

REFERENCE TITLE: Arizona promise scholarships; community colleges

State of Arizona  
Senate  
Fifty-sixth Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2024

## **SB 1489**

Introduced by  
Senators Diaz: Alston, Fernandez, Hatathlie, Mendez; Representatives  
Aguilar, Austin, Crews, Hernandez A, Ortiz, Quiñonez

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 41, CHAPTER 4, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY  
ADDING SECTION 41-710.03; APPROPRIATING MONIES; RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT  
OF ADMINISTRATION.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

2 Section 1. Title 41, chapter 4, article 1, Arizona Revised  
3 Statutes, is amended by adding section 41-710.03, to read:

4 41-710.03. Arizona community college promise scholarship  
5 program; commission; fund; eligibility;  
6 definition

7 A. THE ARIZONA COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM IS  
8 ESTABLISHED. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM, AND THE ARIZONA  
9 COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP COMMISSION ESTABLISHED BY SUBSECTION  
10 B OF THIS SECTION SHALL OVERSEE THE PROGRAM.

11 B. THE ARIZONA COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP COMMISSION IS  
12 ESTABLISHED CONSISTING OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

13 1. ONE PRESIDENT OF A COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN A COUNTY WITH A  
14 POPULATION OF MORE THAN SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND PERSONS, WHO IS APPOINTED BY  
15 THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE.

16 2. ONE PRESIDENT OF A COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN A COUNTY WITH A  
17 POPULATION OF SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND PERSONS OR LESS, WHO IS APPOINTED BY  
18 THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

19 3. ONE MEMBER WHO HAS EXPERTISE IN NONTRADITIONAL STUDENTS IN  
20 HIGHER EDUCATION AND WHO IS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR.

21 4. ONE MEMBER WHO HAS EXPERTISE IN HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCIAL AID,  
22 WHO RESIDES IN A COUNTY WITH A POPULATION OF MORE THAN SIX HUNDRED  
23 THOUSAND PERSONS AND WHO IS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR.

24 5. ONE MEMBER WHO HAS EXPERTISE IN HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCIAL AID,  
25 WHO RESIDES IN A COUNTY WITH A POPULATION OF SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND PERSONS  
26 OR LESS AND WHO IS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR.

27 C. THE ARIZONA COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP COMMISSION  
28 SHALL CONTRACT WITH A VENDOR THAT BOTH:

29 1. IS A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION THAT HAS STATEWIDE EXPERIENCE IN  
30 ADMINISTERING SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS FOR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER  
31 EDUCATION.

32 2. IS SELECTED THROUGH A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TO PROVIDE STUDENT  
33 SUPPORT TO SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS UNDER THIS SECTION.

34 D. THE ARIZONA COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP FUND IS  
35 ESTABLISHED CONSISTING OF LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATIONS AND PRIVATE GRANTS,  
36 GIFTS, CONTRIBUTIONS AND DEVICES MADE FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADMINISTERING THE  
37 ARIZONA COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. MONIES IN THE FUND  
38 ARE CONTINUOUSLY APPROPRIATED AND ARE EXEMPT FROM THE PROVISIONS OF  
39 SECTION 35-190 RELATING TO LAPSING OF APPROPRIATIONS. THE DEPARTMENT MAY  
40 ACCEPT AND SPEND PRIVATE GRANTS, GIFTS, CONTRIBUTIONS AND DEVICES TO  
41 ASSIST IN CARRYING OUT THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION. THESE MONIES DO NOT  
42 REVERT TO THE STATE GENERAL FUND AT THE END OF A FISCAL YEAR. THE  
43 DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE FUND AND SHALL ESTABLISH CRITERIA FOR  
44 DISTRIBUTING MONIES IN THE FUND TO SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS. THE DEPARTMENT

1 MAY USE UP TO TEN PERCENT OF MONIES IN THE FUND FOR ADMINISTRATIVE  
2 EXPENSES AND STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES.

3 E. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING STUDENT SUPPORT  
4 SERVICES:

- 5 1. VIRTUAL MENTORING.
- 6 2. ACCESS TO A PROFESSIONAL MENTOR WITH EXPERIENCE IN HELPING  
7 COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENTS.
- 8 3. A STRUCTURED MENTORING AND ADVISING PROGRAM THAT HAS  
9 DEMONSTRATED RESULTS.

10 F. AN ELIGIBLE STUDENT MAY APPLY FOR A SCHOLARSHIP UNDER THIS  
11 SECTION BY APPLYING TO THE DEPARTMENT IN A MANNER PRESCRIBED BY THE  
12 DEPARTMENT. TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR A SCHOLARSHIP UNDER THIS SECTION, A  
13 STUDENT MUST MEET ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

- 14 1. QUALIFY FOR IN-STATE STUDENT STATUS AS PRESCRIBED IN SECTION  
15 15-1802.
- 16 2. HAVE GRADUATED FROM A HIGH SCHOOL IN THIS STATE WITH A MINIMUM  
17 2.5 CUMULATIVE GRADE POINT AVERAGE ON A 4.0 SCALE FOR ALL WORK ATTEMPTED  
18 IN GRADES NINE THROUGH TWELVE.
- 19 3. SATISFY THE ADMISSION STANDARDS AS DETERMINED BY A COMMUNITY  
20 COLLEGE IN THIS STATE.
- 21 4. COMPLETE AND SUBMIT THE FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID  
22 AND MEET THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR THE FEDERAL PELL GRANT.
- 23 5. SECURE ADMISSION TO, AND BE ENROLLED IN, A COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN  
24 THIS STATE FOR AT LEAST FULL-TIME STATUS AS DETERMINED BY FEDERAL STUDENT  
25 FINANCIAL AID GUIDELINES.

26 G. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL AWARD TO EACH ELIGIBLE STUDENT APPLICANT A  
27 SCHOLARSHIP OF UP TO \$3,000 EACH YEAR FOR A MAXIMUM OF TWO YEARS. A  
28 RECIPIENT MAY USE THE SCHOLARSHIP MONIES FOR ANY COST OF ATTENDING THE  
29 COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND IS NOT REQUIRED TO USE THE MONIES ONLY FOR TUITION.

30 H. A SCHOLARSHIP PROVIDED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL BE REDUCED  
31 BY THE AMOUNT OF ANY OTHER FEDERAL AID SCHOLARSHIPS OR PUBLIC GRANTS AND  
32 ANY OTHER PUBLIC AID RECEIVED BY THAT PERSON FROM OR THROUGH THE COMMUNITY  
33 COLLEGE AT WHICH THE PERSON IS ENROLLED, EXCEPT THAT A SCHOLARSHIP MAY NOT  
34 BE REDUCED BY THE AMOUNT OF FEDERAL GRANTS RECEIVED BY THE PERSON FROM THE  
35 DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SAFETY UNDER THE ARIZONA EDUCATION AND TRAINING  
36 VOUCHER PROGRAM.

37 I. A STUDENT MAY REAPPLY TO RECEIVE A SCHOLARSHIP UNDER THIS  
38 SECTION FOR A SECOND YEAR IF THE STUDENT MEETS ALL OF THE FOLLOWING  
39 REQUIREMENTS:

- 40 1. MAINTAINS SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS AS REQUIRED FOR  
41 ELIGIBILITY FOR FEDERAL STUDENT FINANCIAL AID.
- 42 2. COMPLETES AND SUBMITS THE FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT  
43 AID.
- 44 3. MAINTAINS AT LEAST FULL-TIME STATUS AS DETERMINED BY FEDERAL  
45 STUDENT FINANCIAL AID GUIDELINES.

1           4. COMPLIES WITH THE STANDARDS RELATED TO MAINTENANCE OF  
2 ELIGIBILITY AS ADOPTED BY THE ARIZONA COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROMISE  
3 SCHOLARSHIP COMMISSION.

4           J. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "COMMUNITY COLLEGE" HAS THE  
5 SAME MEANING PRESCRIBED IN SECTION 15-1401.

6           Sec. 2. Appropriation; Arizona community college promise  
7 scholarship fund

8           The sum of \$10,000,000 is appropriated from the state general fund  
9 in fiscal year 2024-2025 to the Arizona community college promise  
10 scholarship fund established by section 41-710.03, Arizona Revised  
11 Statutes, as added by this act.