

As Introduced

132nd General Assembly

Regular Session

2017-2018

S. B. No. 124

Senator Williams

Cosponsors: Senators Thomas, Brown, Beagle

A BILL

To amend sections 3333.122 and 3333.20 and to enact 1
section 3333.166 of the Revised Code to qualify 2
students in noncredit community college and 3
career and technical programs for Ohio College 4
Opportunity Grants and to require the awarding 5
of academic credit for community colleges' 6
career certification programs. 7

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That sections 3333.122 and 3333.20 be amended 8
and section 3333.166 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as 9
follows: 10

Sec. 3333.122. (A) The chancellor of higher education 11
shall adopt rules to carry out this section and as authorized 12
under section 3333.123 of the Revised Code. The rules shall 13
include definitions of the terms "resident," "expected family 14
contribution," "full-time student," "three-quarters-time 15
student," "half-time student," "one-quarter-time student," 16
"state cost of attendance," and "accredited" for the purpose of 17
those sections. 18

(B) Only an Ohio resident who meets both of the following 19
is eligible for a grant awarded under this section: 20

(1) The resident has an expected family contribution of 21
two thousand one hundred ninety dollars or less; 22

(2) The resident enrolls in one of the following: 23

(a) An undergraduate program, or a nursing diploma program 24
approved by the board of nursing under section 4723.06 of the 25
Revised Code, at a state-assisted state institution of higher 26
education, as defined in section 3345.12 of the Revised Code, 27
that meets the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act 28
of 1964~~+~~. For purposes of division (B) (2) (a) of this section, 29
enrollment in an undergraduate program shall include enrollment 30
in a career and technical program for an in-demand job, as 31
defined in section 3333.93 of the Revised Code, offered at a 32
community college or state community college for which credit is 33
not awarded. 34

(b) An undergraduate program, or a nursing diploma program 35
approved by the board of nursing under section 4723.06 of the 36
Revised Code, at a private, nonprofit institution in this state 37
holding a certificate of authorization pursuant to Chapter 1713. 38
of the Revised Code; 39

(c) An undergraduate program, or a nursing diploma program 40
approved by the board of nursing under section 4723.06 of the 41
Revised Code, at a career college in this state that holds a 42
certificate of registration from the state board of career 43
colleges and schools under Chapter 3332. of the Revised Code or 44
at a private institution exempt from regulation under Chapter 45
3332. of the Revised Code as prescribed in section 3333.046 of 46
the Revised Code, if the program has a certificate of 47

authorization pursuant to Chapter 1713. of the Revised Code. 48

(C) (1) The chancellor shall establish and administer a 49
needs-based financial aid grants program based on the United 50
States department of education's method of determining financial 51
need. The program shall be known as the Ohio college opportunity 52
grant program. The general assembly shall support the needs- 53
based financial aid program by such sums and in such manner as 54
it may provide, but the chancellor also may receive funds from 55
other sources to support the program. If, for any academic year, 56
the amounts available for support of the program are inadequate 57
to provide grants to all eligible students, the chancellor shall 58
do one of the following: 59

(a) Give preference in the payment of grants based upon 60
expected family contribution, beginning with the lowest expected 61
family contribution category and proceeding upward by category 62
to the highest expected family contribution category; 63

(b) Proportionately reduce the amount of each grant to be 64
awarded for the academic year under this section; 65

(c) Use an alternate formula for such grants that 66
addresses the shortage of available funds and has been submitted 67
to and approved by the controlling board. 68

(2) The needs-based financial aid grant shall be paid to 69
the eligible student through the institution in which the 70
student is enrolled, except that no needs-based financial aid 71
grant shall be paid to any person serving a term of 72
imprisonment. Applications for the grants shall be made as 73
prescribed by the chancellor, and such applications may be made 74
in conjunction with and upon the basis of information provided 75
in conjunction with student assistance programs funded by 76

agencies of the United States government or from financial 77
resources of the institution of higher education. The 78
institution shall certify that the student applicant meets the 79
requirements set forth in division (B) of this section. Needs- 80
based financial aid grants shall be provided to an eligible 81
student only as long as the student is making appropriate 82
progress toward a nursing diploma or an associate or bachelor's 83
degree or, if the student is enrolled in a program for which 84
credit is not awarded, is meeting progress standards adopted by 85
the chancellor. No student shall be eligible to receive a grant 86
for more than ten semesters, fifteen quarters, or the equivalent 87
of five academic years. A grant made to an eligible student on 88
the basis of less than full-time enrollment shall be based on 89
the number of credit hours for which the student is enrolled and 90
shall be computed in accordance with a formula adopted by rule 91
issued by the chancellor. No student shall receive more than one 92
grant on the basis of less than full-time enrollment. 93

(D) (1) Except as provided in division (D) (4) of this 94
section, no grant awarded under this section shall exceed the 95
total state cost of attendance. 96

(2) Subject to divisions (D) (1), (3), and (4) of this 97
section, the amount of a grant awarded to a student under this 98
section shall equal the student's remaining state cost of 99
attendance after the student's Pell grant and expected family 100
contribution are applied to the instructional and general 101
charges for the undergraduate program. However, for students 102
enrolled in a state university or college as defined in section 103
3345.12 of the Revised Code or a university branch, the 104
chancellor may provide that the grant amount shall equal the 105
student's remaining instructional and general charges for the 106
undergraduate program after the student's Pell grant and 107

expected family contribution have been applied to those charges, 108
but, in no case, shall the grant amount for such a student 109
exceed any maximum that the chancellor may set by rule. 110

(3) For a student enrolled for a semester or quarter in 111
addition to the portion of the academic year covered by a grant 112
under this section, the maximum grant amount shall be a 113
percentage of the maximum specified in any table established in 114
rules adopted by the chancellor as provided in division (A) of 115
this section. The maximum grant for a fourth quarter shall be 116
one-third of the maximum amount so prescribed. The maximum grant 117
for a third semester shall be one-half of the maximum amount so 118
prescribed. 119

(4) If a student is enrolled in a two-year institution of 120
higher education and is eligible for an education and training 121
voucher through the Ohio education and training voucher program 122
that receives federal funding under the John H. Chafee foster 123
care independence program, 42 U.S.C. 677, the amount of a grant 124
awarded under this section may exceed the total state cost of 125
attendance to additionally cover housing costs. 126

(E) No grant shall be made to any student in a course of 127
study in theology, religion, or other field of preparation for a 128
religious profession unless such course of study leads to an 129
accredited bachelor of arts, bachelor of science, associate of 130
arts, or associate of science degree. 131

(F) (1) Except as provided in division (F) (2) of this 132
section, no grant shall be made to any student for enrollment 133
during a fiscal year in an institution with a cohort default 134
rate determined by the United States secretary of education 135
pursuant to the "Higher Education Amendments of 1986," 100 Stat. 136
1278, 1408, 20 U.S.C.A. 1085, as amended, as of the fifteenth 137

day of June preceding the fiscal year, equal to or greater than 138
thirty per cent for each of the preceding two fiscal years. 139

(2) Division (F)(1) of this section does not apply in the 140
case of either of the following: 141

(a) The institution pursuant to federal law appeals its 142
loss of eligibility for federal financial aid and the United 143
States secretary of education determines its cohort default rate 144
after recalculation is lower than the rate specified in division 145
(F)(1) of this section or the secretary determines due to 146
mitigating circumstances that the institution may continue to 147
participate in federal financial aid programs. The chancellor 148
shall adopt rules requiring any such appellant to provide 149
information to the chancellor regarding an appeal. 150

(b) Any student who has previously received a grant 151
pursuant to any provision of this section, including prior to 152
the section's amendment by Am. Sub. H.B. 1 of the 128th general 153
assembly, effective July 17, 2009, and who meets all other 154
eligibility requirements of this section. 155

(3) The chancellor shall adopt rules for the notification 156
of all institutions whose students will be ineligible to 157
participate in the grant program pursuant to division (F)(1) of 158
this section. 159

(4) A student's attendance at any institution whose 160
students are ineligible for grants due to division (F)(1) of 161
this section shall not affect that student's eligibility to 162
receive a grant when enrolled in another institution. 163

(G) Institutions of higher education that enroll students 164
receiving needs-based financial aid grants under this section 165
shall report to the chancellor all students who have received 166

such needs-based financial aid grants but are no longer eligible 167
for all or part of those grants and shall refund any moneys due 168
the state within thirty days after the beginning of the quarter 169
or term immediately following the quarter or term in which the 170
student was no longer eligible to receive all or part of the 171
student's grant. There shall be an interest charge of one per 172
cent per month on all moneys due and payable after such thirty- 173
day period. The chancellor shall immediately notify the office 174
of budget and management and the legislative service commission 175
of all refunds so received. 176

Sec. 3333.166. The chancellor of higher education shall 177
establish policies and procedures for awarding credit for career 178
or technical certification programs offered by community 179
colleges and state community colleges and for applying that 180
credit toward an associate degree in a related field. 181

Sec. 3333.20. (A) The chancellor of higher education shall 182
adopt educational service standards that shall apply to all 183
community colleges, university branches, technical colleges, and 184
state community colleges established under Chapters 3354., 185
3355., 3357., and 3358. of the Revised Code, respectively. These 186
standards shall provide for such institutions to offer or 187
demonstrate at least the following: 188

(1) An appropriate range of career or technical programs 189
designed to prepare individuals for employment in specific 190
careers at the technical or paraprofessional level⁷. The 191
standards shall require community colleges and state community 192
colleges to award credit for career or technical certification 193
programs and to apply that credit toward an associate degree in 194
a related field in accordance with the policies and procedures 195
established under section 3333.166 of the Revised Code. 196

(2) Commitment to an effective array of developmental education services providing opportunities for academic skill enhancement;	197 198 199
(3) Partnerships with industry, business, government, and labor for the retraining of the workforce and the economic development of the community;	200 201 202
(4) Noncredit continuing education opportunities;	203
(5) College transfer programs or the initial two years of a baccalaureate degree for students planning to transfer to institutions offering baccalaureate programs;	204 205 206
(6) Linkages with high schools to ensure that graduates are adequately prepared for post-secondary instruction;	207 208
(7) Student access provided according to a convenient schedule and program quality provided at an affordable price;	209 210
(8) That student fees charged by any institution are as low as possible, especially if the institution is being supported by a local tax levy;	211 212 213
(9) A high level of community involvement in the decision-making process in such critical areas as course delivery, range of services, fees and budgets, and administrative personnel.	214 215 216
(B) The chancellor shall consult with representatives of state-assisted colleges and universities, as defined in section 3333.041 of the Revised Code, in developing appropriate methods for achieving or maintaining the standards adopted pursuant to division (A) of this section.	217 218 219 220 221
(C) In considering institutions that are co-located, the chancellor shall apply the standards to them in two manners:	222 223

(1) As a whole entity;	224
(2) As separate entities, applying the standards separately to each.	225 226
When distributing any state funds among institutions based on the degree to which they meet the standards, the chancellor shall provide to institutions that are co-located the higher amount produced by the two judgments under divisions (C) (1) and (2) of this section.	227 228 229 230 231
Section 2. That existing sections 3333.122 and 3333.20 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed.	232 233