

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 20

Introduced by Harms, 48.

Read first time January 8, 2009

Committee: Education

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to the Access College Early Scholarship Program
2 Act; to amend sections 85-2105 and 85-2106, Reissue
3 Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions
4 relating to the powers and duties of the Coordinating
5 Commission for Postsecondary Education with respect
6 to scholarships awarded under the act and a report
7 requirement; to repeal the original sections; and to
8 declare an emergency.
9 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 85-2105, Reissue Revised Statutes of
2 Nebraska, is amended to read:

3 85-2105 (1) An applicant for the Access College Early
4 Scholarship Program shall complete an application form developed
5 and provided by the commission and shall forward the form to his
6 or her guidance counselor. The guidance counselor shall verify the
7 student's eligibility under the Access College Early Scholarship
8 Program Act and shall forward the information to the commission for
9 review within fifteen days following receipt of the form from the
10 student. Notification of tuition and mandatory fees to be accrued
11 by the student shall be provided to the commission by the student,
12 high school, or qualified postsecondary educational institution as
13 determined by the commission.

14 (2) The commission shall review the application and
15 verify the student's eligibility under the act. The commission
16 shall notify the student and the student's guidance counselor of
17 the verification of eligibility and the estimated award amount in
18 writing within thirty days following receipt of the form from the
19 student's guidance counselor. The scholarship award shall equal
20 the lesser of tuition and mandatory fees accrued by the student
21 after any discounts applicable to such student from the qualified
22 postsecondary educational institution or the tuition and mandatory
23 fees that would have been accrued by the student for the same
24 number of credit hours if the student were taking the course as a
25 full-time, resident, undergraduate student from the University of

1 Nebraska-Lincoln. The commission shall forward such amount directly
2 to the qualified postsecondary educational institution as payment
3 of such student's tuition and mandatory fees.

4 (3) The commission shall make such payments in the order
5 the applications are received, except that by the commission may
6 limit the number of scholarships awarded in each term. until funds
7 are inadequate to fulfill any remaining scholarships.

8 (4) ~~There is no~~ The commission may limit ~~on~~ the number of
9 scholarships a student may receive. under the act.

10 (5) For any student receiving a scholarship pursuant to
11 the act for tuition and mandatory fees, the qualified postsecondary
12 educational institution receiving the payment shall report either
13 the student's grade for the course or the student's failure to
14 complete the course to the commission within thirty days after
15 the end of the course or within one hundred eighty days after
16 receipt of a payment pursuant to the act if the course for which
17 the scholarship was awarded does not have a specified ending
18 date. The commission shall keep the identity of students receiving
19 scholarships confidential, except as necessary to comply with the
20 requirements of the act.

21 Sec. 2. Section 85-2106, Reissue Revised Statutes of
22 Nebraska, is amended to read:

23 85-2106 The commission shall prepare a ~~biennial~~ an annual
24 report on scholarships awarded pursuant to the Access College Early
25 Scholarship Program Act and shall submit the report to the Clerk of

1 the Legislature. The report shall include, but not be limited to,
2 the number and amount of scholarships awarded, the postsecondary
3 educational institutions attended by scholarship recipients, and
4 information regarding the success of scholarship recipients in the
5 courses for which the scholarships were awarded.

6 Sec. 3. Original sections 85-2105 and 85-2106, Reissue
7 Revised Statutes of Nebraska, are repealed.

8 Sec. 4. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect
9 when passed and approved according to law.