

State of Arkansas
92nd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2019

As Engrossed: S3/14/19
A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1647

By: Representative F. Allen
By: Senator J. English

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ARKANSAS ACADEMIC CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM - PART 2; TO AMEND ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS REGARDING AN APPLICANT FOR THE ARKANSAS ACADEMIC CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP TO INCLUDE THE APPLICANT'S SUPERSCORE ON THE ACT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS REGARDING AN APPLICANT FOR THE ARKANSAS ACADEMIC CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP TO INCLUDE THE APPLICANT'S SUPERSCORE ON THE ACT.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-85-204, concerning definitions under the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program – Part 2, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:

(27) "Superscore" means the final composite score that is calculated according to a combination of the highest individual section scores across all of the ACT tests taken by an individual.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-85-207(1), concerning additional eligibility requirements regarding graduation for traditional students under the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program – Part 2, is amended to read as follows:



(1)(A) Graduated from an Arkansas public high school and has a minimum ~~composite score~~ superscore of nineteen (19) on the ACT or the equivalent score on an ACT equivalent~~+~~.

(B) The Department of Higher Education shall promulgate rules in consultation with ACT to determine the mechanism for calculating and disseminating an applicant's superscore on the ACT;

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-85-207(3), concerning additional eligibility requirements regarding the ACT score for traditional students under the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program – Part 2, is amended to read as follows:

(3) Achieved a minimum ~~composite score~~ superscore of nineteen (19) on the ACT or the equivalent score on an ACT equivalent and:

(A) Graduated from a private high school, an out-of-state high school, or a home school high school; or

(B) In the year in which the student would have been a junior or senior in high school, completed the requirements for high school graduation and obtained a high school equivalency diploma approved by the Department of Career Education instead of receiving a diploma; or

SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 6-85-208(1)(B), concerning additional eligibility requirements regarding graduation and ACT scores for nontraditional students under the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program – Part 2, is amended to read as follows:

(B)(i) Graduated from an Arkansas public high school, a private high school, an out-of-state high school, a home school high school, or obtained a high school equivalency diploma approved by the Department of Career Education and had a minimum ~~composite score~~ superscore of nineteen (19) on the ACT or the equivalent score on an ACT equivalent~~+~~ ~~or~~.

(ii) The Department of Higher Education shall promulgate rules in consultation with ACT to determine the mechanism for calculating and disseminating an applicant's superscore on the ACT; or

SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 6-85-212(i)(3)(A), concerning scholarship award amounts under the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program – Part 2, is amended to read as follows:

(3)(A) If, after funding all students with continuing eligibility under this section, funding is insufficient to fund all qualified first-time applicants, the Department of Higher Education shall award scholarships to first-time applicants in order of priority based upon the applicants' ~~highest ACT~~ superscore or ~~ACT-equivalent scores~~ ACT-equivalent super score.

/s/F. Allen

APPROVED: 3/21/19