

SENATE BILL No. 336

By Committee on Education

1-29

1 AN ACT concerning postsecondary education; relating to scholarship
2 programs; creating the Kansas reinvest in postsecondary education act.

3
4 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

5 Section 1. The provisions of sections 1 through ~~7~~ **8**, and amendments
6 thereto, shall be known and may be cited as the Kansas reinvest in
7 postsecondary education act.

8 Sec. 2. As used in sections 1 through ~~7~~ **8**, and amendments thereto:

9 (a) ***"Baccalaureate degree completion program" means the last two***
10 ***years, or up to the last 60 credit hours, of a baccalaureate degree***
11 ***program approved by the board for the Kansas RISE scholarship***
12 ***program whereby a student holding an associate degree or completing***
13 ***one half of such baccalaureate program may obtain a bachelor's degree***
14 ***from a four-year eligible postsecondary educational program.***

15 (b) "Board" means the state board of regents provided for in the
16 constitution of this state and described in article 32 of chapter 74 of the
17 Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto.

18 ~~(b) "Bridge program" means a baccalaureate degree program~~
19 ~~approved by the board for the Kansas RISE scholarship program whereby~~
20 ~~a student holding an associate degree may obtain a bachelor's degree from~~
21 ~~a four-year eligible postsecondary educational institution within two years~~
22 ~~after entering such baccalaureate program.~~

23 (c) "Continuous enrollment" means a student is enrolled in a
24 minimum of six credit hours in each of the fall and spring semesters of a
25 single academic year until such student has graduated or completed the
26 certificate program. Enrollment during the summer is not required for
27 "continuous enrollment."

28 (d) "Eligible high school" means any public or private secondary
29 school located in Kansas.

30 (e) "Eligible postsecondary educational institution" means any
31 postsecondary educational institution or any ***not-for-profit*** private
32 postsecondary educational institution that:

33 (1) Is accredited by and in good standing with ~~the higher learning~~
34 ~~commission of the north central association of colleges and universities a~~
35 ***nationally recognized accrediting agency for higher education in the***
36 ***United States***; and

1 (2) offers a *baccalaureate*, an associate degree or an industry-
2 recognized certificate in a technical profession.

3 (f) "Eligible postsecondary education program" means an associate
4 degree program, a career and technical education program or a ~~bridge~~
5 *baccalaureate degree completion* program that is offered by an eligible
6 postsecondary educational institution whereby a student can obtain a
7 degree or an industry-recognized certificate in a technical profession.

8 (g) "Four-year eligible postsecondary educational institution" means
9 an eligible postsecondary educational institution that offers baccalaureate
10 degrees in addition to associate degrees or industry-recognized certificates
11 in technical professions.

12 (h) "Gift aid" means financial aid received from a federal Pell grant
13 and any other scholarship or financial assistance awards that do not require
14 repayment.

15 (i) "Postsecondary educational institution" means the same as defined
16 in K.S.A. 74-3201b, and amendments thereto.

17 (j) "Private postsecondary educational institution" means an entity
18 that is not a postsecondary educational institution, and that:

19 (1) Is a business enterprise, ~~whether~~ operated on a ~~for-profit or~~ not-
20 for-profit basis;

21 (2) has a physical presence within the state of Kansas; and

22 (3) offers a course or courses of instruction or study through
23 classroom contact or by distance education, or both, for the purpose of
24 training or preparing persons for a field of endeavor in a business, trade,
25 technical or industrial occupation, or that offers a course or courses leading
26 to an academic degree.

27 (k) "Semester" means one of two principal terms, when there are only
28 two principal terms in the academic year, whether or not there are other
29 shorter terms during the same academic year.

30 Sec. 3. (a) There is hereby established the Kansas RISE scholarship
31 program. The state board of regents shall administer such program, and
32 shall:

33 (1) Publicize Kansas RISE scholarships, including the list of eligible
34 postsecondary education programs and information regarding application
35 procedures and deadlines;

36 (2) review and approve or deny applications for a Kansas RISE
37 scholarship;

38 (3) request any information from an eligible postsecondary
39 educational institution the board deems necessary for the administration of
40 this act;

41 (4) establish requirements for mentoring and guidance sessions for
42 students participating in the program; and

43 (5) annually evaluate the Kansas RISE scholarship program and

1 prepare and submit reports in accordance with section—7 8, and
2 amendments thereto.

3 (b) On or before January 1, 2021, the board shall adopt rules and
4 regulations for the implementation and administration of this act,
5 including, but not limited to:

6 (1) Deadlines for applications to be submitted;

7 (2) appeal procedures for denial or revocation of a scholarship; and

8 (3) procedures for requesting and approving medical and personal
9 absences from an eligible postsecondary education program.

10 Sec. 4. To be eligible for a Kansas RISE scholarship, a student shall:

11 (a) Be a Kansas resident;

12 (b) (1) be enrolled in grade 12 in an eligible high school;

13 (2) have graduated from an eligible high school not less than five
14 years prior to applying for a Kansas RISE scholarship;

15 (3) have been in the custody of the secretary for children and families
16 as a minor pursuant to the revised Kansas code for care of children at any
17 time while enrolled in any of the grades six through 12; or

18 (4) have obtained a general educational development (GED)
19 certificate *or high school equivalency certificate*;

20 (c) complete the required scholarship application on such forms and
21 in such manner as established by the board;

22 (d) complete the free application for federal student aid for the
23 academic year in which the student seeks to receive a Kansas RISE
24 scholarship;

25 (e) participate in mentoring and guidance sessions as required by the
26 board; and

27 (f) enroll in an eligible postsecondary education program for the fall
28 semester immediately following submission of the student's scholarship
29 application.

30 Sec. 5. (a) Subject to ~~the limitation~~ *appropriations and except as*
31 provided in subsection (b), the amount of a Kansas RISE scholarship for a
32 student for each semester shall be: (1) The aggregate amount of tuition and
33 ~~mandatory~~ *required* fees for the eligible postsecondary education program
34 for the semester in which the student is enrolled less the aggregate amount
35 of all other gift aid awarded to such student for such semester; plus (2) ~~an~~
36 ~~amount equal to \$250~~ *a stipend* to pay for all, or a portion of, the cost of
37 books and materials for such semester.

38 (b) If a student is enrolled in an eligible postsecondary education
39 program offered by a four-year eligible postsecondary educational
40 institution, the aggregate amount of tuition, ~~mandatory~~ *required* fees and
41 the cost of books and materials for such eligible postsecondary education
42 program shall be the average cost of tuition, ~~mandatory~~ *required* fees and
43 the cost of books and materials for such eligible postsecondary education

1 program when offered by an eligible public postsecondary educational
2 institution that is not a four-year institution.

3 (c) The amount of a Kansas RISE scholarship for a student enrolled
4 in an eligible postsecondary education program offered by a four-year
5 eligible postsecondary educational institution shall be funded based on \$1
6 from such four-year eligible postsecondary educational institution's
7 endowment or other scholarship granting fund for every \$1 paid by the
8 board pursuant to this act.

9 Sec. 6. (a) A student who has been approved for a Kansas RISE
10 scholarship shall continue to receive a Kansas RISE scholarship for up to
11 two years from the date such student enrolls in an eligible postsecondary
12 education program pursuant to section 4(f), and amendments thereto,
13 provided, such student:

14 (1) Is continuously enrolled in such eligible postsecondary education
15 program;

16 (2) maintains a cumulative grade point average that is not less than
17 ~~2.0~~ *satisfactory academic progress*; and

18 (3) continues to participate in mentoring and guidance sessions as
19 required by the board.

20 (b) A student who has an approved medical or personal leave of
21 absence from an eligible postsecondary educational institution may
22 continue to receive such student's Kansas RISE scholarship upon resuming
23 such student's education at an eligible postsecondary educational
24 institution, provided, such student continues to satisfy all applicable
25 eligibility requirements. The aggregate amount of approved leave for a
26 student shall not exceed six months, except as provided in rules and
27 regulations adopted by the board.

28 ***Sec. 7. (a) As a condition of receiving a Kansas RISE scholarship,***
29 ***the student shall agree to commence work for three consecutive years in***
30 ***the state of Kansas within six months of completion of an associate***
31 ***degree program, career and technical education program or***
32 ***baccalaureate degree completion program.***

33 ***(b) The student shall maintain records and make reports to the***
34 ***board on such forms and in such manner as required by the board to***
35 ***document the satisfaction of the work requirement pursuant to***
36 ***subsection (a).***

37 ***(c) (1) If any student who receives a Kansas RISE scholarship fails***
38 ***to satisfy the requirements of subsections (a) and (b), such student shall***
39 ***pay an amount equal to the total amount of scholarship moneys received***
40 ***by such student that is financed by the state of Kansas plus accrued***
41 ***interest at a rate equivalent to the interest rate applicable to loans made***
42 ***under the federal PLUS program at the time such student first received a***
43 ***scholarship. Installment payments of such amounts may be made in***

1 *accordance with rules and regulations of the board. Such installment*
2 *payments shall begin six months after the date such student fails to*
3 *satisfy the requirements of subsection (a) or (b), as determined by the*
4 *board. All moneys received pursuant to this subsection shall be remitted*
5 *to the state treasurer in accordance with the provisions of K.S.A. 75-*
6 *4215, and amendments thereto. Upon receipt of each such remittance,*
7 *the state treasurer shall deposit the entire amount in the state treasury to*
8 *the credit of the state general fund.*

9 *(2) The board is authorized to turn any repayment account arising*
10 *under this act to a designated loan servicer or collection agency, the*
11 *state not being involved other than to receive payments from the loan*
12 *servicer or collection agency at the interest rate prescribed under this*
13 *subsection.*

14 ~~Sec.-7.~~ **8.** (a) On or before January 15, 2022, and each January 15
15 thereafter, the board shall prepare and submit a report to the legislature and
16 the governor on the Kansas RISE scholarship program. The report shall
17 provide the following information for the immediately preceding academic
18 year:

19 (1) The number of students who applied for a Kansas RISE
20 scholarship, the total number of students receiving a scholarship and the
21 number of students receiving a scholarship disaggregated by those students
22 who are eligible pursuant to section 4(b)(1), (2), (3) and (4), and
23 amendments thereto;

24 (2) the total amount of scholarship moneys awarded and the amount
25 of scholarship moneys awarded disaggregated by those students who are
26 eligible pursuant to section 4(b)(1), (2), (3) and (4), and amendments
27 thereto;

28 (3) the number of students who completed an eligible postsecondary
29 education program; and

30 (4) the number of students who became employed within six months
31 after completion of an eligible postsecondary education program.

32 (b) On or before January 15, 2022, the board shall prepare and submit
33 a report to the legislature and the governor that evaluates and makes
34 recommendations regarding funding for Kansas RISE scholarships under
35 the provisions of section 5(c), and amendments thereto.

36 ~~Sec.-8.~~ **9.** This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
37 publication in the statute book.