

# HOUSE BILL No. 1226

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 21-12.

**Synopsis:** Twenty-first century scholars program. Defines, for purposes of the twenty-first century scholars program, "qualified early college student". Provides that a qualified early college student may apply to the commission for higher education for a twenty-first century scholarship to pay for postsecondary tuition costs associated with up to 30 postsecondary credit hours for dual credit or concurrent enrollment courses. Makes technical corrections.

**Effective:** July 1, 2023.

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## McNamara

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January 10, 2023, read first time and referred to Committee on Education.

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First Regular Session of the 123rd General Assembly (2023)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2022 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

# HOUSE BILL No. 1226

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning higher education.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1 SECTION 1. IC 21-12-1-7.7 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
2 AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY  
3 1, 2023]: **Sec. 7.7. "Early college" has the meaning set forth in**  
4 **IC 21-43-1-2.7.**

5 SECTION 2. IC 21-12-1-13.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA  
6 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
7 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023]: **Sec. 13.5. "Qualified early college**  
8 **student" refers to a student who:**

- 9 (1) **applies to participate in the twenty-first century scholars**
- 10 **program under IC 21-12-6-5;**
- 11 (2) **qualifies to receive free or reduced price lunch under the**
- 12 **national school lunch program; and**
- 13 (3) **has been enrolled in an early college program endorsed by**
- 14 **the University of Indianapolis's Center of Excellence in**
- 15 **Leadership of Learning (CELL) for at least one (1) year prior**
- 16 **to applying for a scholarship under IC 21-12-6-6.1.**

17 SECTION 3. IC 21-12-1-15, AS ADDED BY P.L.2-2007,



1 SECTION 253, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 2 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023]: Sec. 15. "Scholarship applicant" refers  
 3 to an individual who qualifies for a twenty-first century scholarship  
 4 under IC 21-12-6-6 **or IC 21-12-6-6.1.**

5 SECTION 4. IC 21-12-6-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.234-2015,  
 6 SECTION 13, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 7 JULY 1, 2023]: Sec. 3. Money in the fund must be used to provide  
 8 annual tuition scholarships to:

9 (1) qualified scholarship applicants who enroll as full-time  
 10 students at a postsecondary educational institution that qualifies  
 11 for participation in the program under section 4 of this chapter,  
 12 unless it is transferred to another fund under this article at the  
 13 direction of the commission under IC 21-12-1.2-2; **or**

14 (2) **qualified early college students.**

15 SECTION 5. IC 21-12-6-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.165-2016,  
 16 SECTION 11, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 17 JULY 1, 2023]: Sec. 6. (a) **Except as provided under section 6.1 of**  
 18 **this chapter**, a student may apply to the commission for a scholarship.  
 19 To qualify for a scholarship, the student must meet the following  
 20 requirements:

21 (1) Be an eligible student who qualified to participate in the  
 22 program under section 5 of this chapter.

23 (2) Be a resident of Indiana.

24 (3) Be a graduate from a secondary school located in Indiana that  
 25 meets the admission criteria of an eligible institution and have  
 26 achieved a cumulative grade point average in high school of:

27 (A) at least 2.0 on a 4.0 grading scale, if the student is  
 28 expected to graduate from high school before July 1, 2014; and

29 (B) at least 2.5 on a 4.0 grading scale, if the student is  
 30 expected to graduate from high school after June 30, 2014.

31 (4) Have applied to attend and be accepted to attend as a full-time  
 32 student an eligible institution.

33 (5) Certify in writing that before the student's graduation from  
 34 high school the student:

35 (A) did not illegally use controlled substances (as defined in  
 36 IC 35-48-1-9);

37 (B) did not illegally consume alcoholic beverages;

38 (C) did not commit any other crime or a delinquent act (as  
 39 described in IC 31-37-1-2 or IC 31-37-2-2 through  
 40 IC 31-37-2-5 (or IC 31-6-4-1(a)(1) through IC 31-6-4-1(a)(5)  
 41 before their repeal));

42 (D) timely filed an application for other types of financial



- 1 assistance available to the student from the state or federal  
 2 government; and  
 3 (E) completed an academic success program required under  
 4 the rules adopted by the commission.
- 5 (6) Submit to the commission all the information and evidence  
 6 required by the commission to determine eligibility as a  
 7 scholarship applicant.
- 8 ~~(7) This subdivision applies only to applicants who initially enroll~~  
 9 ~~in the program under section 5 of this chapter or IC 21-12-6.5-2~~  
 10 ~~after June 30, 2011. For purposes of this chapter, applicants who~~  
 11 ~~are enrolled in the program before July 1, 2011, will not have an~~  
 12 ~~income or financial resources test applied to them when they~~  
 13 ~~subsequently apply for a scholarship. Have a lack of financial~~  
 14 ~~resources reasonably available to the applicant, as defined by the~~  
 15 ~~commission, that, in the absence of an award under this chapter,~~  
 16 ~~would deter the scholarship applicant from completing the~~  
 17 ~~applicant's education at the approved postsecondary educational~~  
 18 ~~institution that the applicant has selected and that has accepted~~  
 19 ~~the applicant. For purposes of this chapter, applicants who are~~  
 20 ~~enrolled in the program before July 1, 2011, will not have an~~  
 21 ~~income or financial resources test applied to them when they~~  
 22 ~~subsequently apply for a scholarship.~~
- 23 (8) Meet any other minimum criteria established by the  
 24 commission.
- 25 (b) ~~This section applies to an individual who graduates from high~~  
 26 ~~school after December 31, 2011. To be eligible for a scholarship under~~  
 27 ~~this section, a student must initially attend an eligible institution~~  
 28 ~~described in subsection (a)(4) not later than the fall semester (or its~~  
 29 ~~equivalent, as determined by the commission) in the year immediately~~  
 30 ~~following the year in which the student graduates from high school.~~
- 31 SECTION 6. IC 21-12-6-6.1 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
 32 AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY  
 33 1, 2023]: **Sec. 6.1. (a) A qualified early college student may apply to**  
 34 **the commission for a scholarship to be used to pay postsecondary**  
 35 **education tuition costs associated with not more than thirty (30)**  
 36 **postsecondary credit hours or the equivalent of dual credit or**  
 37 **concurrent enrollment courses provided to the student in high**  
 38 **school if:**
- 39 (1) **the course in which the scholarship is to be used is not**  
 40 **taught by a teacher of record;**  
 41 (2) **the course for which the scholarship is to be used is**  
 42 **conducted online or on the campus of the university or college**



1           in which the student is charged normal tuition rates; and  
 2           **(3) the qualified early college student meets the requirements**  
 3           **under subsection (c) at the time the student applies for a**  
 4           **scholarship under this section.**

5           **(b) The scholarship may not be used to pay costs incurred or**  
 6           **tuition charged by the high school to provide the dual credit or**  
 7           **concurrent credit course.**

8           **(c) A qualified early college student must meet the requirements**  
 9           **set forth in section 6(a)(3), 6(a)(4), 6(a)(5), 6(a)(7), 6(a)(8), and 6(b)**  
 10          **of this chapter before the student may obtain a scholarship under**  
 11          **this chapter after the student graduates high school.**

12          **(d) The commission shall provide qualified early college**  
 13          **students who receive a scholarship under this section notice that**  
 14          **the student's scholarship will be proportionally reduced under**  
 15          **section 8 of this chapter.**

16          SECTION 7. IC 21-12-6-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.215-2018(ss),  
 17          SECTION 11, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 18          JULY 1, 2023]: Sec. 7. (a) Subject to IC 21-12-13-2, a scholarship  
 19          awarded under section 6 or 6.1 of this chapter or this section may be  
 20          renewed. **For a scholarship recipient who is a high school graduate**  
 21          to qualify for a scholarship renewal, ~~a~~ **the scholarship recipient must**  
 22          do the following:

23               (1) Submit to the commission a renewal application that contains  
 24               all the information and evidence required by the commission to  
 25               determine eligibility for the scholarship renewal.

26               (2) Continue to be enrolled as a full-time student in good standing  
 27               at an eligible institution.

28               (3) ~~This subdivision applies only to applicants who initially enroll~~  
 29               ~~in the program under section 5 of this chapter or IC 21-12-6.5-2~~  
 30               ~~after June 30, 2011. For purposes of this chapter, applicants who~~  
 31               ~~are enrolled in the program before July 1, 2011, will not have an~~  
 32               ~~income or financial resources test applied to them when they~~  
 33               ~~subsequently apply to renew a scholarship.~~ Continue to have a  
 34               lack of financial resources reasonably available to the applicant,  
 35               as defined by the commission, that, in the absence of an award  
 36               under this chapter, would deter the scholarship applicant from  
 37               completing the applicant's education at the approved  
 38               postsecondary educational institution that the applicant has  
 39               selected and that has accepted the applicant. **For purposes of this**  
 40               **chapter, applicants who are enrolled in the program before**  
 41               **July 1, 2011, will not have an income or financial resources**  
 42               **test applied to them when they subsequently apply to renew**



- 1           **a scholarship.**
- 2           (4) Maintain satisfactory academic progress, as determined by the
- 3           eligible institution.
- 4           (5) If the student initially enrolls in an eligible institution for an
- 5           academic year beginning after August 31, 2019, complete a
- 6           student success program designed by the commission in
- 7           coordination with eligible institutions.
- 8           (6) Beginning in an academic year beginning after August 31,
- 9           2017, the student successfully completes:
- 10           (A) at least thirty (30) credit hours or the equivalent during the
- 11           last academic year in which the student received state financial
- 12           aid; or
- 13           (B) at least thirty (30) credit hours or the equivalent during the
- 14           last academic year in which the student was enrolled in
- 15           postsecondary education.
- 16           (7) Continue to meet any other minimum criteria established by
- 17           the commission.
- 18           (b) In determining eligibility under subsection (a)(6), the
- 19           commission shall apply all the following types of credits regardless of
- 20           whether the credits were completed during the last academic year
- 21           described in subsection (a)(6)(A) or (a)(6)(B):
- 22           (1) Credits earned from dual credit, advanced placement,
- 23           Cambridge International, and international baccalaureate courses.
- 24           (2) College credits earned during high school.
- 25           (3) Credits earned exceeding thirty (30) credit hours during a
- 26           previous academic year in which a student received state financial
- 27           aid.
- 28           (c) The commission may allow a student who is otherwise ineligible
- 29           under subsection (a)(6) for an award during the next academic year to
- 30           maintain eligibility for an award if the student submits a petition to the
- 31           commission and the commission makes a determination that
- 32           extenuating circumstances (as determined by the commission)
- 33           prevented the student from meeting the requirements under subsection
- 34           (a)(6).
- 35           SECTION 8. IC 21-12-6-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.281-2013,
- 36           SECTION 18, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 37           JULY 1, 2023]: Sec. 8. A scholarship may be renewed under this
- 38           chapter for a total scholarship award that does not exceed the number
- 39           of academic terms that constitutes four (4) undergraduate academic
- 40           years **excluding academic terms completed by a qualified early**
- 41           **college student under section 6.1 of this chapter while the student**
- 42           **is in high school. The total scholarship award shall be**



1 **proportionally reduced by the amount received by a qualified early**  
2 **college student under section 6.1 of this chapter.**

