SENATE BILL NO. 453-COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(ON BEHALF OF THE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT A STUDY CONCERNING THE COST AND AFFORDABILITY OF HIGHER EDUCATION)

MARCH 25, 2019

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Revises the eligibility requirements for the Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship Program. (BDR 34-383)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.

Effect on the State: No.

EXPLANATION - Matter in bolded italics is new; matter between brackets formitted material is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to the Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship Program; increasing the grade point average to retain eligibility for a scholarship; making a recipient ineligible for the scholarship if he or she fails to maintain the required grade point average during any two semesters; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

During the first year of enrollment in the Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship Program, existing law requires a recipient to maintain at least a 2.60 grade point average during each semester and then to maintain a 2.75 grade point average during each semester in the second and each subsequent year of enrollment. If a recipient fails to maintain the required grade point average, the recipient loses funding for a semester, but may regain eligibility under certain circumstances. (NRS 396.934) **Section 1** of this bill raises the required grade point average to 2.75 during each semester of each year of enrollment and permits a recipient who fails to maintain the required grade point average in one semester to continue eligibility without penalty, but permanently loses eligibility if the student does not meet eligibility requirements during any subsequent semester.





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

- **Section 1.** 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 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] Maintain 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] any two semesters of enrollment, excluding a summer academic term, he or she is not eligible for the Millennium Scholarship for [the] any 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.] following the second semester in which the student did not satisfy the requirements.
 - 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. 2.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval for the purposes of adopting regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act, and on July 1, 2020, for all other purposes.





