

**UTAH CENTENNIAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM
FOR EDUCATION ACT AMENDMENT**

1998 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Sponsor: LeRay McAllister

AN ACT RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION; EXPANDING THE UTAH CENTENNIAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM FOR EDUCATION ACT, WHICH PROVIDES FINANCIAL AID TO STUDENTS, TO INCLUDE UTAH STUDENTS ATTENDING A UTAH PRIVATE NONPROFIT INSTITUTION ACCREDITED BY A REGIONAL ACCREDITING ORGANIZATION; PROVIDING A \$125,000 APPROPRIATION FOR EXPANSION OF THE PROGRAM; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

This act affects sections of Utah Code Annotated 1953 as follows:

AMENDS:

53B-13a-102, as enacted by Chapter 302, Laws of Utah 1996

53B-13a-105, as enacted by Chapter 302, Laws of Utah 1996

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

Section 1. Section **53B-13a-102** is amended to read:

53B-13a-102. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Cost of attendance" means the total of costs payable to the institution, plus other direct educational expenses and transportation and living expenses while attending the institution, set forth in institutional cost-of-attendance budgets which meet criteria established by board rules.

(2) "Eligible student" means a financially needy undergraduate student who is unconditionally admitted and enrolled at a Utah public postsecondary institution or a Utah private nonprofit postsecondary institution which [participated in the state Student Incentive Grant Program for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1995,] is accredited by a regional accrediting organization recognized by the board on at least a half-time basis, as defined by the board, in an eligible postsecondary program leading to a defined education or training objective as defined by the board, and who is a resident student under Section 53B-8-102 and rules of the board.

(3) "Financial aid" means grants or work-study stipends to financially needy students enrolled or accepted for enrollment at a Utah public postsecondary institution.

(4) "Financially needy student" means a post high school student at a Utah public postsecondary institution who demonstrates, on the basis of criteria established by the board, the financial inability, either through the student's parents or family, or personally, to meet all or a portion of the total cost of attendance at the institution for any period of attendance as defined by the board.

(5) "Fiscal Year" means the fiscal year of the state.

(6) "Program" means the Utah Centennial Opportunity Program for Education.

(7) "Utah public postsecondary institution" or "institution" means:

(a) an institution of higher education listed in Subsection 53B-1-102(1); and

(b) any applied technology center operated by the state or a political subdivision of the state which provides postsecondary education and training.

Section 2. Section **53B-13a-105** is amended to read:

53B-13a-105. Appropriation -- Disbursal of financial aid -- Additional resources.

(1) (a) There is appropriated from the General Fund for fiscal year [1996-97, \$450,000] 1998-99, \$125,000 to the State Board of Regents to [establish] expand the student financial aid program authorized under this chapter to eligible students admitted and enrolled at a Utah private nonprofit postsecondary institution under Subsection 53B-13a-102(2).

(b) [The board may add to this amount any amount included in the regular Student Financial Aid line item appropriation to the board which is not required to be used for matching of federal allocations to institutions of the Utah System of Higher Education for campus-based student financial aid programs, or the board for the State Student Incentive Grant Program, under Title IV of the United States Higher Education Act.] The appropriation under Subsection (1)(a) is to supplement the line item appropriation made in the appropriations act for funding of the program.

(2) The board shall allocate the monies available under the program to each eligible institution in the same proportion as the amount of Pell Grant monies received by the institution for resident under graduate students during the most recently completed fiscal year that Pell Grants were

given bears to the total Pell Grant monies received by all eligible institutions for resident under graduate students during that same year.

(3) The board may accept grants, gifts, bequests, and devises of real and personal property from any source for the purpose of granting student financial aid in addition to that funded by the state.

Section 3. Effective date.

This act takes effect on July 1, 1998.