

State of South Dakota

EIGHTY-EIGHTH SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2013

569U0703

SENATE BILL NO. 213

Introduced by: Senators Frerichs, Olson (Russell), Tidemann, and Welke and
Representatives Munsterman, Killer, and Parsley

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to require certain opportunity scholarship recipients to
2 reside in South Dakota for five years following graduation from postsecondary education.

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

4 Section 1. That § 13-55-31 be amended to read as follows:

5 13-55-31. In order to be eligible for a South Dakota opportunity scholarship award, a student
6 shall:

- 7 (1) Be a resident of South Dakota at the time of graduation from high school;
- 8 (2) Have a composite score of 24, or higher, on the test administered by the American
9 College Testing Program or an equivalent score as determined by the Board of
10 Regents on the Scholastic Assessment Test. The student shall take the ACT or SAT
11 test before beginning postsecondary education;
- 12 (3) Meet the high school course requirements for graduation as provided in § 13-55-31.1;
- 13 (4) Attend a university, college, or technical school that is accredited by the North
14 Central Association of Colleges and Schools and that provides instruction from a
15 campus located in South Dakota; ~~and~~



1 (5) Enter into the program within five years of graduation from high school or within one
2 year of the student's release from active duty with an active component of the armed
3 forces if the release is within five years of the student's graduation from high school.
4 If a student attends full-time a regionally accredited university, college, or technical
5 school located outside South Dakota and within two years following high school
6 graduation or within two years following release from active military service returns
7 to the state to attend full-time a regionally accredited university, college, or technical
8 school, the student is eligible to receive a partial award; and

9 (6) For any student seeking initial eligibility in school fiscal year 2015 or later:

10 (a) Agree, in writing, to reside in South Dakota for five years following
11 graduation from an eligible institution unless the student leaves the state
12 during that period of time to pursue graduate studies in another state or
13 country; and

14 (b) Agree, through a promissory note, that failure to meet the provisions in
15 subsection (a) will result in the scholarship being converted into an interest-
16 bearing loan.

17 A student is eligible to participate in the South Dakota opportunity scholarship program for
18 the equivalent of four academic years (eight consecutive spring and fall terms) or until the
19 attainment of a baccalaureate degree, whichever comes first. However, the executive director
20 of the Board of Regents may grant exceptions to the continuous enrollment requirements for
21 good cause shown.

22 A student who would have been eligible for the scholarship, but who applies after
23 completing one or more semesters of full-time work at an accredited institution, may be
24 admitted to the program only if the student has complied with the same grade point and credit

1 hour requirements that would apply to program participants. Admission granted under these
2 circumstances may not be retroactive, and eligibility for participation in the program shall be
3 reduced by one semester for each semester of work completed prior to admission to the
4 program.