



February 1, 2023

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## SENATE BILL No. 56

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DIGEST OF SB 56 (Updated January 31, 2023 11:40 am - DI 140)

**Citations Affected:** IC 21-13.

**Synopsis:** Armed forces reservist tuition supplement program fund. Establishes the armed forces reservist tuition supplement program fund (fund). Provides that the fund shall be used to provide annual scholarships to members of a reserve component of the armed forces of the United States, not including the Army or Air National Guard, under certain conditions. Provides that scholarships issued under the fund may be renewed under certain criteria.

**Effective:** July 1, 2023.

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## Niezgodski, Tomes

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January 9, 2023, read first time and referred to Committee on Rules and Legislative Procedure.

January 26, 2023, amended; reassigned to Committee on Veterans Affairs and The Military.

January 31, 2023, reported favorably — Do Pass; reassigned to Committee on Appropriations.

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SB 56—LS 6156/DI 13





February 1, 2023

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.

## SENATE BILL No. 56

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 21-13-1-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.63-2021,  
2 SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3 JULY 1, 2023]: Sec. 4. **(a)** "Eligible student", for purposes of section  
4 **§ 8(a)** of this chapter, means a person who:  
5 (1) is a member of the Indiana National Guard:  
6 (A) in active drilling status; and  
7 (B) who has not been absent without leave within the twelve  
8 (12) months immediately preceding the date the person applies  
9 for a tuition scholarship under this chapter;  
10 (2) possesses the requisite academic qualifications;  
11 (3) meets the requirements of the state educational institution in  
12 which the person is enrolled or will enroll; and  
13 (4) meets all other eligibility requirements as determined by the  
14 commission.  
15 **(b)** "Eligible student", for purposes of section **8(b)** of this  
16 chapter, means a person who:  
17 (1) is a member of a reserve component of the armed forces of

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1           **the United States, not including the Army or Air National**  
 2           **Guard, serving the person's initial enlistment in active drilling**  
 3           **status, and who has not been absent without leave within the**  
 4           **twelve (12) months immediately preceding the date the person**  
 5           **applies for a tuition scholarship under this chapter;**  
 6           **(2) possesses the requisite academic qualifications;**  
 7           **(3) meets the requirements of the state educational institution**  
 8           **in which the person is enrolled or will enroll; and**  
 9           **(4) meets all other eligibility requirements as determined by**  
 10           **the commission.**

11           SECTION 2. IC 21-13-1-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.148-2016,  
 12           SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 13           JULY 1, 2023]: Sec. 5. "Fund":

14           (1) for purposes of IC 21-13-2, refers to the William A. Crawford  
 15           minority teacher scholarship fund established by IC 21-13-2-1;  
 16           (2) for purposes of IC 21-13-4, refers to the National Guard  
 17           tuition supplement program fund established by IC 21-13-4-1;  
 18           **(3) for purposes of IC 21-13-4.5, refers to the armed forces**  
 19           **reservist tuition supplement program fund established by**  
 20           **IC 21-13-4.5-1;**  
 21           ~~(3)~~ **(4)** for purposes of IC 21-13-5, refers to the National Guard  
 22           scholarship extension fund established by IC 21-13-5-1;  
 23           ~~(4)~~ **(5)** for purposes of IC 21-13-6, refers to the primary care  
 24           physician loan forgiveness fund established by IC 21-13-6-3; and  
 25           ~~(5)~~ **(6)** for purposes of IC 21-13-6.5, refers to the medical  
 26           residency education fund established by IC 21-13-6.5-1.

27           SECTION 3. IC 21-13-1-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.217-2015,  
 28           SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 29           JULY 1, 2023]: Sec. 8. **(a)** "Scholarship applicant", for purposes of  
 30           IC 21-13-4, means a person who:

31           (1) is an eligible student;  
 32           (2) has been accepted to attend a state educational institution as  
 33           a full-time or part-time student;  
 34           (3) has been certified to have met all National Guard  
 35           requirements; and  
 36           (4) according to commission requirements, has timely filed an  
 37           application for and, if applicable, used any federal and state  
 38           financial assistance available to the person to attend a state  
 39           educational institution.

40           **(b) "Scholarship applicant", for purposes of IC 21-13-4.5,**  
 41           **means a person who:**

42           **(1) is an eligible student;**



1 (2) has been accepted to attend a state educational institution  
2 as a full-time or part-time student;

3 (3) is a member of a reserve component of the armed forces of  
4 the United States, not including the Army or Air National  
5 Guard, who is in active drill status, as prescribed by the  
6 commission; and

7 (4) according to commission requirements, has timely filed an  
8 application for and, if applicable, used any federal and state  
9 financial assistance available to the person to attend a state  
10 educational institution.

11 SECTION 4. IC 21-13-4.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
12 AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
13 JULY 1, 2023]:

14 **Chapter 4.5. Armed Forces Reservist Tuition Supplement**  
15 **Program**

16 **Sec. 1. (a) The armed forces reservist tuition supplement**  
17 **program fund is established to provide the financial resources**  
18 **necessary to award the tuition scholarships authorized under the**  
19 **program.**

20 (b) The commission shall administer the fund.

21 (c) The fund consists of the following:

22 (1) Money appropriated to the fund by the general assembly.

23 (2) Donations, gifts, and money received from any other  
24 source, including transfers from other funds or accounts.

25 (d) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from  
26 money in the fund.

27 (e) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not  
28 revert to the state general fund but remains available to be used for  
29 providing money for reservist tuition supplement scholarships  
30 under this chapter.

31 **Sec. 2. Money in the armed forces reservist tuition supplement**  
32 **program fund shall be used to provide annual scholarships to**  
33 **scholarship applicants in an amount that is equal to one (1) of the**  
34 **following amounts:**

35 (1) If the scholarship applicant does not receive other  
36 financial assistance specifically designated for educational  
37 costs, the amount equal to a full undergraduate tuition  
38 scholarship to attend the state educational institution.

39 (2) If the scholarship applicant receives other financial  
40 assistance specifically designated for educational costs, the  
41 amount:

42 (A) equal to the balance required to attend the state



1 educational institution; and

2 (B) not to exceed the amount described in subdivision (1).

3 Sec. 3. A scholarship awarded to an applicant under section 2 of  
4 this chapter shall be reduced based upon the number of college  
5 credits awarded to the applicant as a result of the applicant's  
6 completion of College Level Examination Prep (CLEP) programs  
7 prior to entering an undergraduate degree program.

8 Sec. 4. (a) Subject to subsection (b), each scholarship awarded  
9 under this chapter:

10 (1) may be renewed under this chapter for a total scholarship  
11 award that does not exceed the equivalent of the number of  
12 terms that constitutes four (4) academic years as determined  
13 by the commission; and

14 (2) is subject to other eligibility criteria as established by the  
15 commission.

16 (b) A scholarship awarded under this chapter may not be  
17 renewed if the eligible individual fails to maintain at least a  
18 cumulative grade point average that the eligible institution  
19 determines is satisfactory academic progress.



COMMITTEE REPORT

Madam President: The Senate Committee on Rules and Legislative Procedure, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 56, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said bill be AMENDED as follows:

Delete the title and insert the following:

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

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert the following:

(SEE TEXT OF BILL)

and when so amended that said bill be reassigned to the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs and The Military.

(Reference is to SB 56 as introduced.)

BRAY, Chairperson

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COMMITTEE REPORT

Madam President: The Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs and The Military, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 56, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said bill DO PASS and be reassigned to the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

(Reference is to SB 56 as printed January 27, 2023.)

TOMES, Chairperson

Committee Vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0

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