

261.9 Definitions.

When used in [this part](#), unless the context otherwise requires:

1. “Accredited private institution” means an institution of higher learning located in Iowa which is operated privately and not controlled or administered by any state agency or any subdivision of the state and which meets the criteria in paragraphs “a” and “b” and all of the criteria in paragraphs “d” through “i”, except that institutions defined in paragraph “c” of [this subsection](#) are exempt from the requirements of paragraphs “a” and “b”:

a. Is accredited by the higher learning commission.

b. Is accredited by the higher learning commission, is exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and annually provides a matching aggregate amount of institutional financial aid equal to at least seventy-five percent of the amount received in a fiscal year by the institution’s students for Iowa tuition grant assistance under [this chapter](#). Commencing with the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2006, the matching aggregate amount of institutional financial aid shall increase by the percentage of increase each fiscal year of funds appropriated for Iowa tuition grants under [section 261.25, subsection 1](#), to a maximum match of one hundred percent. The institution shall file annual reports with the commission prior to receipt of tuition grant moneys under [this chapter](#). An institution whose income is not exempt from taxation under section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code and whose students were eligible to receive Iowa tuition grant money in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2003, shall meet the match requirements of this paragraph no later than June 30, 2005.

c. Is a specialized college that is accredited by the higher learning commission, and which offers health professional programs that are affiliated with health care systems located in Iowa.

d. Promotes equal opportunity and affirmative action efforts in the recruitment, appointment, assignment, and advancement of personnel at the institution and provides information regarding such efforts to the commission upon request.

e. Adopts a policy that prohibits unlawful possession, use, or distribution of controlled substances by students and employees on property owned or leased by the institution or in conjunction with activities sponsored by the institution. Each institution shall provide information about the policy to all students and employees. The policy shall include a clear statement of sanctions for violation of the policy and information about available drug or alcohol counseling and rehabilitation programs. In carrying out this policy, an institution shall provide substance abuse prevention programs for students and employees.

f. Develops and implements a written policy, which is disseminated during student registration or orientation, addressing the following four areas relating to sexual abuse:

- (1) Counseling.
- (2) Campus security.
- (3) Education, including prevention, protection, and the rights and duties of students and employees of the institution.
- (4) Facilitating the accurate and prompt reporting of sexual abuse to the duly constituted law enforcement authorities.

g. (1) Adopts a policy to offer not less than the following options to a student who is a member, or the spouse of a member if the member has a dependent child, of the Iowa national guard or reserve forces of the United States and who is ordered to national guard duty or federal active duty:

(a) Withdraw from the student’s entire registration and receive a full refund of tuition and mandatory fees.

(b) Make arrangements with the student’s instructors for course grades, or for incompletes that shall be completed by the student at a later date. If such arrangements are made, the student’s registration shall remain intact and tuition and mandatory fees shall be assessed for the courses in full.

(c) Make arrangements with only some of the student’s instructors for grades, or for incompletes that shall be completed by the student at a later date. If such arrangements are made, the registration for those courses shall remain intact and tuition and mandatory fees shall be assessed for those courses. Any course for which arrangements cannot be made for

grades or incompletes shall be considered dropped and the tuition and mandatory fees for the course refunded.

(2) As used in this lettered paragraph, “*dependent child*” means the same as defined in [section 260C.14, subsection 14](#), paragraph “b”, subparagraph (2), subparagraph division (a).

h. Develops and implements a consistent written policy for an employee who in the scope of the person’s employment responsibilities examines, attends, counsels, or treats a child to report suspected physical or sexual abuse. The policy shall include an employee’s reporting responsibilities. The reporting responsibilities shall designate the time, circumstances, and method for reporting suspected child abuse to the accredited private institution’s administration and reporting to law enforcement. Nothing in the policy shall prohibit an employee from reporting suspected child abuse in good faith to law enforcement.

i. (1) Adopts a policy to require that the institution shall annually, beginning December 15, 2015, file a report with the governor and the general assembly providing information and statistics for the previous five academic years on the number of students per year who are veterans who received education credit for military education, training, and service, that number as a percentage of veterans known to be enrolled at the institution, the average number of credits received by students, and the average number of credits applied towards the award or completion of a course of instruction, postsecondary diploma, degree, or other evidences of distinction.

(2) For purposes of this paragraph, “*veteran*” means a veteran as defined in [section 35.1](#) or a member of the reserve forces of the United States or the national guard as defined in [section 29A.1](#) who has served at least one year of the member’s commitment and is eligible for or has exhausted federal veterans education benefits under 38 U.S.C. ch. 30, 32, 33, or 36 or 10 U.S.C. ch. 1606 or 1607, respectively.

2. “*Commission*” means the college student aid commission.

3. “*Financial need*” means the difference between the student’s financial resources available, including those available from the student’s parents as determined by a completed parents’ confidential statement, and the student’s anticipated expenses while attending the accredited private institution. Financial need shall be redetermined at least annually.

4. “*Full-time resident student*” means an individual resident of Iowa who is enrolled at an accredited private institution in a course of study including at least twelve semester hours or the trimester equivalent of twelve semester hours. “*Course of study*” does not include correspondence courses.

5. “*Part-time resident student*” means an individual resident of Iowa who is enrolled at an accredited private institution in a course of study including at least three semester hours or the trimester or quarter equivalent of three semester hours. “*Course of study*” does not include correspondence courses.

6. “*Qualified student*” means a resident student who has established financial need and who is making satisfactory progress toward graduation.

7. “*Tuition grant*” means an award by the state of Iowa to a qualified student under [this division](#).

[C71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §261.9]

87 Acts, ch 233, §455; 88 Acts, ch 1284, §22 – 24; 89 Acts, ch 319, §42; 90 Acts, ch 1253, §122; 90 Acts, ch 1272, §48; 91 Acts, ch 180, §1; 92 Acts, ch 1106, §1, 4; 2000 Acts, ch 1095, §4 – 11; 2001 Acts, ch 24, §42; 2001 Acts, ch 39, §2; 2003 Acts, ch 179, §113, 114; 2004 Acts, ch 1086, §56; 2004 Acts, ch 1175, §237, 238; 2005 Acts, ch 169, §25; 2010 Acts, ch 1169, §4; 2011 Acts, ch 36, §3; 2012 Acts, ch 1040, §4, 5; 2012 Acts, ch 1072, §35; 2014 Acts, ch 1013, §16; 2014 Acts, ch 1061, §3; 2014 Acts, ch 1116, §31, 32; 2015 Acts, ch 8, §2

Referred to in §256.7, §256.28, §261.5, §261.7, §261.25, §261.61, §261.71, §261.83, §261.86, §261.102, §261.111, §261.114, §261B.11, §261E.2, §261G.2, §714.19

Subsection 1, paragraph i, subparagraph (2) amended