

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AMENDMENTS

2017 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Lincoln Fillmore

House Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill amends provisions related to the centennial scholarship.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ changes the amount of the centennial scholarship;
- ▶ allows a student to defer a centennial scholarship for certain reasons; and
- ▶ makes technical changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

53A-15-102, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2016, Chapters 236 and 415

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **53A-15-102** is amended to read:

53A-15-102. Early graduation incentives -- Incentive to school district -- Partial tuition scholarship for student -- Student deferral -- Payments.

(1) [~~Any~~] A secondary public school student who has completed all required courses or



28 demonstrated mastery of required skills and competencies may~~;~~ graduate at any time with the
 29 approval of:

30 (a) the student~~;~~;

31 (b) the student's parent or guardian~~, and an authorized~~; and

32 (c) a local school official~~, graduate at any time~~ who is authorized by the school's
 33 principal or director to approve early graduation.

34 (2) ~~[Each]~~ The State Board of Education shall make a payment to a public high school
 35 [shall receive] in an amount equal to 1/2 of the scholarship awarded to each student under this
 36 section who graduates from the school at or ~~[prior to]~~ before the conclusion of ~~[the eleventh]~~
 37 grade 11, or a proportionately lesser amount for ~~[any]~~ a student who graduates after the
 38 conclusion of ~~[the eleventh]~~ grade 11 but ~~[prior to]~~ before the conclusion of ~~[the twelfth]~~ grade
 39 12.

40 (3) (a) ~~[A]~~ The State Board of Education shall award to each student who graduates
 41 from high school at or ~~[prior to]~~ before the conclusion of ~~[the eleventh]~~ grade ~~[shall receive]~~ 11
 42 a centennial scholarship in the ~~[lesser amount of full tuition for one year or \$1,000 to be used]~~
 43 amount of the greater of 30% of the previous year's value of the weighted pupil unit, as defined
 44 in Section 53A-1a-703, or \$1,000, subject to this Subsection (3) through Subsection (6).

45 (b) A student who is awarded a centennial scholarship may use the scholarship for full
 46 time enrollment at:

47 (i) a Utah public college, university, or community college~~;~~;

48 (ii) an applied technology college within the Utah College of Applied Technology~~;~~;

49 or

50 (iii) any other institution in the state of Utah~~, accredited by the Northwest Association~~
 51 of Schools and Colleges] that:

52 (A) is accredited by an accrediting organization recognized by the State Board of
 53 Regents; and

54 (B) offers postsecondary courses of the student's choice ~~[upon verification].~~

55 (c) Before making a payment of a centennial scholarship, the State Board of Education
 56 shall verify that the student has registered at ~~[the]~~ an institution described in Subsection (3)(b):

57 (i) during the fiscal year following the student's graduation from high school~~;~~ or

58 (ii) at the end of the student's deferral period, in accordance with Subsection (4).

59 ~~[(b) In the case of]~~

60 ~~(d) If a student [who] graduates after the conclusion of [the eleventh] grade 11 but~~
 61 ~~[prior to] before the conclusion of [the twelfth] grade 12, the State Board of Education shall~~
 62 ~~award the student [shall receive] a centennial scholarship of a proportionately lesser amount~~
 63 ~~than the scholarship amount described in Subsection (3)(a).~~

64 (4) (a) A student who is eligible for a centennial scholarship under Subsection (3) may
 65 make a request to the State Board of Education to defer the scholarship for:

66 (i) health reasons;

67 (ii) religious reasons;

68 (iii) military service; or

69 (iv) humanitarian service.

70 (b) If a student makes a request to the State Board of Education to defer a centennial
 71 scholarship under Subsection (4)(a), the State Board of Education shall:

72 (i) (A) review the student's request; and

73 (B) approve or reject the student's request; and

74 (ii) if the State Board of Education approves the student's request:

75 (A) in consultation with the student, set the length of the deferral period, ensuring that
 76 the deferral period is sufficient to meet the student's needs under Subsection (4)(a); and

77 (B) make the payment of the scholarship to the student at the end of the student's
 78 deferral period.

79 (5) Except as provided in Subsection (4)(b), the State Board of Education:

80 ~~[(4)] (a) [The] shall make the payments authorized in Subsections (2) and (3)(a) [shall~~
 81 ~~be made] during the fiscal year that follows the student's graduation[-]; and~~

82 ~~(b) [The] may make the payments authorized in Subsection (3)(b) [may be made]~~
 83 ~~during the fiscal year;~~

84 ~~(i) in which the student graduates; or [the fiscal year]~~

85 ~~(ii) following the student's graduation.~~

86 ~~[(5) (a) The State Board of Education shall administer the payment program authorized~~
 87 ~~in Subsections (2), (3), and (4).]~~

88 ~~[(b) The Legislature shall make an annual appropriation from the Education Fund to~~
 89 ~~the State Board of Education for the costs associated with the Centennial Scholarship Program~~

90 based on the projected number of students who will graduate before the conclusion of the
91 twelfth grade in any given year.]

92 (6) Subject to future budget constraints, the Legislature shall adjust the appropriation
93 for the Centennial Scholarship Program based on:

94 (a) the anticipated increase of students awarded a centennial scholarship; and

95 (b) the percent increase of the prior year's weighted pupil unit value, as provided in
96 Subsection (3).

Legislative Review Note
Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel