

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
[P E R F E C T E D]
SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE BILL NO. 733
95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Reported from the Committee on Education, March 25, 2010, with recommendation that the Senate Committee Substitute do pass.

Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 733, adopted March 30, 2010.

Taken up for Perfection March 30, 2010. Bill declared Perfected and Ordered Printed, as amended.

3902S.02P

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

AN ACT

To repeal section 173.250, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to the higher education academic scholarship program.

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

Section A. Section 173.250, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 173.250, to read as follows:

173.250. 1. There is hereby established a "Higher Education Academic Scholarship Program" and any moneys appropriated by the general assembly for this program shall be used to provide scholarships for Missouri citizens to attend a Missouri college or university of their choice pursuant to the provisions of this section.

2. The definitions of terms set forth in section [173.205] **173.1102** shall be applicable to such terms as used in this section. [The term "academic scholarship" means an amount of money paid by the state of Missouri to a qualified college or university student who has demonstrated superior academic achievement pursuant to the provisions of this section.] **In addition, the following definitions shall apply:**

(1) "Academic scholarship", an amount of money paid by the state of Missouri to a student pursuant to the provisions of this section;

(2) "ACT", the American College Testing program examination;

(3) "Approved institution", an approved public or approved private institution as defined in section 173.1102;

(4) "Eligible student", an individual who meets the criteria set

EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

18 forth in section 173.1104, excluding the requirements of financial need
19 and undergraduate status and, in addition, meets the following
20 requirements:

21 (a) Has achieved a qualifying score on the ACT or SAT;

22 (b) Is a Missouri resident who has completed secondary
23 coursework through graduation from high school or the virtual public
24 school established in section 161.670, receipt of a general education
25 development (GED) diploma, completion of a program of study through
26 homeschooling or any other program of academic instruction that
27 satisfies the compulsory attendance requirement under section 167.031;
28 and

29 (c) Is enrolled full-time or accepted for full-time enrollment as
30 a postsecondary student at an approved institution during the
31 academic year immediately following the completion of his or her
32 secondary coursework;

33 (5) "Missouri test-takers", all Missouri high school seniors who
34 take the ACT or the SAT;

35 (6) "Qualifying score", a composite score on the ACT or the SAT
36 achieved in an eligible student's high school sophomore, junior, or
37 senior year, that is in the top five percent of Missouri test-takers, as
38 established at the beginning of an eligible student's final year of
39 secondary coursework;

40 (7) "Recipient", an eligible or renewal student who receives an
41 academic scholarship pursuant to this section;

42 (8) "Renewal student", an eligible student who remains in
43 compliance with the provisions of section 173.1104, maintains
44 continuous enrollment, and makes satisfactory academic degree
45 progress; and

46 (9) "SAT", the Scholastic Aptitude Test.

47 3. The coordinating board for higher education shall be the administrative
48 agency for the implementation of the program established by this section, and
49 shall:

50 (1) Promulgate reasonable rules and regulations for the exercise of its
51 functions and the effectuation of the purposes of this section, including
52 regulations for granting scholarship deferments;

53 (2) Prescribe the form and the time and method of awarding academic
54 scholarships, and shall supervise the processing thereof; and

55 (3) Select qualified recipients to receive academic scholarships, make such
56 awards of academic scholarships to qualified recipients and determine the
57 manner and method of payment to the recipient.

58 4. [A student shall be eligible for initial or renewed academic scholarship
59 if he or she is in compliance with the eligibility requirements set forth in section
60 173.215 excluding the requirement of financial need and undergraduate status,
61 and in addition meets the following requirements:

62 (1) Initial academic scholarships shall be offered in the academic year
63 immediately following graduation from high school to Missouri high school seniors
64 whose composite scores on the American College Testing Program (ACT) or the
65 Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) of the College Board are in the top five percent of
66 all Missouri students taking those tests during the school year in which the
67 scholarship recipients graduate from high school. In the freshman year of college,
68 scholarship recipients are required to maintain status as a full-time student;

69 (2) Academic scholarships are renewable if the recipient remains in
70 compliance with the applicable provisions of section 173.215 and the recipient
71 makes satisfactory academic degree progress as a full-time student.

72 5. A student who is enrolled or has been accepted for enrollment as a
73 postsecondary student at an approved private or public institution beginning with
74 the fall 1987, term and who meets the other eligibility requirements for an
75 academic scholarship shall, within the limits of the funds appropriated and made
76 available, be offered an academic scholarship in the amount of two thousand
77 dollars for each eligible student whose composite scores on the American College
78 Testing Program (ACT) or the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) of the College
79 Board are in the top three percent of all Missouri students taking those tests
80 during the school year in which the scholarship recipients graduate from high
81 school for each fiscal year prior to fiscal year 2011, and, subject to appropriations,
82 three thousand dollars for fiscal year 2011 and every fiscal year thereafter, and
83 one thousand dollars for fiscal year 2011 and every fiscal year thereafter for each
84 eligible student whose composite scores on the American College Testing Program
85 (ACT) or the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) of the College Board are between the
86 top five and three percent of all Missouri students taking those tests during the
87 school year in which the scholarship recipients graduate from high school, for the
88 first academic year of study, which scholarship shall be renewable in the amount
89 of two thousand dollars for each eligible student whose composite scores on the
90 American College Testing Program (ACT) or the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT)

91 of the College Board are in the top three percent of all Missouri students taking
92 those tests during the school year in which the scholarship recipients graduate
93 from high school for each fiscal year prior to fiscal year 2011, and, subject to
94 appropriations, three thousand dollars for fiscal year 2011 and every fiscal year
95 thereafter, and one thousand dollars for fiscal year 2011 and every fiscal year
96 thereafter for each eligible student whose composite scores on the American
97 College Testing Program (ACT) or the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) of the
98 College Board are between the top five and three percent of all Missouri students
99 taking those tests during the school year in which the scholarship recipients
100 graduate from high school, annually for the second, third and fourth academic
101 years or as long as the recipient is in compliance with the applicable eligibility
102 requirements set forth in section 173.215, provided those years of study are
103 continuous and the student continues to meet eligibility requirements for the
104 scholarship; provided, however, if a recipient ceases all attendance at an approved
105 public or private institution for the purpose of providing service to a nonprofit
106 organization, a state or federal government agency or any branch of the armed
107 forces of the United States, the recipient shall be eligible for a renewal
108 scholarship upon return to any approved public or private institution, provided
109 the recipient:

- 110 (1) Returns to full-time status within twenty-seven months;
- 111 (2) Provides verification in compliance with coordinating board for higher
112 education rules that the service to the nonprofit organization was satisfactorily
113 completed and was not compensated other than for expenses or that the service
114 to the state or federal governmental agency or branch of the armed forces of the
115 United States was satisfactorily completed; and
- 116 (3) Meets all other requirements established for eligibility to receive a
117 renewal scholarship.

118 **6.] Eligible students shall be offered academic scholarships in**
119 **the following amounts and in the following order of priority, within the**
120 **limits of the funds appropriated and made available:**

- 121 (1) **Each eligible student with a qualifying score in the top three**
122 **percent of all Missouri test-takers shall be offered an academic**
123 **scholarship of up to three thousand dollars per year. All students in**
124 **the top three percent shall receive awards of three thousand dollars**
125 **before any student in the top fourth and fifth percentiles receives any**
126 **award.**

127 **(2) Provided sufficient funds are appropriated, each eligible**
128 **student with a qualifying score in the top fourth and fifth percentiles**
129 **shall be offered an academic scholarship of up to one thousand dollars**
130 **per year.**

131 **5. Eligible students may renew academic scholarships for their**
132 **second, third, and fourth years of postsecondary education, or as long**
133 **as the recipient is in compliance with the criteria to be a renewal**
134 **student.**

135 **6. If an eligible student is unable to enroll during the first**
136 **academic year or a renewal student ceases attendance at an approved**
137 **institution for the purpose of providing service to a nonprofit**
138 **organization, a state or federal government agency, or any branch of**
139 **the armed forces of the United States, such student shall be offered an**
140 **academic scholarship upon enrollment in any approved institution**
141 **after the completion of their service, if the student meets all other**
142 **requirements for an initial or renewal award and if the following**
143 **criteria are met:**

144 **(1) For an eligible student who cannot attend an approved**
145 **institution as a result of service to a non-profit organization or the**
146 **state or federal government, the student returns to full-time status**
147 **within twenty-seven months and provides verification to the**
148 **coordinating board for higher education that the service to the**
149 **nonprofit organization was satisfactorily completed and was not**
150 **compensated other than for expenses, or that the service to the state or**
151 **federal government was satisfactorily completed; or**

152 **(2) For an eligible student who cannot attend an approved**
153 **institution as a result of military service in the armed forces of the**
154 **United States, the student returns to full-time status within six months**
155 **after the eligible student first ceases service to the armed forces and**
156 **provides verification to the coordinating board for higher education**
157 **that the military service was satisfactorily completed.**

158 **7. A recipient of an academic scholarship awarded under this section may**
159 **transfer from one approved [Missouri public or private] institution to another**
160 **without losing eligibility for the academic scholarship.**

161 **8. If a recipient of [the] an academic scholarship at any time withdraws**
162 **from an approved [private or public] institution so that under the rules and**
163 **regulations of that institution he or she is entitled to a refund of any tuition, fees**

164 or other charges, the institution shall pay the portion of the refund attributable
165 to the **academic** scholarship for that term to the coordinating board for higher
166 education.

167 [7.] **9.** Other provisions of this section to the contrary notwithstanding,
168 if [a recipient] **an eligible student** has been awarded an initial academic
169 scholarship pursuant to the provisions of this section but is unable to [use the
170 scholarship] **attend an approved institution** during the first academic year
171 because of illness, disability, pregnancy or other medical need or if a [recipient]
172 **renewal student** ceases all attendance at an approved [public or private]
173 institution because of illness, disability, pregnancy or other medical need, the
174 recipient shall be eligible for an initial or renewal **academic** scholarship upon
175 enrollment in or return to any approved [public or private] institution, provided
176 the recipient:

- 177 (1) Enrolls in or returns to full-time status within twenty-seven months;
178 (2) Provides verification in compliance with coordinating board for higher
179 education rules of sufficient medical evidence documenting an illness, disability,
180 pregnancy or other medical need of such person to require that that person will
181 not be able to use the [initial or renewal] **academic** scholarship during the time
182 period for which it was originally offered; and
183 (3) Meets all other requirements established for eligibility to receive an
184 [initial or a renewal] **academic** scholarship.

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