

COLLEGE STUDENT AID COMMISSION[283]

Notice of Intended Action

Proposing rule making related to future ready Iowa skilled workforce last-dollar scholarship program and providing an opportunity for public comment

The College Student Aid Commission hereby proposes to amend Chapter 15, “Future Ready Iowa Skilled Workforce Last-Dollar Scholarship Program,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Legal Authority for Rule Making

This rule making is proposed under the authority provided in Iowa Code section 261.3 and 2020 Iowa Acts, House File 2629, sections 18 and 19.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rule making implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code chapter 261.

Purpose and Summary

The proposed rule making implements amendments enacted by 2020 Iowa Acts, House File 2629, sections 18 and 19, and makes several additional technical corrections.

2020 Iowa Acts, House File 2629, sections 16 and 17, expand student eligibility under the program; the administrative rules have been amended to reflect those changes.

In addition, the technical amendments ensure that students whose enrollment is disrupted due to military deployment, medical incapacity, or a declared disaster can apply for a waiver to the continuous enrollment provision; specify that students may receive a scholarship award in the semester that their credential will be completed if their remaining credits do not equate to at least half-time enrollment; add two definitions; and update statutory references.

Fiscal Impact

This rule making has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rule making, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rule making would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Commission for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any, pursuant to 283—Chapter 7.

Public Comment

Any interested person may submit written or oral comments concerning this proposed rule making. Written or oral comments in response to this rule making must be received by the Commission no later than 4:30 p.m. on September 1, 2020. Comments should be directed to:

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Iowa College Student Aid Commission
475 S.W. Fifth Street, Suite D
Des Moines, Iowa 50309
Phone: 515.725.3410
Fax: 515.725.3401
Email: mark.wiederspan@iowa.gov or administrative rules website at rules.iowa.gov

Public Hearing

No public hearing is scheduled at this time. As provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1)“b,” an oral presentation regarding this rule making may be demanded by 25 interested persons, a governmental subdivision, the Administrative Rules Review Committee, an agency, or an association having 25 or more members.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rule making by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rule making at its [regular monthly meeting](#) or at a special meeting. The Committee’s meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

The following rule-making actions are proposed:

ITEM 1. Adopt the following **new** definitions of “Adult learner” and “Approved state-recognized work-based learning program” in rule **283—15.2(261)**:

“*Adult learner*” means an eligible student who attains the age of 20 as of July 1 prior to the year of enrollment and who has not received an award under subparagraph 15.3(1)“j”(1) or 15.3(1)“j”(2).

“*Approved state-recognized work-based learning program*” means a structured educational and training program that includes authentic worksite training and is approved by the Iowa department of education.

ITEM 2. Amend subrule 15.3(1) as follows:

15.3(1) An applicant of the future ready Iowa skilled workforce last-dollar scholarship program must:

a. to i. No change.

j. Meet one of the following ~~two~~ three conditions:

(1) ~~Enroll~~ Prior to becoming an adult learner, enroll on a full-time basis ~~during the fall semester immediately following graduation from an Iowa high school, or completion of private instruction under Iowa Code chapter 299A, or receipt of a high school equivalency diploma under Iowa Code chapter 259A,~~ and maintain continuous enrollment on a full-time basis in subsequent ~~terms~~ semesters, with the exception of the summer semester, to receive additional awards. An eligible student must enroll on at least a part-time basis during the summer semester to receive an award. An eligible student may enroll in fewer than 12 semester hours, or the equivalent, in the semester that the credential will be completed if full-time enrollment is not required to complete the program of study.

(2) Prior to becoming an adult learner, and following graduation from an Iowa high school, completion of private instruction under Iowa Code chapter 299A, or receipt of a high school equivalency diploma under Iowa Code chapter 259A, enter into full-time or part-time employment in a state-recognized work-based learning program approved by the Iowa department of education and enroll on a full-time or part-time basis and maintain continuous enrollment on a full-time or part-time basis in subsequent terms to receive additional awards. An eligible student may enroll in fewer than six semester hours, or the equivalent, in the semester that the credential will be completed if half-time enrollment is not required to complete the program of study.

~~(2)~~ (3) Following receipt of a high school diploma or high school equivalency diploma, and ~~on~~ or after attaining the age of 20 after becoming an adult learner, enroll on a full-time or part-time basis in an eligible program at an eligible institution, and maintain continuous enrollment on a full-time or part-time basis in subsequent ~~terms~~ semesters to receive additional awards. ~~Ages are calculated on July 1 prior to the year of enrollment.~~ An eligible student may enroll in fewer than six semester hours, or the equivalent, in the semester that the credential will be completed if half-time enrollment is not required to complete the program of study.

~~If the student is granted a leave of absence by discontinues enrollment at the eligible institution in accordance with provisions of the federal Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, due to military deployment, a temporary medical incapacity, in relation to the declaration of a national or state emergency, or other exceptional circumstances approved by the commission, the student must apply for a waiver. If the waiver is approved, the student is not required to maintain continuous enrollment during the period covered by the approved leave of absence waiver.~~

ITEM 3. Amend subrule 15.5(1) as follows:

15.5(1) An eligible program must lead to a credential aligned with a high-demand job pursuant to ~~2018 Iowa Acts, House File 2458, section 7, as amended by 2019 Iowa Acts, House File 758, section 12~~ Iowa Code section 84A.1B(14).