

**HIGHER EDUCATION NEW CENTURY SCHOLARSHIPS**

1999 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Sponsor: Robert F. Montgomery**

AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION; PROVIDING FOR THE AWARDING OF TWO-YEAR NEW CENTURY SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDENTS WHO COMPLETE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR AN ASSOCIATE DEGREE BY SEPTEMBER 1 OF THE YEAR THEY GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

ENACTS:

**53B-8-105**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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

Section 1. Section **53B-8-105** is enacted to read:

**53B-8-105. Scholarships for high school students who complete the requirements for an associate degree in high school.**

(1) In addition to Centennial Scholarships awarded under Section 53A-15-102 and Career Teaching Scholarships awarded under Title 53B, Chapter 10, the State Board of Regents and the State Board of Education shall jointly award New Century scholarships to students in Utah schools who complete the requirements for an associate degree by September 1 of the year they qualify to graduate from high school.

(2) (a) The scholarship may be used at any of Utah's state-operated institutions of higher education that offer baccalaureate programs.

(b) The scholarship is equal in value to 75% of the tuition costs at the selected institution.

(c) Each scholarship is valid for up to two years of full-time equivalent enrollment, or until the requirements for a baccalaureate degree have been met, whichever is shorter.

(d) The State Board of Regents may grant a leave of absence to a scholarship holder, but the scholarship must be used in its entirety within four years after completion of high school.

(3) The New Century scholarship may be canceled at any time by the institution of

attendance if the student fails to make reasonable progress towards the completion of a baccalaureate degree.

(4) (a) The Legislature shall make an annual appropriation from the General Fund to the State Board of Regents for the costs associated with the New Century scholarship program authorized under this section.

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

Section 2. **Effective date.**

This act takes effect on July 1, 1999.