



# State of Tennessee

## PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 368

### HOUSE BILL NO. 27

By Representatives Lamberth, Cepicky, Moon, Garrett, Carr, Alexander, Gillespie, White, Lafferty, Hurt, Eldridge, Fritts, Grills, Baum, Haston, Hakeem, Slater, Jernigan, Farmer, Hazlewood, Whitson, Sherrell, Hardaway, Russell, Burkhart, Dixie, Chism, Towns, Harris, Gary Hicks, Bricken, Williams, Crawford, Faison, Terry, Littleton, Hawk, Howell, Richey, Capley, Freeman, Ragan, Cochran, Powers, Tim Hicks, Powell, Travis, Wright, Todd, Brock Martin, McKenzie, Clemmons, Miller, Reedy, Bulso, Love, Glynn

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 74

By Senators Watson, Haile, Gardenhire, Yager, Campbell, Crowe, Niceley, Reeves, Rose, Walley

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 4, Part 9, relative to Tennessee HOPE scholarships.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-902(13), is amended by deleting the subdivision and substituting:

(13) "Eligible program of study" means:

(A) A curriculum of courses leading to a certificate or diploma at a Tennessee college of applied technology; or

(B) A federal Title IV-eligible curriculum of courses leading to a certificate, diploma, or an associate, baccalaureate, or advanced degree at an eligible postsecondary institution;

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-902, is amended by deleting subdivision (18).

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-902, is amended by deleting subdivision (19) and substituting instead the following:

(19) "Full-time student" means an undergraduate student attending a postsecondary educational institution who is enrolled for at least twelve (12) semester hours during each semester of attendance, or a graduate student enrolled in the requisite number of semester hours, as determined by the institution attended;

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-902(30), is amended by deleting subdivision (A) and substituting:

(A) Is an independent student, as determined by the FAFSA, who has enrolled in a baccalaureate degree program at an eligible four-year postsecondary institution and attempted at least twelve (12) semester hours; or

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-902, is amended by deleting subdivision (32) and substituting instead the following:

(32) "Part-time student" means an undergraduate student attending a postsecondary educational institution who is enrolled for at least six (6) semester hours, but less than twelve (12) semester hours, during a semester of attendance, or a graduate student who is enrolled in less than the number of semester hours required by the institution for full-time students, as determined by the institution attended;

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SECTION 6. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-902, is amended by deleting "associate or baccalaureate" in subdivisions (39) and (40) and substituting "associate, baccalaureate, or advanced".

SECTION 7. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-913(a)(1), is amended by deleting "a baccalaureate" and substituting "an advanced".

SECTION 8. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-919(a)(1), is amended by deleting "a baccalaureate" and substituting "an advanced".

SECTION 9. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-920(f)(1), is amended by deleting "a baccalaureate" and substituting "an advanced".

SECTION 10. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-931(a)(4), is amended by deleting the subdivision and substituting:

(4) Not have earned a baccalaureate or advanced degree prior to initially receiving an award under this section;

SECTION 11. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-931(d)(1), is amended by deleting "a baccalaureate" and substituting "an advanced".

SECTION 12. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-924(b), is amended by deleting the third sentence of the subsection and substituting instead the following:

No repayment shall be required if a full-time undergraduate student withdraws from a course and the withdrawal does not reduce the student's course load below twelve (12) semester hours, or if a graduate student withdraws from a course and the withdrawal does not reduce the student's course load below the number of hours required for full-time attendance as a graduate student by the institution attended.

SECTION 13. For purposes of promulgating rules, this act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act takes effect July 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.

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PASSED: April 21, 2023



CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



RANDY MCNALLY  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 11<sup>th</sup> day of May 2023



BILL LEE, GOVERNOR