

**As Introduced**

**131st General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2015-2016**

**S. B. No. 78**

**Senator Williams**

**Cosponsors: Senators Brown, Skindell, Tavares**

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**A BILL**

To enact section 3333.27 of the Revised Code to  
create the GED Grant Program for undergraduate  
students who have earned high school equivalence  
diplomas and are enrolled in two-year state  
institutions of higher education and to make an  
appropriation. 1  
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**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That section 3333.27 of the Revised Code be  
enacted to read as follows: 7  
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**Sec. 3333.27.** (A) As used in this section: 9

(1) "Academic year" shall be defined by the chancellor of  
the Ohio board of regents. 10  
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(2) "Community college" has the same meaning as in section  
3354.01 of the Revised Code. 12  
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(3) "Eligible student" means an undergraduate student who: 14

(a) Is enrolled in a certificate program or an associate  
degree program at a community college, state community college,  
or technical college; 15  
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<u>(b) Is a resident of this state, as defined by the</u>	18
<u>chancellor under section 3333.31 of the Revised Code;</u>	19
<u>(c) Is making satisfactory academic progress, as defined</u>	20
<u>by the financial aid office, or the equivalent, at the college</u>	21
<u>in which the student is enrolled;</u>	22
<u>(d) Has attained and maintains a cumulative grade point</u>	23
<u>average of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale, or the equivalent;</u>	24
<u>(e) Has obtained a high school equivalence diploma on or</u>	25
<u>after the first academic year that begins after the effective</u>	26
<u>date of this section.</u>	27
<u>(4) "High school equivalence diploma" has the same meaning</u>	28
<u>as in section 5107.40 of the Revised Code.</u>	29
<u>(5) "State community college" has the same meaning as in</u>	30
<u>section 3358.01 of the Revised Code.</u>	31
<u>(6) "Technical college" has the same meaning as in section</u>	32
<u>3357.01 of the Revised Code.</u>	33
<u>(B) The chancellor shall establish and administer the GED</u>	34
<u>grant program to provide grants to eligible students in the</u>	35
<u>amount of two hundred fifty dollars per student per semester,</u>	36
<u>for not more than four semesters, that the student is enrolled</u>	37
<u>in a certificate program or undergraduate program at a community</u>	38
<u>college, state community college, or technical college. The</u>	39
<u>chancellor shall adopt rules under Chapter 119. of the Revised</u>	40
<u>Code to administer the program.</u>	41
<u>(C) The number of grants awarded under the program for an</u>	42
<u>academic year shall not exceed the number that can be funded</u>	43
<u>with appropriations made by the general assembly for this</u>	44
<u>purpose.</u>	45

(D) If the number of eligible students who apply for a grant under the program exceeds the number available based on the appropriation, grants shall be awarded, apportioned, or prorated in the manner determined by the chancellor.

**Section 2.** All items in this section are hereby appropriated as designated out of any moneys in the state treasury to the credit of the designated fund. For all appropriations made in this act, those in the first column are for fiscal year 2014 and those in the second column are for fiscal year 2015. The appropriations made in this act are in addition to any other appropriations made for the FY 2014-FY 2015 biennium.

BOR BOARD OF REGENTS

General Revenue Fund					
GRF 235522	GED Grants	\$0	\$4,000,000		
Total GRF	General Revenue Fund	\$0	\$4,000,000		
TOTAL ALL BUDGET FUND GROUPS		\$0	\$4,000,000		

GED GRANTS

The foregoing appropriation item 235522, GED Grants, shall be used to award grants under the GED Grant Program pursuant to section 3333.27 of the Revised Code.

An amount equal to the unexpended, unencumbered portion of the foregoing appropriation item 235522, GED Grants, at the end of fiscal year 2015 is hereby reappropriated to the Board of Regents for the same purpose for fiscal year 2016.

**Section 3.** Within the limits set forth in this act, the Director of Budget and Management shall establish accounts

indicating the source and amount of funds for each appropriation 73  
made in this act, and shall determine the form and manner in 74  
which appropriation accounts shall be maintained. Expenditures 75  
from appropriations contained in this act shall be accounted for 76  
as though made in Am. Sub. H.B. 59 of the 130th General 77  
Assembly. 78

The appropriations made in this act are subject to all 79  
provisions of Am. Sub. H.B. 59 of the 130th General Assembly 80  
that are generally applicable to such appropriations. 81