

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 53 Session of 2017

INTRODUCED BY GREENLEAF, SCAVELLO, SCARNATI, VULAKOVICH,  
SCHWANK, FARNESE, BAKER, FONTANA, WARD, COSTA AND HAYWOOD,  
JANUARY 12, 2017

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, JANUARY 12, 2017

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of January 25, 1966 (1965 P.L.1546, No.541),  
2 entitled "An act providing scholarships and providing funds  
3 to secure Federal funds for qualified students of the  
4 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania who need financial assistance to  
5 attend postsecondary institutions of higher learning, making  
6 an appropriation, and providing for the administration of  
7 this act," further providing for eligibility for State  
8 scholarship.

9 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
10 hereby enacts as follows:

11 Section 1. Section 4(a)(6) of the act of January 25, 1966  
12 (1965 P.L.1546, No.541), referred to as the Higher Education  
13 Scholarship Law, is amended to read:

14 Section 4. (a) Any student is eligible for consideration  
15 for a State scholarship providing:

16 \* \* \*

17 (6) The State scholarship recipient shall be free to attend  
18 any approved institution of his choice and apply the scholarship  
19 toward the tuition, room, board, books and fees of that  
20 institution[.], subject to the following:

1     (i) The institution is not required to accept the  
2 scholarship recipient for enrollment, but is free to exact  
3 compliance with its own admission requirements, standards and  
4 policies.

5     (ii) If the institution is headquartered and domiciled  
6 through incorporation or charter in this Commonwealth, the  
7 scholarship recipient shall be eligible for the scholarship  
8 award regardless of whether the program of study or the  
9 scholarship recipient's term enrollment is 100% online or  
10 blended with classroom credits, provided that the scholarship  
11 recipient meets all other eligibility requirements as provided  
12 in this act and as established by the agency.

13     (iii) If the institution has a physical location in this  
14 Commonwealth but is not headquartered and domiciled through  
15 incorporation or charter in this Commonwealth, the scholarship  
16 recipient shall be eligible for a scholarship award provided  
17 that the scholarship recipient's program of study is not  
18 structured to be more than 50% online or the scholarship  
19 recipient's online enrollment in a given term does not exceed  
20 50% of the total credits for that term as established by the  
21 agency, provided that the scholarship recipient is enrolled at  
22 the institution's physical location in this Commonwealth and  
23 provided that the scholarship recipient meets all other  
24 eligibility requirements as provided in this act and as  
25 established by the agency.

26     \* \* \*

27     Section 2. The amendment of section 4(a)(6) of the act shall  
28 apply not later than the 2018-2019 award year as determined by  
29 the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency.

30     Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.