

1 **HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP AMENDMENTS**

2 2013 GENERAL SESSION

3 STATE OF UTAH

4 **Chief Sponsor: Jerry W. Stevenson**

5 House Sponsor: Derek E. Brown

7 **LONG TITLE**

8 **General Description:**

9 This bill modifies requirements related to certain higher education scholarships.

10 **Highlighted Provisions:**

11 This bill:

12 ▶ allows the Board of Regents to assign additional weights to grades earned in
13 International Baccalaureate program courses in determining scholarship eligibility
14 in the Regents' Scholarship Program;

15 ▶ beginning July 1, 2013, changes the requirement for a student receiving a New
16 Century scholarship or an Exemplary Academic Achievement award under the
17 Regents' Scholarship Program to:

- 18 • register for at least 15 credit hours per semester; and
 - 19 • maintain a 3.3 GPA; and
- 20 ▶ exempts the Board of Regents from verifying lawful presence of certain scholarship
21 applicants **§→ under a certain verification program [-] ; and**

21a ▶ **requires an applicant for a New Century or Regents' scholarship to certify, under**
21b **penalty of perjury, that the applicant is a United States citizen or lawfully present in the**
21c **country. ←§**

22 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

23 None

24 **Other Special Clauses:**

25 None

26 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

27 AMENDS:



121 (b) Beginning July 1, 2013, the board may cancel a New Century scholarship at any
 122 time if the student fails to:

123 (i) register for at least 15 credit hours per semester;

124 (ii) maintain a 3.3 grade point average for two consecutive semesters; or

125 (iii) make reasonable progress towards the completion of a baccalaureate degree.

126 (8) (a) Subject to future budget constraints, the Legislature shall make an annual
 127 appropriation from the General Fund to the board for the costs associated with the New
 128 Century Scholarship Program authorized under this section.

129 (b) It is understood that the appropriation is offset in part by the state money that would
 130 otherwise be required and appropriated for these students if they were enrolled in a four-year
 131 postsecondary program at a state-operated institution.

132 (c) Notwithstanding Subsections (2)(a) and (6), if the appropriation under Subsection
 133 (8)(a) is insufficient to cover the costs associated with the New Century Scholarship Program,
 134 the board may reduce the scholarship amount.

135 (9) (a) The board shall adopt policies establishing an application process and an appeal
 136 process for a New Century scholarship.

137 (b) The board shall disclose on all applications and related materials that the amount of
 138 the scholarship is subject to funding and may be reduced, in accordance with Subsection (8)(c).

138a **§→ (c) The board shall require an applicant for a New Century scholarship to certify**
 138b **under penalty of perjury that:**

138c **(i) the applicant is a United State citizen; or**

138d **(ii) the applicant is a noncitizen who is eligible to receive federal student aid.**

138e **(d) The certification under this Subsection (9) shall include a statement advising the**
 138f **signer that providing false information subjects the signer to penalties for perjury. ←§**

139 (10) The board may set deadlines for receiving New Century scholarship applications
 140 and supporting documentation.

141 (11) A student may not receive both a New Century scholarship and a Regents'
 142 scholarship established in Section 53B-8-108.

143 Section 2. Section **53B-8-109** is amended to read:

144 **53B-8-109. Regents' Scholarship Program -- Base Regents' scholarship --**

145 **Qualifications -- Application.**

146 (1) A student qualifies for a Base Regents' scholarship if the student:

147 (a) completes the high school graduation requirements of:

148 (i) a public school established by the State Board of Education and the student's school
 149 district or charter school; or

150 (ii) a private high school in the state that is accredited by a regional accrediting body
 151 approved by the board;

- 152 (b) completes high school with at least a 3.0 cumulative grade point average;
 153 (c) has at least one reported ACT test score; and
 154 (d) (i) completes the following high school or college credit in grades 9-12:
 155 (A) four units of credit of English;
 156 (B) four units of credit of mathematics;
 157 (C) three and one-half units of credit of social science;
 158 (D) three units of credit of lab-based natural science; and
 159 (E) two units of credit of sequential world or classical language other than English; and
 160 (ii) except as provided in Subsection (4), earns a course grade on a transcript of "C" or
 161 above in each individual course listed in Subsection (1)(d)(i).

162 (2) The board shall establish policies to determine specific courses that meet the
 163 requirements under Subsection (1)(d)(i).

164 (3) To be eligible for the scholarship, a student:

165 (a) shall submit an application to the board with:

166 (i) a copy of the student's official high school transcript and ACT scores; and

167 (ii) if applicable, a college transcript showing a college course the student has

168 completed to meet the requirements of Subsection (1)(d);

169 (b) shall be a citizen of the United States or a noncitizen who is eligible to receive
 170 federal student aid;

171 (c) may not have a criminal record, with the exception of a misdemeanor traffic
 172 citation; and

173 (d) if applicable, shall meet the application deadlines as established by the board under
 174 Subsection 53B-8-108(9).

175 (4) For purposes of determining if a student meets the grade requirements of
 176 Subsection (1)(d)(ii), the board shall assign additional weights to grades earned in courses
 177 described in Subsection (1)(d)(i) that are advanced placement [~~or~~], concurrent enrollment, or
 178 International Baccalaureate program courses.

179 (5) (a) The amount of the Base Regents' scholarship is \$1,000.

180 (b) The board may adjust the amount of the Base Regents' scholarship by up to a
 181 percentage of the average percentage tuition increase approved by the board for institutions in
 182 the system of higher education.

182a **§→ (6)(a) The board shall require an applicant for a Regents' scholarship to**
 182b **certify under penalty of perjury that:**

182c **(i) the applicant is a United State citizen; or**

182d **(ii) the applicant is a noncitizen who is eligible to receive federal student aid.**

182e **(b) The certification under this Subsection (6) shall include a statement advising the**
 182f **signer that providing false information subjects the signer to penalties for perjury. ←§**

276 Retirement and Insurance Benefit Act;

277 (i) a home loan that will be insured, guaranteed, or purchased by:

278 (i) the Federal Housing Administration, the Veterans Administration, or any other
279 federal agency; or

280 (ii) an enterprise as defined in 12 U.S.C. Sec. 4502;

281 (j) a subordinate loan or a grant that will be made to an applicant in connection with a
282 home loan that does not require verification under Subsection (3)(i); [~~and~~]

283 (k) an applicant for a license issued by the Department of Commerce or individual
284 described in Subsection (1)(b), if the applicant or individual provides the Department of
285 Commerce:

286 (i) certification, under penalty of perjury, that the applicant or individual is:

287 (A) a United States citizen;

288 (B) a qualified alien as defined in 8 U.S.C. Sec. 1641; or

289 (C) lawfully present in the United States; and

290 (ii) (A) the number assigned to a driver license or identification card issued under Title
291 53, Chapter 3, Uniform Driver License Act; or

292 (B) the number assigned to a driver license or identification card issued by a state other
293 than Utah if, as part of issuing the driver license or identification card, the state verifies an
294 individual's lawful presence in the United States[-]; ~~§~~ → [f] and

295 (l) an applicant for:

296 (i) a Regents' scholarship described in Section 53B-8-109; or

297 (ii) a New Century scholarship described in Section 53B-8-105. [f] ←~~§~~

298 (4) (a) An agency or political subdivision required to verify the lawful presence in the
299 United States of an applicant under this section shall require the applicant to certify under
300 penalty of perjury that:

301 (i) the applicant is a United States citizen; or

302 (ii) the applicant is:

303 (A) a qualified alien as defined in 8 U.S.C. Sec. 1641; and

304 (B) lawfully present in the United States.

305 (b) The certificate required under this Subsection (4) shall include a statement advising
306 the signer that providing false information subjects the signer to penalties for perjury.