

State of Arkansas  
90th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2015

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 455

By: Senator A. Clark

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS ACADEMIC CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM – PART 2; TO ALLOW TRADITIONAL STUDENTS TO BE PART-TIME STUDENTS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

### Subtitle

TO ALLOW TRADITIONAL STUDENTS TO BE PART-TIME STUDENTS UNDER THE ARKANSAS ACADEMIC CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM – PART 2.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-85-204(6), concerning the definition of "continuously enrolled", is amended to read as follows:

(6) "Continuously enrolled" means:

(A) For a full-time traditional student, he or she successfully completes at an approved institution of higher education twenty-seven (27) semester hours in the first academic year as a recipient and successfully completes thirty (30) semester hours each academic year thereafter, not including any summer term;

(B) For a full-time nontraditional student, he or she successfully completes at an approved institution of higher education at least fifteen (15) semester hours of courses in consecutive semesters, not including a summer term;

(C) For a full-time current achiever student, he or she:

(i) Before receiving a scholarship under this subchapter, successfully completed at least twelve (12) semester hours of



courses in consecutive semesters, not including a summer term; and

(ii) As a recipient of a scholarship under this subchapter, successfully completes at an approved institution of higher education at least fifteen (15) semester hours of courses in consecutive semesters, not including a summer term;

(D) For a part-time traditional student or part-time nontraditional student, he or she successfully completes at an approved institution of higher education at least six (6) semester hours of courses in consecutive semesters, not including a summer term; and

(E) For a student who is enrolled in a degree plan that has a maximum number of semester hours in a semester that is less than the requirements of subdivisions (5)(A)-(D) of this section, he or she successfully completes at an approved institution of higher education the maximum number of hours required by the degree plan for the semester;

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-85-204(26)(A), concerning the definition of "traditional student", is amended to read as follows:

(26)(A) "Traditional student" means a student who:

(i) Will enter postsecondary education as a full-time or part-time first-time freshman on or before the fall semester of the academic year that begins immediately following:

(a) The student's graduation from high school;

or

(b) The last day of the school year:

(1) That would have been the student's junior or senior year of high school; and

(2) In which the student completes the requirements for high school graduation and obtains a General Educational Development certificate instead of receiving a diploma; and

(ii) Remains continuously enrolled as a full-time or part-time student.

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-85-210(c)(4), concerning continuing eligibility, is amended to read as follows:

(4) Except as provided under § 6-85-211(a)(3) and unless the requirements of this subsection are waived by the department under subsection

(d) of this section, to regain eligibility for the scholarship:

(A)(i) As a traditional full-time student or nontraditional full-time student, the student shall:

(a) Successfully complete at least fifteen (15) semester hours of courses for credit for which the approved institution of higher education certifies that the courses meet the satisfactory academic progress standards of the institution; and

(b) Achieve a 2.5 grade point average for the semester hours completed under this subdivision (c)(4)(A).

(ii) A traditional full-time student who does not regain eligibility under subdivision (c)(4)(A)(i) of this section is ineligible to reapply for a scholarship as a traditional student but may apply as a nontraditional student; and

(B) As a traditional part-time student or nontraditional part-time student, the student shall:

(i) Successfully complete at least six (6) semester hours of courses for credit for which the approved institution of higher education certifies that the courses meet the satisfactory academic progress standards of the institution; and

(ii) Achieve a 2.5 grade point average for the semester hours successfully completed under this subdivision (c)(4)(B).