

HOUSE BILL No. 1059

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 21-12-8-9.

Synopsis: High value workforce ready credit-bearing grant. Provides that an applicant who has previously received a baccalaureate degree or an associate degree may be eligible for a high value workforce ready credit-bearing grant if the applicant: (1) received a diploma of graduation, a high school equivalency certificate, or a state of Indiana general educational development diploma five or more years before the applicant applies for a grant; and (2) is not working in the subject matter field in which the applicant received the baccalaureate degree or associate degree. (Current law provides that an applicant for a high value workforce ready credit-bearing grant may not have previously received a baccalaureate degree, an associate degree, or an eligible certificate.)

Effective: July 1, 2025.

Ledbetter, Davis

January 8, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Education.



First Regular Session of the 124th General Assembly (2025)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2024 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1059

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning higher education.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 21-12-8-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.92-2020,
2 SECTION 100, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
3 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 9. (a) This section applies to an
4 applicant who attends or has attended any of the following:
5 (1) An approved secondary school.
6 (2) A state accredited nonpublic school.
7 (3) A nonaccredited nonpublic school.
8 (b) An applicant is eligible to receive a high value workforce ready
9 credit-bearing grant if the following conditions are met:
10 (1) The applicant is domiciled in Indiana, as defined by the
11 commission.
12 (2) The applicant:
13 (A) has received a diploma of graduation from a school
14 described in subsection (a);
15 (B) has been granted a:
16 (i) high school equivalency certificate before July 1, 1995;
17 or



- 1 (ii) state of Indiana general educational development (GED)
 2 diploma under IC 20-10.1-12.1 (before its repeal),
 3 IC 20-20-6 (before its repeal), or IC 22-4.1-18; or
 4 (C) is a student in good standing who is completing a final
 5 year of study at a school described in subsection (a) and will
 6 be eligible upon graduation to attend an approved institution
 7 of higher learning.
- 8 (3) The applicant is enrolled in an eligible certificate program, as
 9 determined under section 2(4) of this chapter, at Ivy Tech
 10 Community College, Vincennes University, or a program
 11 approved by the commission.
- 12 (4) The applicant enrolls at least half-time for purposes of federal
 13 financial aid.
- 14 (5) The applicant has not received any grant for the maximum
 15 number of academic terms specified for the grant in
 16 IC 21-12-13-1 or IC 21-12-13-2.
- 17 (6) The applicant is not eligible for any state financial aid
 18 program described in IC 21-12-13-1(a) or IC 21-12-13-2(a).
- 19 (7) The applicant is identified as financially independent from the
 20 applicant's parents as determined by the Free Application for
 21 Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
- 22 (8) The applicant has correctly filed the FAFSA and, if eligible
 23 for aid, accepts all offered federal scholarships and grants.
- 24 (9) Except as provided under subsection (c), the applicant
 25 maintains satisfactory academic progress, as determined by the
 26 eligible institution.
- 27 (10) ~~If the applicant has not previously received a baccalaureate~~
 28 ~~degree or an associate degree, or an eligible certificate: the~~
 29 ~~applicant:~~
 30 **(A) received a diploma or certificate described in**
 31 **subdivision (2)(A) or (2)(B) five (5) or more years before**
 32 **the applicant applies for a grant under this section; and**
 33 **(B) is not working in the subject matter field in which the**
 34 **applicant received the baccalaureate degree or associate**
 35 **degree.**
- 36 (11) The applicant meets any other minimum criteria established
 37 by the commission.
- 38 (c) This subsection applies to an applicant who does not maintain
 39 satisfactory academic progress under subsection (b)(9) but meets all the
 40 other conditions required under subsection (b). An applicant is eligible
 41 to receive a high value workforce ready credit-bearing grant if the
 42 applicant meets one (1) of the following:



- 1 (1) The applicant has not attended an eligible institution for the
2 immediately preceding two (2) academic years.
- 3 (2) The applicant:
- 4 (A) attended an eligible institution at any time during the
5 immediately preceding two (2) academic years; and
- 6 (B) maintained satisfactory academic progress, as determined
7 by the eligible institution, during the period described in
8 clause (A) in which the applicant attended the eligible
9 institution.
- 10 (d) If an applicant is identified as dependent as determined by the
11 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the applicant must:
- 12 (1) meet the criteria specified in subsection (b), except for
13 subsection (b)(4), (b)(7), and (b)(9);
- 14 (2) enroll full time for purposes of federal financial aid;
- 15 (3) maintain satisfactory academic progress, as determined by the
16 eligible institution; and
- 17 (4) complete a workforce ready grant success program, as
18 determined by the commission, if the applicant graduates from
19 high school after December 31, 2018.
- 20 (e) If the demand for high value workforce ready credit-bearing
21 grants exceeds the available appropriation, as determined by the
22 commission, the commission shall prioritize the applicants identified
23 as independent as determined by the Free Application for Federal
24 Student Aid (FAFSA).

