

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 463—COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

MARCH 25, 2019

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to the Nevada Promise Scholarship. (BDR 34-1122)

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; eliminating certain requirements for a person to be eligible to receive a Nevada Promise Scholarship; requiring a participating community college to apply the money received pursuant to a Nevada Promise Scholarship to certain fees charged to a student before applying any other money the student may receive; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law establishes the Nevada Promise Scholarship program to provide scholarships to eligible students at participating community colleges in this State. (NRS 396.961-396.9685) Under existing law, to be eligible to receive a Nevada Promise Scholarship, a person is required, among other requirements: (1) to be less than 20 years of age; and (2) to enroll in or plan to enroll in a degree program at a participating community college in the school year immediately following the school year in which the student was awarded a high school diploma or general equivalency diploma or equivalent document. (NRS 396.9665) **Section 1** of this bill eliminates these age and timing requirements.

Under existing law, a participating community college is required to use the money disbursed by the State Treasurer for the purpose of awarding Nevada Promise Scholarships to pay the difference between the amount of the registration fee and other mandatory fees charged to the scholarship recipient by the community college for the school year and the total amount of any other gift aid received by the scholarship recipient. (NRS 396.968) **Section 2** of this bill requires a participating community college to apply the money disbursed from the State Treasurer to the fees charged to the scholarship recipient before applying any other money, including any gift aid the scholarship recipient may receive.



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

Section 1. NRS 396.9665 is hereby amended to read as follows:

396.9665 A student is eligible to receive a Nevada Promise Scholarship for the first school year in which the student is enrolled at a participating community college if the student:

1. Is a bona fide resident of this State, as construed in NRS 396.540, ~~is less than 20 years of age~~ and has not previously been awarded an associate's degree or bachelor's degree.

2. Has obtained:

(a) A high school diploma awarded by a public or private high school located in this State or public high school that is located in a county that borders this State and accepts pupils who are residents of this State; or

(b) A general equivalency diploma or equivalent document.

3. Is not in default on any federal student loan and does not owe a refund to any federal program to provide aid to students.

4. Before November 1 immediately preceding the school year for which the student wishes to receive a Nevada Promise Scholarship, submits an application in the form prescribed by the participating community college.

5. On or before April 1 immediately preceding the school year for which the student wishes to receive a Nevada Promise Scholarship, completes the Free Application for Federal Student Aid provided for by 20 U.S.C. § 1090.

6. Receives an Expected Family Contribution from the United States Department of Education.

7. Attends at least one training meeting held by a participating community college or local partnering organization pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 396.9655 and at least one such meeting held pursuant to subsection 3 of that section, or arranges to receive the training provided in those meetings at an alternate time pursuant to subsection 4 of that section.

8. Before May 1 immediately preceding the school year for which the student wishes to receive a Nevada Promise Scholarship:

(a) Has met at least once with the mentor assigned to the student pursuant to NRS 396.9655.

(b) Completes at least 20 hours of community service that meets the requirements of NRS 396.9675 and submits to the participating community college verification of the completion of that community service. The verification must include:

(1) A description of the community service performed;



(2) The dates on which the service was performed and the number of hours of service performed on each date;

(3) The name of the organization for which the service was performed; and

(4) The name of a person employed by the organization whom the participating community college may contact to verify the information contained in the verification.

(c) Submits all information deemed necessary by the participating community college to determine the applicant's eligibility for gift aid.

9. Is enrolled in or plans to enroll in at least 12 semester credit hours in an associate's degree program, a bachelor's degree program or a certificate of achievement program at a participating community college for each semester of the school year ~~immediately following the school year in which the student was awarded a high school diploma or a general equivalency diploma or equivalent document.~~ *for which the student wishes to receive a Nevada Promise Scholarship.*

Sec. 2. NRS 396.968 is hereby amended to read as follows:

396.968 1. Each participating community college shall award Nevada Promise Scholarships in accordance with this section to students who are enrolled at the participating community college and are eligible to receive or renew such scholarships under the provisions of NRS 396.9665 and 396.967.

2. On or before July 1 of each year, a participating community college shall:

(a) Review all timely applications received pursuant to NRS 396.9665 and 396.967 to determine the eligibility of each applicant for a Nevada Promise Scholarship and for gift aid;

(b) Review information submitted by each eligible applicant to determine the amount of the Nevada Promise Scholarship the student would receive under the provisions of subsection ~~6~~ 7 and notify each applicant whether the applicant is eligible to receive a Nevada Promise Scholarship for the immediately following school year; and

(c) After reviewing applications pursuant to paragraph (a), submit to the State Treasurer the number of students whose applications have been approved and the amount of money that will be required to fund a scholarship for each eligible student pursuant to subsection ~~6~~ 7 if no student receives additional gift aid.

3. On the date prescribed by regulation of the State Treasurer, a participating community college shall submit a request for a disbursement from the Nevada Promise Scholarship Account created by NRS 396.9645 in the amount prescribed by subsection ~~6~~ 7 for each eligible student.



4. A participating community college shall use the money disbursed pursuant to subsection ~~5~~ 6 to pay the difference between the amount of the registration fee and other mandatory fees charged to the student by the participating community college for the school year, excluding any amount of those fees that is waived by the participating community college, and the total amount of any other gift aid received by the student for the school year. The community college shall not refund to a student any money disbursed to the participating community college pursuant to subsection ~~5~~ 6.

5. *A participating community college shall apply the money disbursed pursuant to subsection 6 toward the registration fee and other mandatory fees charged to the student by the participating community college for the school year before applying any other money, including, without limitation, any gift aid received by the student.*

6. Within the limits of money available in the Nevada Promise Scholarship Account, the State Treasurer shall disburse to a participating community college the amount requested pursuant to subsection 3. If there is insufficient money in the Account to disburse that amount to each participating community college:

(a) The State Treasurer shall determine whether there is sufficient money in the Account to disburse the amount requested for all students who applied to renew a Nevada Promise Scholarship and disburse the available money in the Account to each participating community college in the following manner:

(1) If there is insufficient money in the Account to disburse the amount requested for all students who applied to renew a Nevada Promise Scholarship, the State Treasurer shall not disburse any amount requested for first-time recipients of a Nevada Promise Scholarship and shall disburse money to each participating community college to fund a scholarship for each student who applied to renew a Nevada Promise Scholarship, in the order in which applications were received by the participating community college, until the money in the Account is exhausted; and

(2) If there is sufficient money in the Account to disburse the amount requested for all students who applied to renew a Nevada Promise Scholarship, the State Treasurer shall first disburse the money requested by each participating community college for all students who applied to renew a Nevada Promise Scholarship and then disburse money to each participating community college to fund a scholarship for each student who applied for the first time to receive a Nevada Promise Scholarship, in the order in which applications were received by the participating community college, until the money in the Account is exhausted.



(b) The State Treasurer shall provide notice that insufficient money remains in the Nevada Promise Scholarship Account to:

(1) The Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the Legislative Committee on Education, the Legislative Commission and next regular session of the Legislature; and

(2) The board of trustees of each school district and the governing body of each charter school in this State. Upon receiving such notice, the board of trustees or governing body, as applicable, shall notify each pupil who is enrolled in a school in the district or the charter school and is on schedule to receive a standard high school diploma at the end of the current school year.

(c) A participating community college shall award Nevada Promise Scholarships in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (a) in a manner that gives priority first to students applying for renewal of a Nevada Promise Scholarship and then to applications received by the participating community college pursuant to NRS 396.9665, in the order in which they were received.

~~6.7~~ 7. Within the limits of money available in the Nevada Promise Scholarship Account, the amount of money awarded to a scholarship recipient pursuant to this section must be equal to the difference between the amount of the registration fee and other mandatory fees charged to the student by the participating community college for the school year, excluding any amount of those fees that is waived by the participating community college, and the total amount of any other gift aid received by the student for the school year.

Sec. 3. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2019.

