

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 356

## 101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE BAKER.

0668H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

### AN ACT

To repeal section 173.2505, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to dual credit and STEM studies enhancement scholarships.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Section 173.2505, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 173.2505, to read as follows:

173.2505. 1. This section shall be known and may be cited as the "Dual Credit **and STEM Studies Enhancement** Scholarship Act".

2. To be eligible to receive ~~the~~ a dual credit scholarship, a student shall:

(1) Be a United States citizen or permanent resident;

(2) Be a Missouri resident as defined by the coordinating board for higher education pursuant to section 173.005;

(3) Be enrolled in a dual credit program offered by an approved dual credit provider, as defined in section 173.2500;

(4) Have a cumulative high school grade point average of at least two ~~and a half~~ **point five** on a four-point scale or equivalent; and

(5) Meet one or more of the following indicators of economic need:

(a) Be individually eligible to be enrolled in a federal free or reduced-price lunch program, based on income levels established by the United States Department of Agriculture;

(b) Reside in a foster home, be a ward of the state, or be homeless; or

(c) Receive low-income public assistance, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), or live in federally subsidized public housing.

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

18           3. (1) **To be eligible to receive a STEM studies enhancement scholarship, a student**  
19 **shall be enrolled in a STEM studies enhancement program and shall:**

20           (a) **Be a United States citizen or permanent resident;**

21           (b) **Be a Missouri resident as defined by the coordinating board for higher**  
22 **education under section 173.005;**

23           (c) **Have a cumulative high school grade point average of at least two point five on**  
24 **a four-point scale or equivalent; and**

25           (d) **Have a household income that does not exceed one hundred ten percent of the**  
26 **state median household income according to the United States Census Bureau's American**  
27 **Community Survey, based on the most recent one-year period estimate data.**

28           (2) **As used in this section, "STEM Studies Enhancement Program" means an**  
29 **undergraduate certificate program offered by an accredited Missouri higher education**  
30 **institution to high school students that emphasizes applied, advanced skills in any field**  
31 **related to science, technology, engineering, or mathematics.**

32           4. **The dual credit and STEM studies enhancement scholarship is hereby created to**  
33 **provide financial assistance to high school students enrolling in dual credit courses offered by**  
34 **an approved dual credit provider as defined in section 173.2500 and to high school students**  
35 **enrolling in STEM studies enhancement programs.** The coordinating board may promulgate  
36 rules for the administration of the program including establishing the application, eligibility, and  
37 payment procedures. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010,  
38 that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it  
39 complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section  
40 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable, and if any of the powers vested with  
41 the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to  
42 disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking  
43 authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2016, shall be invalid and void.

44           [4.] 5. **Subject to appropriation, the dual credit and STEM studies enhancement**  
45 **scholarship shall:**

46           (1) **Reimburse [eligible] students eligible under subsection 2 of this section for up to**  
47 **fifty percent of the tuition cost paid by the student to enroll in a dual credit course offered by an**  
48 **approved dual credit provider; except that, no student shall receive more than five hundred**  
49 **dollars annually for all dual credit courses taken by such student; and**

50           (2) **Reimburse students eligible under subsection 3 of this section for up to the**  
51 **average tuition cost for a community college course in the state for each course offered as**  
52 **part of a STEM studies enhancement program in which the student paid to enroll.**

53           ~~[5. No student shall receive in excess of five hundred dollars annually for all dual credit~~  
54 ~~courses taken by such student.]~~

55           6. There is hereby created in the state treasury the "Dual Credit Scholarship Fund",  
56 which shall consist of moneys appropriated to the fund by the general assembly and private  
57 donations made to the fund **for the purpose of providing financial assistance under this**  
58 **section to high school students enrolling in dual credit courses and to high school students**  
59 **enrolling in STEM studies enhancement programs.** The state treasurer shall be the custodian  
60 of the fund and shall invest moneys in the fund in the same manner as other funds are invested.  
61 Any interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be credited to the fund.  
62 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080 to the contrary, any moneys remaining in the  
63 fund at the end of the biennium shall not revert to the credit of the general revenue fund.

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