

AMENDMENTS TO LB902

Introduced by Education.

1 1. Strike the original sections and insert the following new
2 sections:

3 Section 1. Sections 1 to 6 of this act shall be known and may be
4 cited as the Nebraska Career Scholarship Act.

5 Sec. 2. For purposes of the Nebraska Career Scholarship Act:

6 (1) Community college means a public postsecondary educational
7 institution which is part of the community college system and includes
8 all branches and campuses of such institution located within the State of
9 Nebraska;

10 (2) First-time freshman means a student who enrolled in an eligible
11 program of study as the student's first enrollment in any postsecondary
12 institution after graduating from high school or receiving a diploma of
13 high school equivalency;

14 (3) Nebraska Career Scholarship means a scholarship awarded under
15 the act or a scholarship awarded as a Nebraska Career Scholarship
16 pursuant to Laws 2021, LB380, or Laws 2020, LB1008;

17 (4) Nonscholarship student means a student who has never been
18 awarded a Nebraska Career Scholarship for the applicable eligible program
19 of study;

20 (5) Private college means an accredited private nonprofit
21 institution of postsecondary education located within the State of
22 Nebraska;

23 (6) Scholarship recipient means a student who has been awarded a
24 Nebraska Career Scholarship; and

25 (7) Standard college admission test means the national assessment
26 instrument that is also used as the standard college admission test
27 selected by the State Board of Education and administered to students in

1 the eleventh grade pursuant to subsection (9) of section 79-760.03.

2 Sec. 3. (1)(a) The Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges
3 shall award a Nebraska Career Scholarship that does not exceed a maximum
4 of fifteen thousand dollars per year to any eligible state college
5 student who achieved a composite score on a standard college admission
6 test equivalent to a score of at least eighteen out of a maximum score of
7 thirty-six and who is enrolled in an eligible program of study.

8 (b) The Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges shall
9 allocate funds appropriated to the board under the Nebraska Career
10 Scholarship Act between the state college campuses, determine the
11 eligibility of students enrolled in a state college, receive and process
12 applications for awards to individual students, and disperse funds
13 directly to scholarship recipients during the fiscal year. Eligibility
14 criteria shall include being a first-time freshman or a transfer student
15 and enrollment in an eligible program of study.

16 (c) For purposes of this section, an eligible program of study
17 means:

18 (i) Through academic year 2023-24, a program of study at a state
19 college in rangeland management, industrial technology, criminal justice,
20 business administration, education, communication, or computer
21 information systems; and

22 (ii) Beginning with academic year 2024-25, a program of study
23 designated by the Department of Economic Development, in collaboration
24 with the Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges, based on
25 periodic reviews of workforce needs in the state.

26 (2) Each scholarship recipient shall register with the appropriate
27 campus office to obtain a Nebraska-based internship, apprenticeship,
28 clinical position, or employment in a major-related field prior to
29 completion of the student's eligible program of study.

30 (3) A Nebraska Career Scholarship may be used by a scholarship
31 recipient for tuition, fees, required tools and equipment, and room and

1 board.

2 (4) Each scholarship awarded under this section shall be
3 automatically renewed on an annual basis if the student remains enrolled
4 in good standing in the eligible program of study for which such
5 scholarship was awarded, except that no student shall receive a
6 scholarship renewal after four years of participation in such eligible
7 program of study.

8 (5) The Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges shall
9 collect information on each state college scholarship recipient and shall
10 report electronically to the Clerk of the Legislature and the Governor on
11 or before December 1 of each year the following information for each
12 eligible program of study at a state college in the current or prior
13 academic year:

14 (a) The total number of students enrolled in the program in the
15 immediately prior academic year and the total number of students enrolled
16 in the program as of September 30 for the current academic year;

17 (b) The total number of scholarship recipients in the program as of
18 September 30 for the current academic year and the total number of such
19 scholarship recipients who are newly enrolled in the program for such
20 academic year;

21 (c) The total number of students retained in the program from the
22 immediately prior academic year to the current academic year and a
23 comparison of the retention rates between scholarship recipients and
24 nonscholarship students;

25 (d) The number of students participating in an internship, an
26 apprenticeship, a clinical position, or employment in a major-related
27 field during the immediately prior academic year and a comparison of
28 participation rates for scholarship recipients and nonscholarship
29 students;

30 (e) The total number of graduates for the immediately prior academic
31 year, the number of scholarship recipient graduates for such academic

1 year, and a comparison of the graduation rates for scholarship recipients
2 and nonscholarship students; and

3 (f) The number of graduates from the immediately prior academic year
4 who obtained employment in a major-related field in the state within four
5 months after graduation and the average starting salary for such
6 graduates.

7 Sec. 4. (1)(a) The Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska
8 shall award a Nebraska Career Scholarship to any eligible university
9 student who is enrolled in an eligible program of study in an amount not
10 to exceed:

11 (i) Ten thousand dollars per year for any scholarship recipient who
12 is a transfer student; or

13 (ii) Except as provided in subdivision (1)(a)(i) of this section:

14 (A) Twenty-five thousand dollars per year for any scholarship
15 recipient who achieved a composite score on a standard college admission
16 test equivalent to a score of at least twenty-eight out of a maximum
17 score of thirty-six; or

18 (B) Ten thousand dollars per year for any scholarship recipient who
19 achieved a composite score on a standard college admission test
20 equivalent to a score of at least twenty and less than twenty-eight out
21 of a maximum score of thirty-six.

22 (b) The Board of Regents shall allocate funds appropriated to the
23 board under the Nebraska Career Scholarship Act between the university
24 campuses, determine the eligibility of students enrolled in the
25 university, receive and process applications for awards to individual
26 students, and disperse funds directly to scholarship recipients during
27 the fiscal year. Eligibility criteria shall include (i) being a first-
28 time freshman who achieved a composite score on a standard college
29 admission test equivalent to a score of at least twenty out of a maximum
30 score of thirty-six or a transfer student and (ii) enrollment in an
31 eligible program of study.

1 (c) For purposes of this section, an eligible program of study
2 means:

3 (i) Through academic year 2023-24, a program of study offered by the
4 University of Nebraska in mathematics, engineering, health care, and
5 computer information systems; and

6 (ii) Beginning with academic year 2024-25, a program of study
7 designated by the Department of Economic Development, in collaboration
8 with the Board of Regents, based on periodic reviews of workforce needs
9 in the state.

10 (2) Each scholarship recipient shall register with the appropriate
11 campus office to obtain a Nebraska-based internship, apprenticeship,
12 clinical position, or employment in a major-related field prior to
13 completion of the student's eligible program of study.

14 (3) A Nebraska Career Scholarship may be used by a scholarship
15 recipient for tuition, fees, required tools and equipment, and room and
16 board.

17 (4) Each scholarship awarded under this section shall be
18 automatically renewed on an annual basis if the student remains enrolled
19 in good standing in the eligible program of study for which such
20 scholarship was awarded, except that no student shall receive a
21 scholarship renewal after four years of participation in such eligible
22 program of study.

23 (5) The Board of Regents shall collect information on each
24 university scholarship recipient and shall report electronically to the
25 Clerk of the Legislature and the Governor on or before December 1 of each
26 year the following information for each eligible program of study at the
27 university in the current or prior academic year:

28 (a) The total number of students enrolled in the program in the
29 immediately prior academic year and the total number of students enrolled
30 in the program as of September 30 for the current academic year;

31 (b) The total number of scholarship recipients in the program as of

1 September 30 for the current academic year and the total number of such
2 scholarship recipients who are newly enrolled in the program for such
3 academic year;

4 (c) The total number of students retained in the program from the
5 immediately prior academic year to the current academic year and a
6 comparison of the retention rates between scholarship recipients and
7 nonscholarship students;

8 (d) The number of students participating in an internship, an
9 apprenticeship, a clinical position, or employment in a major-related
10 field during the immediately prior academic year and a comparison of
11 participation rates for scholarship recipients and nonscholarship
12 students;

13 (e) The total number of graduates for the immediately prior academic
14 year, the number of scholarship recipient graduates for such academic
15 year, and a comparison of the graduation rates for scholarship recipients
16 and nonscholarship students; and

17 (f) The number of graduates from the immediately prior academic year
18 who obtained employment in a major-related field in the state within four
19 months after graduation and the average starting salary for such
20 graduates.

21 Sec. 5. (1)(a) The Department of Economic Development, in
22 collaboration with the community colleges, shall award a Nebraska Career
23 Scholarship that does not exceed a maximum of five thousand dollars per
24 year to any eligible community college student who is enrolled in an
25 eligible program of study in an identified shortage area or skilled trade
26 that meets the workforce needs of the state.

27 (b) The Department of Economic Development shall identify shortage
28 areas and skilled trades that meet workforce needs for purposes of this
29 section and shall periodically review and revise the identification of
30 such shortage areas and skilled trades.

31 (c) For purposes of this section, an eligible program of study means

1 a program of study offered by a community college in a shortage area or
2 skilled trade identified pursuant to subdivision (b) of this subsection.

3 (d) Each community college area, acting as an agent of the state,
4 shall determine the eligibility of students enrolled in the community
5 college, receive and process applications for awards to individual
6 students, and disperse funds directly to scholarship recipients during
7 the fiscal year. Eligibility criteria shall include being a first-time
8 freshman or a transfer student and enrollment in an eligible program of
9 study.

10 (2) Each scholarship recipient shall register with the appropriate
11 campus office to obtain a Nebraska-based internship, apprenticeship,
12 clinical position, or employment in a major-related field prior to
13 completion of the student's eligible program of study.

14 (3) A Nebraska Career Scholarship may be used by the scholarship
15 recipient for tuition, fees, required tools and equipment, and room and
16 board.

17 (4) Each scholarship awarded under this section shall be
18 automatically renewed on an annual basis if the student remains enrolled
19 in good standing in the eligible program of study for which such
20 scholarship was awarded, except that no student shall receive a
21 scholarship renewal after three years of participation in such eligible
22 program of study.

23 (5) Each community college area shall collect information on each
24 scholarship recipient who has been awarded a Nebraska Career Scholarship
25 by such community college area and shall share such information with the
26 Department of Economic Development.

27 (6) The Department of Economic Development shall report
28 electronically to the Clerk of the Legislature and the Governor on or
29 before December 1 of each year the following information:

30 (a) For each eligible program of study at a community college in the
31 current or prior academic year:

1 (i) The total number of students enrolled in the program in the
2 immediately prior academic year and the total number of students enrolled
3 in the program as of the most recent census date for the community
4 college area;

5 (ii) The total number of scholarship recipients in the program as of
6 the most recent census date for the community college area; and

7 (iii) The number of students participating in an internship, an
8 apprenticeship, a clinical position, or employment in a major-related
9 field during the immediately prior academic year and a comparison of
10 participation rates for scholarship recipients and nonscholarship
11 students;

12 (b) The total number of first-time freshman scholarship recipients
13 retained in year two of the scholarship recipient's eligible program of
14 study and a comparison of the retention rate for first-time freshman
15 scholarship recipients to the overall retention rate for first-time
16 freshman students;

17 (c) The total number of first-time freshman scholarship recipients
18 who complete the program of study by earning the certificate, diploma, or
19 degree that signifies completion and a comparison of the on-time
20 completion rate for scholarship recipients to the overall on-time
21 completion rate for all first-time freshman students;

22 (d) The number of scholarship recipients obtaining employment in the
23 state within five fiscal quarters of completion of an eligible program of
24 study using Department of Labor data; and

25 (e) The average salary of scholarship recipients, as determined by
26 the Department of Labor, for the fifth fiscal quarter following
27 completion.

28 (7) The Department of Economic Development shall allocate to
29 community colleges the amount appropriated to the department to carry out
30 this section. The department shall establish a separate budget subprogram
31 for such allocation.

1 Sec. 6. (1)(a) The Department of Economic Development, in
2 collaboration with private colleges that elect to participate, shall
3 award a Nebraska Career Scholarship that does not exceed a maximum of ten
4 thousand dollars per year to any private college student who achieved a
5 composite score on a standard college admission test equivalent to a
6 score of at least eighteen out of a maximum score of thirty-six and who
7 is enrolled in an eligible program of study.

8 (b) Each participating private college, acting as an agent of the
9 state, shall determine the eligibility of students enrolled in the
10 private college, receive and process applications for awards to
11 individual students, and disperse funds directly to scholarship
12 recipients during the fiscal year. Eligibility criteria shall include
13 being a first-time freshman or a transfer student and enrollment in an
14 eligible program of study.

15 (c) For purposes of this section, an eligible program of study
16 means:

17 (i) Through academic year 2023-24, a program of study at a private
18 college in mathematics, health care, and computer information systems;
19 and

20 (ii) Beginning with academic year 2024-25, a program of study
21 designated by the Department of Economic Development based on periodic
22 reviews of workforce needs in the state.

23 (2) Each scholarship recipient shall register with the appropriate
24 campus office to obtain a Nebraska-based internship, apprenticeship,
25 clinical position, or employment in a major-related field prior to
26 completion of the student's eligible program of study.

27 (3) A Nebraska Career Scholarship may be used by the scholarship
28 recipient for tuition, fees, required tools and equipment, and room and
29 board.

30 (4) Each scholarship awarded under this section shall be
31 automatically renewed on an annual basis if the student remains enrolled

1 in good standing in the eligible program of study for which such
2 scholarship was awarded, except that no student shall receive a
3 scholarship renewal after four years of participation in such eligible
4 program of study.

5 (5) Each participating private college shall collect information on
6 each scholarship recipient who has been awarded a Nebraska Career
7 Scholarship by such private college and shall share such information with
8 the Department of Economic Development.

9 (6) The Department of Economic Development shall report
10 electronically to the Clerk of the Legislature and the Governor on or
11 before December 1 of each year the following information for each
12 eligible program of study at a private college in the current or prior
13 academic year:

14 (a) The total number of students enrolled in the program in the
15 immediately prior academic year and the total number of students enrolled
16 in the program as of September 30 for the current academic year;

17 (b) The total number of scholarship recipients in the program as of
18 September 30 for the current academic year and the total number of such
19 scholarship recipients who are newly enrolled in the program for such
20 academic year;

21 (c) The total number of students retained in the program and a
22 comparison of the retention rates between scholarship recipients and
23 nonscholarship students;

24 (d) The number of students participating in an internship, an
25 apprenticeship, a clinical position, or employment in a major-related
26 field during the immediately prior academic year and a comparison of
27 participation rates for scholarship recipients and nonscholarship
28 students;

29 (e) The total number of graduates for the immediately prior academic
30 year, the number of scholarship recipient graduates for such academic
31 year, and a comparison of the graduation rates for scholarship recipients

1 and nonscholarship students; and

2 (f) The number of graduates from the immediately prior academic year
3 who obtained employment in a major-related field in the state within four
4 months after graduation and the average starting salary for such
5 graduates.

6 (7) The Department of Economic Development shall allocate the amount
7 appropriated to the department to carry out this section to private
8 colleges that elect to participate under the Nebraska Career Scholarship
9 Act. The department shall establish a separate budget subprogram for such
10 allocations.

11 Sec. 7. It is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate fifty
12 thousand dollars for fiscal year 2022-23 from the General Fund to the
13 Board of Trustees of the Nebraska State Colleges for cooperative programs
14 with Wayne State College.

15 Sec. 8. Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 of this act become on July 1,
16 2023. The other sections of this act become operative on their effective
17 date.