

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas *As Engrossed: H3/13/15 H3/23/15 S3/31/15*
90th General Assembly **A Bill**
Regular Session, 2015

HOUSE BILL 1779

By: Representatives Tosh, Davis

By: *Senator Hickey*

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE WAY THE ARKANSAS ACADEMIC
CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM – PART 2 AWARD AMOUNTS
ARE DISTRIBUTED; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE WAY THE ARKANSAS ACADEMIC
CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM – PART 2
AWARD AMOUNTS ARE DISTRIBUTED.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-85-210(a)(1), concerning continuing eligibility, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) A recipient who meets continuing eligibility criteria under this subchapter shall receive a scholarship for one (1) academic year renewable annually until the recipient first:

(A) Earns a baccalaureate degree;

(B)(i) ~~Has enrolled in eight (8) semesters at an institution of higher education as an undergraduate full-time student; or~~

(C) ~~Has enrolled in sixteen (16) semesters at an institution of higher education as an undergraduate part-time student~~ earned one hundred twenty (120) semester credit hours.

(ii) A recipient may continue to receive a scholarship after he or she has earned one hundred twenty (120) semester credit hours, but not more than one hundred thirty (130) semester credit hours, if the student is enrolled in a baccalaureate degree program that



requires more than one hundred twenty (120) semester credit hours as provided under § 6-61-232.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-85-212(e)(1)(A), concerning scholarship award amounts, is amended to read as follows:

(e)(1)(A) Beginning with the ~~2015-2016~~ 2016-2017 academic year, the scholarship award amount under this subchapter for an academic year for a full-time recipient enrolled in a four-year approved institution of higher education is:

(i) ~~Two thousand dollars (\$2,000)~~ One thousand dollars (\$1,000) for a recipient ~~in his or her freshman year~~ who has earned less than twenty-seven (27) semester credit hours;

(ii) ~~Three thousand dollars (\$3,000)~~ Four thousand dollars (\$4,000) for a recipient ~~in his or her sophomore year~~ who has earned at least twenty-seven (27) semester credit hours but less than fifty-seven (57) semester credit hours;

(iii) Four thousand dollars (\$4,000) for a recipient ~~in his or her junior year~~ who has earned at least fifty-seven (57) semester credit hours but less than eighty-seven (87) semester credit hours; and

(iv)(a) Five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for a recipient ~~in his or her senior year~~ who has earned at least eighty-seven (87) semester credit hours but no more than one hundred twenty (120) semester credit hours unless the recipient is enrolled in a baccalaureate degree program that requires more than one hundred twenty (120) semester credit hours, but not more than one hundred thirty (130) semester credit hours, as provided under § 6-61-232, then up to the number of credit hours required to complete the baccalaureate program.

(b) A recipient shall receive no more than one (1) year of a five-thousand-dollar scholarship provided under subdivision (e)(1)(A)(vi)(a) of this section unless the recipient is enrolled in a baccalaureate degree program that requires more than one hundred twenty (120) semester credit hours as provided under § 6-61-232.

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-85-212(e)(1), concerning scholarship award amounts, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:

(C)(i) To determine the correct scholarship award amount based on credit hours, a recipient shall submit a current transcript to the Department of Higher Education no later than June 1 each year.

(ii) A first-time recipient who does not submit a transcript to the department on or before June 1 shall receive the award amount under subdivision (e)(1)(A)(i) of this section.

SECTION 4. DO NOT CODIFY. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE.

For the 2015-2016 school year, a student participating in the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program – Part 2 may elect to be subject to the provisions of § 6-85-212(e)(1)(A) in effect for the 2016-2017 school year and thereafter.

/s/Tosh