

REFERENCE TITLE: Arizona promise program; private universities

State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-sixth Legislature
First Regular Session
2023

SB 1182

Introduced by
Senator Bennett

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 15-1701, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO FINANCIAL AID.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

2 Section 1. Section 15-1701, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 15-1701. Arizona promise program; eligibility requirements;
5 award; fund; definitions

6 A. ~~Eligible postsecondary institutions~~ EACH UNIVERSITY UNDER THE
7 JURISDICTION OF THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS shall implement an Arizona
8 promise program to provide financial assistance to students who meet the
9 criteria prescribed in this section and who are pursuing studies in this
10 state leading to a baccalaureate degree. A DEGREE-GRANTING PRIVATE
11 POSTSECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION IN THIS STATE MAY IMPLEMENT AN
12 ARIZONA PROMISE PROGRAM TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO STUDENTS ON THE
13 SAME TERMS AS A UNIVERSITY UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE ARIZONA BOARD OF
14 REGENTS AS PRESCRIBED IN THIS SECTION.

15 B. Except as otherwise provided by law, to be eligible to
16 participate in the Arizona promise program and to qualify for an award
17 under this section, a student shall meet all of the following
18 requirements:

19 1. Qualify for in-state student status as prescribed in section
20 15-1802.

21 2. Have graduated from a high school in this state with a minimum
22 2.5 cumulative grade point average on a 4.0 scale for all work attempted
23 in grades nine through twelve.

24 3. Satisfy the admission standards as determined by an eligible
25 postsecondary institution.

26 4. Complete and submit the free application for federal student aid
27 and meet the eligibility criteria for the federal pell grant.

28 5. Secure admission to, and be enrolled in, an eligible
29 postsecondary institution for at least full-time status as determined by
30 federal student financial aid guidelines.

31 C. To retain eligibility while pursuing the program of higher
32 learning in which the student is enrolled, the student shall meet all of
33 the following requirements:

34 1. Maintain satisfactory academic progress as required for
35 eligibility for federal student financial aid.

36 2. Complete and submit the free application for federal student
37 aid.

38 3. Maintain at least full-time status as determined by federal
39 student financial aid guidelines.

40 4. Comply with the standards related to maintenance of eligibility
41 as adopted by the governing board of the eligible postsecondary
42 institution.

43 D. Each eligible postsecondary institution shall provide to each
44 eligible student an award up to the actual cost of in-state tuition and
45 fees, except that an award provided pursuant to this section shall be

1 reduced by the amount of any other federal aid scholarships or public
2 grants and any other financial gifts, grants or aid received by that
3 person. AN AWARD PROVIDED TO AN ELIGIBLE STUDENT BY A PRIVATE
4 POSTSECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION MAY NOT
5 EXCEED THE HIGHEST ACTUAL COST OF IN-STATE TUITION AND FEES CHARGED BY A
6 UNIVERSITY UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS.

7 E. An award under this section may be awarded for a maximum of
8 eight academic semesters or their equivalent.

9 F. An award under this section shall be awarded to all eligible
10 applicants without limit other than the amount of monies available for the
11 Arizona promise program and the number of eligible applicants. If
12 appropriated monies are insufficient to provide awards for all eligible
13 applicants, the Arizona board of regents shall guarantee the award for
14 applicants who enroll in ~~a university under the jurisdiction of the~~
15 ~~Arizona board of regents~~ AN ELIGIBLE POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION.

16 G. The Arizona promise program fund is established consisting of
17 legislative appropriations and any other monies for the purpose of
18 administering the Arizona promise program and distributing award monies.
19 The Arizona board of regents shall administer the fund, including
20 developing and implementing centralized administrative processes for
21 distributing monies in the fund to eligible postsecondary institutions
22 each fiscal year. The Arizona board of regents may accept and spend
23 federal monies and private grants, gifts, contributions and devises,
24 including private, philanthropic, public and other sources of monies, to
25 assist in carrying out the purposes of this section. Monies in the fund
26 are continuously appropriated and are exempt from the provisions of
27 section 35-190 relating to lapsing of appropriations. Monies in the fund
28 may be used for any of the following:

29 1. Reimbursing Arizona promise program awards that cover the
30 balance of tuition and fees for eligible participants enrolled in an
31 eligible postsecondary institution after all other gifts and aid received.

32 2. Administering the Arizona promise program, including hiring and
33 retaining additional personnel. The administration of the program includes
34 data collection, reporting, tracking and analyzing the program.

35 3. Designing and implementing a marketing and promotion plan for
36 the Arizona promise program.

37 H. Annual expenditures for marketing, promoting and administering
38 the Arizona promise program may not exceed three percent of the monies in
39 the fund each fiscal year.

40 I. Monies remaining in the Arizona promise program fund at the end
41 of each fiscal year may be used by eligible postsecondary institutions for
42 Arizona promise program costs in the next fiscal year.

- 1 J. For the purposes of this section:
2 1. "Eligible postsecondary ~~institutions~~ INSTITUTION" means:
3 (a) ~~Universities~~ UNIVERSITY under the jurisdiction of the Arizona
4 board of regents.
5 (b) A DEGREE-GRANTING PRIVATE POSTSECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION
6 IN THIS STATE THAT HAS IMPLEMENTED AN ARIZONA PROMISE PROGRAM PURSUANT TO
7 SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION.
8 2. "Tuition and fees" means tuition, mandatory fees and program
9 fees that are associated with a program in the eligible postsecondary
10 institution and that are charged by an eligible postsecondary institution.