



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5239

February Session, 2024



AN ACT EXPANDING THE CONNECTICUT COLLEGIATE AWARENESS AND PREPARATION PROGRAM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 10a-11a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

3 (a) As used in this section, "collegiate awareness and preparation
4 program" means a program that provides outreach and services to
5 middle school and high school students to prepare such students for
6 successful completion of postsecondary education at institutions of
7 higher education.

8 [(a)] (b) As part of the minority advancement program, the Office of
9 Higher Education shall establish a Connecticut collegiate awareness and
10 preparation program to develop linkages with public school systems
11 targeted by the office for the purpose of providing motivation and skills
12 development for middle school or high school [underachievers]
13 students who are disadvantaged, including, but not limited to, students
14 from low-income families and first-generation postsecondary education
15 students.

16 [(b)] (c) Funding for said program shall be on a competitive basis
17 open to all [Connecticut] (1) institutions of higher education, and (2)

18 nonprofit community-based organizations that provide collegiate
19 awareness and preparation programs in the state with a demonstrated
20 record of successful completion by students. The Office of Higher
21 Education shall issue a request for proposals to all [Connecticut higher
22 educational] such institutions and organizations annually and establish
23 a deadline for submission of grant applications that is not later than
24 March thirty-first. A panel shall review applications on the basis of an
25 evaluation format developed by said office that shall include, but need
26 not be limited to, preference for existing collegiate awareness and
27 preparation programs with a demonstrated record of successful
28 completion by students. Payment [will] shall be made under contractual
29 agreements between the office and [the] a grant [recipients] recipient
30 and shall be available to such grant recipient for a one-year period
31 commencing August first of the year in which the grant is awarded. If
32 the office finds that any such grant is being used for any purpose that is
33 not in conformity with the purposes of the program, the office may
34 require repayment of the grant to the state.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2024	10a-11a

APP *Joint Favorable Subst.*