

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 463—COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

MARCH 25, 2019

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to the Nevada Promise Scholarship. (BDR 34-1122)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to education; eliminating certain requirements for a person to be eligible to receive a Nevada Promise Scholarship; requiring a participating community college to apply the money received pursuant to a Nevada Promise Scholarship to certain fees charged to a student before applying any other money the student may receive; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Existing law establishes the Nevada Promise Scholarship program to provide
2 scholarships to eligible students at participating community colleges in this State.
3 (NRS 396.961-396.9685) Under existing law, to be eligible to receive a Nevada
4 Promise Scholarship, a person is required, among other requirements: (1) to be less
5 than 20 years of age; and (2) to enroll in or plan to enroll in a degree program at a
6 participating community college in the school year immediately following the
7 school year in which the student was awarded a high school diploma or general
8 equivalency diploma or equivalent document. (NRS 396.9665) **Section 1** of this bill
9 eliminates these age and timing requirements.

10 Under existing law, a participating community college is required to use the
11 money disbursed by the State Treasurer for the purpose of awarding Nevada
12 Promise Scholarships to pay the difference between the amount of the registration
13 fee and other mandatory fees charged to the scholarship recipient by the community
14 college for the school year and the total amount of any other gift aid received by the
15 scholarship recipient. (NRS 396.968) **Section 2** of this bill requires a participating
16 community college to apply the money disbursed from the State Treasurer to the
17 fees charged to the scholarship recipient before applying any other money,
18 including any gift aid the scholarship recipient may receive.



THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** NRS 396.9665 is hereby amended to read as
2 follows:

3 396.9665 A student is eligible to receive a Nevada Promise
4 Scholarship for the first school year in which the student is enrolled
5 at a participating community college if the student:

6 1. Is a bona fide resident of this State, as construed in NRS
7 396.540, ~~[is less than 20 years of age]~~ and has not previously been
8 awarded an associate's degree or bachelor's degree.

9 2. Has obtained:

10 (a) A high school diploma awarded by a public or private high
11 school located in this State or public high school that is located in a
12 county that borders this State and accepts pupils who are residents
13 of this State; or

14 (b) A general equivalency diploma or equivalent document.

15 3. Is not in default on any federal student loan and does not
16 owe a refund to any federal program to provide aid to students.

17 4. Before November 1 immediately preceding the school year
18 for which the student wishes to receive a Nevada Promise
19 Scholarship, submits an application in the form prescribed by the
20 participating community college.

21 5. On or before April 1 immediately preceding the school year
22 for which the student wishes to receive a Nevada Promise
23 Scholarship, completes the Free Application for Federal Student Aid
24 provided for by 20 U.S.C. § 1090.

25 6. Receives an Expected Family Contribution from the United
26 States Department of Education.

27 7. Attends at least one training meeting held by a participating
28 community college or local partnering organization pursuant to
29 subsection 2 of NRS 396.9655 and at least one such meeting held
30 pursuant to subsection 3 of that section, or arranges to receive the
31 training provided in those meetings at an alternate time pursuant to
32 subsection 4 of that section.

33 8. Before May 1 immediately preceding the school year for
34 which the student wishes to receive a Nevada Promise Scholarship:

35 (a) Has met at least once with the mentor assigned to the student
36 pursuant to NRS 396.9655.

37 (b) Completes at least 20 hours of community service that meets
38 the requirements of NRS 396.9675 and submits to the participating
39 community college verification of the completion of that community
40 service. The verification must include:

41 (1) A description of the community service performed;



1 (2) The dates on which the service was performed and the
2 number of hours of service performed on each date;

3 (3) The name of the organization for which the service was
4 performed; and

5 (4) The name of a person employed by the organization
6 whom the participating community college may contact to verify the
7 information contained in the verification.

8 (c) Submits all information deemed necessary by the
9 participating community college to determine the applicant's
10 eligibility for gift aid.

11 9. Is enrolled in or plans to enroll in at least 12 semester credit
12 hours in an associate's degree program, a bachelor's degree program
13 or a certificate of achievement program at a participating
14 community college for each semester of the school year
15 ~~immediately following the school year in which the student was~~
16 ~~awarded a high school diploma or a general equivalency diploma or~~
17 ~~equivalent document.]~~ *for which the student wishes to receive a*
18 *Nevada Promise Scholarship.*

19 **Sec. 2.** NRS 396.968 is hereby amended to read as follows:

20 396.968 1. Each participating community college shall award
21 Nevada Promise Scholarships in accordance with this section to
22 students who are enrolled at the participating community college
23 and are eligible to receive or renew such scholarships under the
24 provisions of NRS 396.9665 and 396.967.

25 2. On or before July 1 of each year, a participating community
26 college shall:

27 (a) Review all timely applications received pursuant to NRS
28 396.9665 and 396.967 to determine the eligibility of each applicant
29 for a Nevada Promise Scholarship and for gift aid;

30 (b) Review information submitted by each eligible applicant to
31 determine the amount of the Nevada Promise Scholarship the
32 student would receive under the provisions of subsection ~~6~~ 7 and
33 notify each applicant whether the applicant is eligible to receive a
34 Nevada Promise Scholarship for the immediately following school
35 year; and

36 (c) After reviewing applications pursuant to paragraph (a),
37 submit to the State Treasurer the number of students whose
38 applications have been approved and the amount of money that will
39 be required to fund a scholarship for each eligible student pursuant
40 to subsection ~~6~~ 7 if no student receives additional gift aid.

41 3. On the date prescribed by regulation of the State Treasurer, a
42 participating community college shall submit a request for a
43 disbursement from the Nevada Promise Scholarship Account
44 created by NRS 396.9645 in the amount prescribed by subsection
45 ~~6~~ 7 for each eligible student.



1 4. A participating community college shall use the money
2 disbursed pursuant to subsection ~~5~~ 6 to pay the difference between
3 the amount of the registration fee and other mandatory fees charged
4 to the student by the participating community college for the school
5 year, excluding any amount of those fees that is waived by the
6 participating community college, and the total amount of any other
7 gift aid received by the student for the school year. The community
8 college shall not refund to a student any money disbursed to the
9 participating community college pursuant to subsection ~~5~~ 6.

10 5. *A participating community college shall apply the money*
11 *disbursed pursuant to subsection 6 toward the registration fee and*
12 *other mandatory fees charged to the student by the participating*
13 *community college for the school year before applying any other*
14 *money, including, without limitation, any gift aid received by the*
15 *student.*

16 6. Within the limits of money available in the Nevada Promise
17 Scholarship Account, the State Treasurer shall disburse to a
18 participating community college the amount requested pursuant to
19 subsection 3. If there is insufficient money in the Account to
20 disburse that amount to each participating community college:

21 (a) The State Treasurer shall determine whether there is
22 sufficient money in the Account to disburse the amount requested
23 for all students who applied to renew a Nevada Promise Scholarship
24 and disburse the available money in the Account to each
25 participating community college in the following manner:

26 (1) If there is insufficient money in the Account to disburse
27 the amount requested for all students who applied to renew a
28 Nevada Promise Scholarship, the State Treasurer shall not disburse
29 any amount requested for first-time recipients of a Nevada Promise
30 Scholarship and shall disburse money to each participating
31 community college to fund a scholarship for each student who
32 applied to renew a Nevada Promise Scholarship, in the order in
33 which applications were received by the participating community
34 college, until the money in the Account is exhausted; and

35 (2) If there is sufficient money in the Account to disburse the
36 amount requested for all students who applied to renew a Nevada
37 Promise Scholarship, the State Treasurer shall first disburse the
38 money requested by each participating community college for all
39 students who applied to renew a Nevada Promise Scholarship and
40 then disburse money to each participating community college to
41 fund a scholarship for each student who applied for the first time to
42 receive a Nevada Promise Scholarship, in the order in which
43 applications were received by the participating community college,
44 until the money in the Account is exhausted.



1 (b) The State Treasurer shall provide notice that insufficient
2 money remains in the Nevada Promise Scholarship Account to:

3 (1) The Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for
4 transmittal to the Legislative Committee on Education, the
5 Legislative Commission and next regular session of the Legislature;
6 and

7 (2) The board of trustees of each school district and the
8 governing body of each charter school in this State. Upon receiving
9 such notice, the board of trustees or governing body, as applicable,
10 shall notify each pupil who is enrolled in a school in the district or
11 the charter school and is on schedule to receive a standard high
12 school diploma at the end of the current school year.

13 (c) A participating community college shall award Nevada
14 Promise Scholarships in accordance with the provisions of
15 paragraph (a) in a manner that gives priority first to students
16 applying for renewal of a Nevada Promise Scholarship and then to
17 applications received by the participating community college
18 pursuant to NRS 396.9665, in the order in which they were
19 received.

20 ~~6.7~~ 7. Within the limits of money available in the Nevada
21 Promise Scholarship Account, the amount of money awarded to a
22 scholarship recipient pursuant to this section must be equal to the
23 difference between the amount of the registration fee and other
24 mandatory fees charged to the student by the participating
25 community college for the school year, excluding any amount of
26 those fees that is waived by the participating community college,
27 and the total amount of any other gift aid received by the student for
28 the school year.

29 **Sec. 3.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2019.



