

State of South Dakota

NINETIETH SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2015

643W0475

HOUSE BILL NO. 1204

Introduced by: Representatives Haggar (Don), Bolin, Brunner, DiSanto, Hunt, Latterell, and Novstrup (Al) and Senators Haggar (Jenna), Greenfield (Brock), Holien, Lederman, and Rave

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to provide for a limited number of affordable baccalaureate
2 degree scholarships for students intending to serve as K-12 educators in South Dakota.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 Section 1. That chapter 13-55 be amended by adding thereto a NEW SECTION to read as
5 follows:

6 There is hereby established the affordable baccalaureate degree scholarship to be
7 administered by the Board of Regents. This scholarship will allow students intending to serve
8 as K-12 educators in South Dakota an affordable education at any university, college, or
9 technical school, that is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools
10 and that provides instruction from a campus located in South Dakota.

11 Section 2. That chapter 13-55 be amended by adding thereto a NEW SECTION to read as
12 follows:

13 A student is eligible for an affordable baccalaureate degree scholarship if the student:

14 (1) Agrees to serve as a K-12 educator in South Dakota for a minimum of five years after



1 graduation;

2 (2) Meets minimum eligibility standards for the scholarship as established by the Board
3 of Regents;

4 (3) Maintains minimum academic standards as established by the Board of Regents;

5 (4) Is enrolled in a baccalaureate program that is eligible for a South Dakota teacher
6 certificate on completion;

7 (5) Is a resident of South Dakota at the time of graduation from high school.

8 If the student becomes ineligible for the scholarship, the Board of Regents shall revoke the
9 scholarship prior to the beginning of the next regular academic semester.

10 Section 3. That chapter 13-55 be amended by adding thereto a NEW SECTION to read as
11 follows:

12 The Board of Regents shall promulgate rules, pursuant to chapter 1-26, to implement
13 sections 2 and 4 of this Act.

14 Section 4. That chapter 13-55 be amended by adding thereto a NEW SECTION to read as
15 follows:

16 The affordable baccalaureate degree scholarship provides for the entire cost of the estimated
17 tuition, fees, and books required to complete an eligible baccalaureate degree that exceeds ten
18 thousand dollars. The Board of Regents may establish limitations on qualifying degree
19 programs, the number of available scholarships, and minimum qualifications for eligibility for
20 the scholarship.

21 Section 5. That chapter 13-55 be amended by adding thereto a NEW SECTION to read as
22 follows:

23 The Board of Regents shall submit a report to the Legislature by December first of each year
24 summarizing the number of scholarships granted and the total cost of the scholarship program.

1 The Board of Regents shall utilize cost saving opportunities and efficiencies in offering the
2 affordable baccalaureate degree scholarships, including encouraging the use of web-based
3 technology and competency-based programs.

4 Section 6. That chapter 13-55 be amended by adding thereto a NEW SECTION to read as
5 follows:

6 The Board of Regents may allocate funds appropriated by the Legislature or funds generated
7 by gifts, donations, grants, or endowments for the purposes of this Act to students qualifying
8 for the affordable baccalaureate degree scholarships pursuant to this Act.

9 Section 7. That chapter 13-55 be amended by adding thereto a NEW SECTION to read as
10 follows:

11 If, after acceptance, a recipient of the affordable baccalaureate degree scholarship breaches
12 the terms of the scholarship the recipient is liable for the full amount paid on behalf of the
13 recipient.

14 Section 8. This Act is effective July 1, 2016.