

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA  
ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1101**

Introduced by Hardin, 48.

Read first time January 09, 2024

Committee: Education

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to education; to require a memorandum of
- 2 understanding regarding the Public Health Early Admission Student
- 3 Track Program and the Rural Health Opportunities Program; to provide
- 4 for tuition waivers to eligible students as prescribed; and to state
- 5 intent regarding appropriations.
- 6 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1           Section 1.   (1) For purposes of this section, program means the  
2 Public Health Early Admission Student Track Program that encourages  
3 students to pursue public health careers in rural communities.

4           (2) The Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges and the  
5 Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska shall enter into a  
6 memorandum of understanding to administer the program, including the  
7 eligibility requirements for the program, the student application and  
8 selection process, and the participation requirements for the program.  
9 The eligibility requirements shall include, but need not be limited to,  
10 that the applicant is a Nebraska resident attending a Nebraska state  
11 college. The participation requirements shall include, but need not be  
12 limited to, a visit to the University of Nebraska Medical Center campus,  
13 successful completion of the foundations of public health online course,  
14 successful completion of an entry level statistics course, successful  
15 completion of the Graduate Records Examinations standardized test, and  
16 any additional admission and experience requirements specified by the  
17 board of trustees and the Board of Regents.

18           (3) A student participating in the program is entitled to a waiver  
19 of one hundred percent of the cost of tuition and fees for up to seventy-  
20 two undergraduate credit hours at a state college in Nebraska for  
21 purposes of completing the established public health coursework necessary  
22 for early admission to the University of Nebraska Medical Center College  
23 of Public Health.

24           (4) A state college shall waive one hundred percent of the cost of  
25 tuition and fees for up to seventy-two undergraduate credit hours at such  
26 state college for a student who qualifies under the program.

27           (5) It is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate an amount  
28 equal to or more than one-half of the cost of the tuition waivers granted  
29 pursuant to this section using General Funds to the Board of Trustees of  
30 the Nebraska State Colleges for purposes of granting tuition waivers  
31 under the program.

1           Sec. 2. (1) For purposes of this section, program means the Rural  
2 Health Opportunities Program that encourages students from rural  
3 communities to pursue health care professions and return to practice in  
4 those rural communities.

5           (2) The Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges and the  
6 Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska shall enter into a  
7 memorandum of understanding to administer the program, including a joint  
8 application and interview process to select students to participate in  
9 the program and be provisionally admitted into one of the eligible health  
10 care programs at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. To be  
11 eligible, students shall:

12           (a) Attend or be a graduate of an approved or accredited high school  
13 in Nebraska or receive an equivalent of a diploma of high school  
14 equivalency in Nebraska; and

15           (b) Have lived in or been a resident of a rural area of Nebraska as  
16 determined by the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges and  
17 the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska.

18           (3) A student who participates in the program is entitled to a  
19 waiver of one hundred percent of the cost of tuition and fees at a state  
20 college per academic year for up to four years for the purpose of  
21 completing the established health care program coursework at such state  
22 college that is required for early admission and transfer to an eligible  
23 health care program at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

24           (4) A state college shall waive one hundred percent of the cost of  
25 tuition and fees at such state college for a student who qualifies under  
26 the program.

27           (5) It is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate an amount  
28 equal to or more than one-half of the cost of the tuition waivers granted  
29 pursuant to this section using General Funds to the Board of Trustees of  
30 the Nebraska State Colleges for purposes of granting tuition waivers  
31 under the program.