

## SENATE BILL No. 136

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### DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 21-12-8-12.

**Synopsis:** Workforce ready grant. Provides that an applicant is eligible to receive a high value workforce ready noncredit-bearing grant if the applicant has been accepted for enrollment in a noncredit-bearing credential or similar program that offers a certification or credential upon completion that is approved by the department of workforce development. Provides that the credential or similar program may be offered by any public, private, or nonprofit entity, including a postsecondary educational institution. Provides that the noncredit-bearing credential or similar programs determined to be eligible for the high value workforce ready noncredit-bearing grant may not be limited to programs offered by a postsecondary educational institution.

**Effective:** July 1, 2018.

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January 3, 2018, read first time and referred to Committee on Education and Career Development.

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Second Regular Session 120th General Assembly (2018)

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 2017 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

# SENATE BILL No. 136

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 21-12-8-12, AS ADDED BY P.L.230-2017,
- 2 SECTION 33, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 3 JULY 1, 2018]: Sec. 12. (a) As used in this section, "department" refers
- 4 to the department of workforce development established by
- 5 IC 22-4.1-2-1.
- 6 (b) As used in this section, "program" refers to the high value
- 7 workforce ready noncredit-bearing grant program established by
- 8 subsection (c).
- 9 (c) The department shall establish a high value workforce ready
- 10 noncredit-bearing grant program.
- 11 (d) The department shall do at least the following to establish the
- 12 program:
- 13 (1) Prescribe the form and manner in which applications for high
- 14 value workforce ready noncredit-bearing grants may be
- 15 submitted.
- 16 (2) Determine the eligibility of applicants. **An applicant is**
- 17 **eligible to receive a high value workforce ready**



1           **noncredit-bearing grant if the applicant has been accepted for**  
 2           **enrollment in a noncredit-bearing credential or similar**  
 3           **program that offers a certification or credential upon**  
 4           **completion that is approved by the department. The**  
 5           **credential or similar program may be offered by any public,**  
 6           **private, or nonprofit entity, including a postsecondary**  
 7           **educational institution.** An applicant does not need to be  
 8           enrolled as a student at a postsecondary educational institution in  
 9           order to be eligible for a high value workforce ready  
 10          noncredit-bearing grant.

11          (3) Determine the amount of a high value workforce ready  
 12          noncredit-bearing grant awarded to a recipient.

13          (4) As the department considers appropriate, work with an  
 14          employer to determine:

15                (A) whether one (1) or more of the employer's current or future  
 16                employees may be eligible for a high value workforce ready  
 17                noncredit-bearing grant; and

18                (B) what additional financial or other support for the  
 19                employer's current or future employees the employer may  
 20                provide, if one (1) or more of the employer's current or future  
 21                employees may be eligible for a high value workforce ready  
 22                noncredit-bearing grant.

23          (5) Work with interested units of local government and employer  
 24          groups in a specific economic sector or region of the state to  
 25          develop cost-sharing and other approaches to increase the scope  
 26          of use and impact of the department's available funding for high  
 27          value workforce ready noncredit-bearing grants.

28          (6) In conjunction with the commission, determine which  
 29          noncredit-bearing credentials or similar programs are eligible for  
 30          the high value workforce ready noncredit-bearing grant after  
 31          considering at least the following for each credential or similar  
 32          program:

33                (A) Workforce demand and needs.

34                (B) Wage level data and information.

35                (C) Program content and completion data.

36                (D) Program job placement data.

37          **The noncredit-bearing credential or similar programs may be**  
 38          **offered by any public, private, or nonprofit entity, including**  
 39          **a postsecondary educational institution. The**  
 40          **noncredit-bearing credential or similar programs determined**  
 41          **to be eligible for the high value workforce ready**  
 42          **noncredit-bearing grant may not be limited to programs**



1           **offered by a postsecondary educational institution.**  
2           (7) Monitor, collect, analyze, and report to the governor, the  
3           legislative council, and the state workforce innovation council  
4           (established by IC 22-4.1-22-3) information and data concerning:  
5           (A) the use, success, failure, and impact of the high value  
6           workforce ready noncredit-bearing grants;  
7           (B) the results of each noncredit credential or similar program  
8           for which grants are sought; and  
9           (C) the results of each noncredit credential or similar program  
10          for which grants are provided.  
11          The department shall submit the report required by this  
12          subdivision on or before October 1 for the preceding state fiscal  
13          year. The report provided under this subdivision to the legislative  
14          council must be in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.

