

REFERENCE TITLE: empowerment scholarships; qualified school.

State of Arizona  
Senate  
Fifty-fourth Legislature  
First Regular Session  
2019

## **SB 1545**

Introduced by  
Senators Gray: Allen S, Borrelli, Fann, Gowan, Leach (with permission of  
Committee on Rules)

AN ACT

ALLOWING CERTAIN STUDENTS TO REMAIN ELIGIBLE FOR ARIZONA EMPOWERMENT  
SCHOLARSHIP ACCOUNTS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Arizona empowerment scholarship account  
3 recipients; Indian reservations

4 A. A student who is enrolled in an Arizona empowerment scholarship  
5 account, who resides within the boundaries of an Indian reservation in  
6 this state and who paid tuition to a nongovernmental primary or secondary  
7 school or a preschool for pupils with disabilities that is located in an  
8 adjacent state and that is within two miles of the border between that  
9 state and this state may continue to use Arizona empowerment scholarship  
10 account monies to pay tuition at that school until July 1, 2020 and is not  
11 required to repay the department of education for any monies previously  
12 spent for tuition at that school.

13 B. Notwithstanding section 15-2401, paragraph 6, Arizona Revised  
14 Statutes, a school that is located in an adjacent state within two miles  
15 of the border with this state and that accepted Arizona empowerment  
16 scholarship account monies in the 2017-2018 school year or the 2018-2019  
17 school year from a student who resides on an Indian reservation in this  
18 state is considered a qualified school for the purposes of section  
19 15-2401, paragraph 6, Arizona Revised Statutes, until July 1, 2020, except  
20 that a student who is enrolled in an Arizona empowerment scholarship  
21 account may not use Arizona empowerment scholarship account monies to pay  
22 tuition to a school that meets this criteria if the student did not pay  
23 tuition to that school in the 2018-2019 school year.

24 C. Notwithstanding section 15-2401, paragraph 6, Arizona Revised  
25 Statutes, if a student was enrolled in an Arizona empowerment scholarship  
26 account, resides within the boundaries of an Indian reservation in this  
27 state, paid tuition to a nongovernmental primary or secondary school or a  
28 preschool for pupils with disabilities that is located in an adjacent  
29 state and that is within two miles of the border between that state and  
30 this state and received a termination letter from the department of  
31 education, that student would qualify to remain eligible for an Arizona  
32 empowerment scholarship account pursuant to this section and shall be  
33 reinstated in an Arizona empowerment scholarship account.

34 Sec. 2. Retroactivity

35 This act applies retroactively to from and after June 30, 2017.