
charges for the undergraduate program. However, for students 100
enrolled in a state university or college as defined in section 101
3345.12 of the Revised Code or a university branch, the 102
chancellor may provide that the grant amount shall equal the 103
student's remaining instructional and general charges for the 104
undergraduate program after the student's Pell grant and 105
expected family contribution have been applied to those charges, 106
but, in no case, shall the grant amount for such a student 107
exceed any maximum that the chancellor may set by rule. 108

(3) For a student enrolled for a semester or quarter in addition to the portion of the academic year covered by a grant under this section, the maximum grant amount shall be a percentage of the maximum specified in any table established in rules adopted by the chancellor as provided in division (A) of this section. The maximum grant for a fourth quarter shall be one-third of the maximum amount so prescribed. The maximum grant for a third semester shall be one-half of the maximum amount so prescribed.

(4) If a student is enrolled in a two-year institution of higher education and is eligible for an education and training voucher through the Ohio education and training voucher program that receives federal funding under the John H. Chafee foster care independence program, 42 U.S.C. 677, the amount of a grant awarded under this section may exceed the total state cost of attendance to additionally cover housing costs.

(E) No grant shall be made to any student in a course of study in theology, religion, or other field of preparation for a religious profession unless such course of study leads to an accredited bachelor of arts, bachelor of science, associate of arts, or associate of science degree.

(F)(1) Except as provided in division (F)(2) of this section, no grant shall be made to any student for enrollment during a fiscal year in an institution with a cohort default rate determined by the United States secretary of education pursuant to the "Higher Education Amendments of 1986," 100 Stat. 1278, 1408, 20 U.S.C.A. 1085, as amended, as of the fifteenth day of June preceding the fiscal year, equal to or greater than thirty per cent for each of the preceding two fiscal years.

(2) Division (F)(1) of this section does not apply in the

case of either of the following: 139

(a) The institution pursuant to federal law appeals its 140
loss of eligibility for federal financial aid and the United 141
States secretary of education determines its cohort default rate 142
after recalculation is lower than the rate specified in division 143
(F) (1) of this section or the secretary determines due to 144
mitigating circumstances that the institution may continue to 145
participate in federal financial aid programs. The chancellor 146
shall adopt rules requiring any such appellant to provide 147
information to the chancellor regarding an appeal. 148

(b) Any student who has previously received a grant 149
pursuant to any provision of this section, including prior to 150
the section's amendment by Am. Sub. H.B. 1 of the 128th general 151
assembly, effective July 17, 2009, and who meets all other 152
eligibility requirements of this section. 153

(3) The chancellor shall adopt rules for the notification 154
of all institutions whose students will be ineligible to 155
participate in the grant program pursuant to division (F) (1) of 156
this section. 157

(4) A student's attendance at any institution whose 158
students are ineligible for grants due to division (F) (1) of 159
this section shall not affect that student's eligibility to 160
receive a grant when enrolled in another institution. 161

(G) Institutions of higher education that enroll students 162
receiving needs-based financial aid grants under this section 163
shall report to the chancellor all students who have received 164
such needs-based financial aid grants but are no longer eligible 165
for all or part of those grants and shall refund any moneys due 166
the state within thirty days after the beginning of the quarter 167

or term immediately following the quarter or term in which the student was no longer eligible to receive all or part of the student's grant. There shall be an interest charge of one per cent per month on all moneys due and payable after such thirty-day period. The chancellor shall immediately notify the office of budget and management and the legislative service commission of all refunds so received.

Sec. 3333.165. The chancellor of the Ohio board of regents shall establish policies and procedures for awarding credit for career or technical certification programs offered by community colleges and state community colleges and for applying that credit toward an associate degree in a related field.

Sec. 3333.20. (A) The chancellor of the Ohio board of regents shall adopt educational service standards that shall apply to all community colleges, university branches, technical colleges, and state community colleges established under Chapters 3354., 3355., 3357., and 3358. of the Revised Code, respectively. These standards shall provide for such institutions to offer or demonstrate at least the following:

(1) An appropriate range of career or technical programs designed to prepare individuals for employment in specific careers at the technical or paraprofessional level. The standards shall require community colleges and state community colleges to award credit for career or technical certification programs and to apply that credit toward an associate degree in a related field in accordance with the policies and procedures established under section 3333.165 of the Revised Code.

(2) Commitment to an effective array of developmental education services providing opportunities for academic skill enhancement;

(3) Partnerships with industry, business, government, and labor for the retraining of the workforce and the economic development of the community;	198 199 200
(4) Noncredit continuing education opportunities;	201
(5) College transfer programs or the initial two years of a baccalaureate degree for students planning to transfer to institutions offering baccalaureate programs;	202 203 204
(6) Linkages with high schools to ensure that graduates are adequately prepared for post-secondary instruction;	205 206
(7) Student access provided according to a convenient schedule and program quality provided at an affordable price;	207 208
(8) That student fees charged by any institution are as low as possible, especially if the institution is being supported by a local tax levy;	209 210 211
(9) A high level of community involvement in the decision-making process in such critical areas as course delivery, range of services, fees and budgets, and administrative personnel.	212 213 214
(B) The chancellor shall consult with representatives of state-assisted colleges and universities, as defined in section 3333.041 of the Revised Code, in developing appropriate methods for achieving or maintaining the standards adopted pursuant to division (A) of this section.	215 216 217 218 219
(C) In considering institutions that are co-located, the chancellor shall apply the standards to them in two manners:	220 221
(1) As a whole entity;	222
(2) As separate entities, applying the standards separately to each.	223 224

When distributing any state funds among institutions based 225
on the degree to which they meet the standards, the chancellor 226
shall provide to institutions that are co-located the higher 227
amount produced by the two judgments under divisions (C) (1) and 228
(2) of this section. 229

Section 2. That existing sections 3333.122 and 3333.20 of 230
the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 231