

SENATE BILL 2659

By White

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
Chapter 4, Part 7, relative to scholarships for
aspiring teachers.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-701, is amended by deleting subdivision (b)(3) and substituting instead the following:

(3) "Eligible postsecondary institution":

(A) Has the same meaning as defined in § 49-4-902; and

(B) Means a private postsecondary institution that:

(i) Has established a partnership with this state pursuant to a memorandum of understanding executed in 2013;

(ii) Is accredited by a regional accrediting association;

(iii) Uses a competency-based model of education;

(iv) Has established and continuously maintains a physical campus or location of operation within this state;

(v) Maintains a governing body or advisory board based in this state with oversight of operations in this state;

(vi) Has been chartered in this state as a nonprofit entity for at least five (5) consecutive years; and

(vii) Provides an approved EPP;

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-701(d), is amended by deleting subdivision (1) and substituting instead the following:

(1)

(A) Be eligible for and receive a Tennessee HOPE scholarship under chapter 4, part 9 of this title; or

(B) Maintain the concordant equivalent to the grade point average required for continuation of the Tennessee HOPE scholarship in § 49-4-911, if the student is enrolled in an approved EPP at a private non-profit eligible postsecondary institution, as defined in subdivision (b)(3)(B);

SECTION 3. This act takes effect July 1, 2024, the public welfare requiring it, and applies to scholarships awarded for the 2024-2025 academic year and each academic year thereafter.