

SENATE BILL 977

By Kelsey

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 4, relative to postsecondary institution eligibility for the Wilder-Naifeh technical skills grant.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-902(11), is amended by adding the following language as new subdivision (E):

For purposes of the Wilder-Naifeh technical skills grant only, a private, nonprofit technical school that:

- (i) Has had its primary campus domiciled in this state for at least seventy-five (75) consecutive years;
- (ii) Is accredited by the council on occupational education; and
- (iii) In addition to offering diploma, certificate, and associate degree programs, offers a baccalaureate degree through an articulation agreement with a regionally accredited postsecondary institution;

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-902(44), is amended by deleting the subdivision in its entirety and substituting instead:

"Wilder-Naifeh technical skills grant" means a grant for study in pursuit of a certificate or diploma at a Tennessee college of applied technology operated by the board of regents of the state university and community college system or an eligible independent postsecondary institution as defined in subdivision (11)(E) that is funded from net proceeds of the state lottery and awarded under this part.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-921, is amended by deleting subsection (a) in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(a) To be eligible for a Wilder-Naifeh technical skills grant, a student seeking a diploma or certificate at a Tennessee college of applied technology operated by the board of regents of the state university and community college system or an eligible independent postsecondary institution as defined in § 49-4-902(11)(E) shall:

- (1) Not be ineligible for the grant under § 49-4-904;
- (2) Meet the requirements of § 49-4-905(a); and
- (3) Be admitted to the institution in a program of study leading to a certificate or diploma.

SECTION 4. For the purposes of promulgating rules, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act shall take effect July 1, 2019, the public welfare requiring it.