

SENATE BILL NO. 128—SENATORS WOODHOUSE,
DENIS, PARKS, KIHUEN AND SEGERBLOM

FEBRUARY 9, 2015

JOINT SPONSORS: ASSEMBLYMEN ELLIOT ANDERSON,
STEWART, KIRNER; AND SWANK

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to the Governor Guinn
Millennium Scholarship. (BDR 34-96)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to education; increasing the number of credit hours required for certain students to be eligible for the Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship; revising the amount of money a student who is eligible for the Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship may receive per semester; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

1 Existing law establishes the Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship Program
2 to provide money to certain students for secondary education and the certain
3 criteria for eligibility for such a scholarship. Such criteria includes a requirement
4 that a student be enrolled in a certain number of credit hours in a community
5 college or other eligible institution. (NRS 396.926, 396.930) **Section 1** of this bill
6 increases the number of credit hours in which a community college student must be
7 enrolled in order to be eligible for a Millennium Scholarship from 6 credit hours to
8 9 credit hours beginning July 1, 2015. Existing law further limits the total amount
9 of money that a student may receive from a Millennium Scholarship to not more
10 than the cost of 12 semester credits per semester and a total amount of not more
11 than \$10,000. (NRS 396.934) **Section 3** of this bill increases the amount that such a
12 student may receive from a Millennium Scholarship for a semester to not more than
13 the cost of 15 semester credits per semester but the cumulative maximum amount
14 of money that such a student may receive remains unchanged at \$10,000.



* S B 1 2 8 R 2 *

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** NRS 396.930 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2 396.930 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 2 and
3 3, a student may apply to the Board of Regents for a Millennium
4 Scholarship if the student:

5 (a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (e) of subsection
6 2, has been a resident of this State for at least 2 years before the
7 student applies for the Millennium Scholarship;

8 (b) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (c), graduated
9 from a public or private high school in this State:

10 (1) After May 1, 2000, but not later than May 1, 2003; or

11 (2) After May 1, 2003, and, except as otherwise provided in
12 paragraphs (c), (d) and (f) of subsection 2, not more than 6 years
13 before the student applies for the Millennium Scholarship;

14 (c) Does not satisfy the requirements of paragraph (b) and:

15 (1) Was enrolled as a pupil in a public or private high school
16 in this State with a class of pupils who were regularly scheduled to
17 graduate after May 1, 2000;

18 (2) Received his or her high school diploma within 4 years
19 after he or she was regularly scheduled to graduate; and

20 (3) Applies for the Millennium Scholarship not more than 6
21 years after he or she was regularly scheduled to graduate from high
22 school;

23 (d) Maintained in high school in the courses designated by the
24 Board of Regents pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 2, at least:

25 (1) A 3.00 grade point average on a 4.0 grading scale, if the
26 student was a member of the graduating class of 2003 or 2004;

27 (2) A 3.10 grade point average on a 4.0 grading scale, if the
28 student was a member of the graduating class of 2005 or 2006; or

29 (3) A 3.25 grade point average on a 4.0 grading scale, if the
30 student was a member of the graduating class of 2007 or a later
31 graduating class; and

32 (e) Is enrolled in at least:

33 (1) ~~Six~~ **Nine** semester credit hours in a community college
34 within the System;

35 (2) Twelve semester credit hours in another eligible
36 institution; or

37 (3) A total of 12 or more semester credit hours in eligible
38 institutions if the student is enrolled in more than one eligible
39 institution.

40 2. The Board of Regents:

41 (a) Shall define the core curriculum that a student must complete
42 in high school to be eligible for a Millennium Scholarship.



(b) Shall designate the courses in which a student must earn the minimum grade point averages set forth in paragraph (d) of subsection 1.

(c) May establish criteria with respect to students who have been on active duty serving in the Armed Forces of the United States to exempt such students from the 6-year limitation on applications that is set forth in subparagraph (2) of paragraph (b) of subsection 1.

(d) Shall establish criteria with respect to students who have a documented physical or mental disability or who were previously subject to an individualized education program under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1400 et seq., or a plan under Title V of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. §§ 791 et seq. The criteria must provide an exemption for those students from:

(1) The 6-year limitation on applications that is set forth in subparagraph (2) of paragraph (b) of subsection 1 and subparagraph (3) of paragraph (c) of subsection 1 and any limitation applicable to students who are eligible pursuant to subparagraph (1) of paragraph (b) of subsection 1.

(2) The minimum number of credits prescribed in paragraph (e) of subsection 1.

(e) Shall establish criteria with respect to students who have a parent or legal guardian on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States to exempt such students from the residency requirement set forth in paragraph (a) of subsection 1 or subsection 3.

(f) Shall establish criteria with respect to students who have been actively serving or participating in a charitable, religious or public service assignment or mission to exempt such students from the 6-year limitation on applications that is set forth in subparagraph (2) of paragraph (b) of subsection 1. Such criteria must provide for the award of Millennium Scholarships to those students who qualify for the exemption and who otherwise meet the eligibility criteria to the extent that money is available to award Millennium Scholarships to the students after all other obligations for the award of Millennium Scholarships for the current school year have been satisfied.

3. Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (c) of subsection 1, for students who did not graduate from a public or private high school in this State and who, except as otherwise provided in paragraph (e) of subsection 2, have been residents of this State for at least 2 years, the Board of Regents shall establish:

(a) The minimum score on a standardized test that such students must receive; or



(b) Other criteria that students must meet,
➔ to be eligible for Millennium Scholarships.

4. In awarding Millennium Scholarships, the Board of Regents shall enhance its outreach to students who:

(a) Are pursuing a career in education or health care;

(b) Come from families who lack sufficient financial resources to pay for the costs of sending their children to an eligible institution; or

(c) Substantially participated in an antismoking, antidrug or antialcohol program during high school.

5. The Board of Regents shall establish a procedure by which an applicant for a Millennium Scholarship is required to execute an affidavit declaring the applicant's eligibility for a Millennium Scholarship pursuant to the requirements of this section. The affidavit must include a declaration that the applicant is a citizen of the United States or has lawful immigration status, or that the applicant has filed an application to legalize the applicant's immigration status or will file an application to legalize his or her immigration status as soon as he or she is eligible to do so.

Sec. 2. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 3. NRS 396.934 is hereby amended to read as follows:

396.934 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, within the limits of money available in the Trust Fund, a student who is eligible for a Millennium Scholarship is entitled to receive:

(a) If he or she is enrolled in a community college within the System, including, without limitation, a summer academic term, \$40 per credit for each lower division course and \$60 per credit for each upper division course in which the student is enrolled, or the amount of money that is necessary for the student to pay the costs of attending the community college that are not otherwise satisfied by other grants or scholarships, whichever is less. The Board of Regents shall provide for the designation of upper and lower division courses for the purposes of this paragraph.

(b) If he or she is enrolled in a state college within the System, including, without limitation, a summer academic term, \$60 per credit for which the student is enrolled, or the amount of money that is necessary for the student to pay the costs of attending the state college that are not otherwise satisfied by other grants or scholarships, whichever is less.

(c) If he or she is enrolled in another eligible institution, including, without limitation, a summer academic term, \$80 per credit for which the student is enrolled, or the amount of money that is necessary for the student to pay the costs of attending the university that are not otherwise satisfied by other grants or scholarships, whichever is less.



(d) If he or she is enrolled in more than one eligible institution, including, without limitation, a summer academic term, the amount authorized pursuant to paragraph (a), (b) or (c), or a combination thereof, in accordance with procedures and guidelines established by the Board of Regents.

➤ In no event may a student who is eligible for a Millennium Scholarship receive more than the cost of ~~124~~ 15 semester credits per semester pursuant to this subsection.

2. No student may be awarded a Millennium Scholarship:

(a) To pay for remedial courses.

(b) For a total amount in excess of \$10,000.

3. A student who receives a Millennium Scholarship shall:

(a) Make satisfactory academic progress toward a recognized degree or certificate, as determined by the Board of Regents pursuant to subsection 8; and

(b) If the student graduated from high school after May 1, 2003, maintain:

(1) At least a 2.60 grade point average on a 4.0 grading scale for each semester during the first year of enrollment in the Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship Program.

(2) At least a 2.75 grade point average on a 4.0 grading scale for each semester during the second year of enrollment in the Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship Program and for each semester during each year of enrollment thereafter.

4. A student who receives a Millennium Scholarship is encouraged to volunteer at least 20 hours of community service for this State, a political subdivision of this State or a charitable organization that provides service to a community or the residents of a community in this State during each year in which the student receives a Millennium Scholarship.

5. If a student does not satisfy the requirements of subsection 3 during one semester of enrollment, excluding a summer academic term, he or she is not eligible for the Millennium Scholarship for the succeeding semester of enrollment. If such a student:

(a) Subsequently satisfies the requirements of subsection 3 in a semester in which he or she is not eligible for the Millennium Scholarship, the student is eligible for the Millennium Scholarship for the student's next semester of enrollment.

(b) Fails a second time to satisfy the requirements of subsection 3 during any subsequent semester, excluding a summer academic term, the student is no longer eligible for a Millennium Scholarship.

6. A Millennium Scholarship must be used only:

(a) For the payment of registration fees and laboratory fees and expenses;

(b) To purchase required textbooks and course materials; and



(c) For other costs related to the attendance of the student at the eligible institution.

7. The Board of Regents shall certify a list of eligible students to the State Treasurer. The State Treasurer shall disburse a Millennium Scholarship for each semester on behalf of an eligible student directly to the eligible institution in which the student is enrolled, upon certification from the eligible institution of the number of credits for which the student is enrolled, which must meet or exceed the minimum number of credits required for eligibility and certification that the student is in good standing and making satisfactory academic progress toward a recognized degree or certificate, as determined by the Board of Regents pursuant to subsection 8. The Millennium Scholarship must be administered by the eligible institution as other similar scholarships are administered and may be used only for the expenditures authorized pursuant to subsection 6. If a student is enrolled in more than one eligible institution, the Millennium Scholarship must be administered by the eligible institution at which the student is enrolled in a program of study leading to a recognized degree or certificate.

8. The Board of Regents shall establish:

(a) Criteria for determining whether a student is making satisfactory academic progress toward a recognized degree or certificate for purposes of subsection 7.

(b) Procedures to ensure that all money from a Millennium Scholarship awarded to a student that is refunded in whole or in part for any reason is refunded to the Trust Fund and not the student.

(c) Procedures and guidelines for the administration of a Millennium Scholarship for students who are enrolled in more than one eligible institution.

Sec. 4. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2015.

