

SENATE BILL NO. 197

March 20, 2025, Introduced by Senator SINGH and referred to Committee on Appropriations.

A bill to amend 1966 PA 313, entitled
"An act to award tuition grants to resident students enrolled in
independent nonprofit institutions of higher learning; and to make
an appropriation therefor,"
by amending sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 7a (MCL 390.991,
390.992, 390.993, 390.994, 390.995, 390.996, 390.997, and
390.997a), sections 1, 4, 5, 6, and 7 as amended by 1980 PA 503 and
section 3 as amended by 2021 PA 41.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1. Tuition grants are established by ~~the~~**this** state to
2 foster the pursuit of higher education by resident students

enrolled in **eligible** independent nonprofit colleges or universities. **As used in this act:**

(a) "Department" means the department of lifelong education, advancement, and potential.

(b) "Eligible independent nonprofit college or university" means an independent nonprofit college or university that meets all of the following:

(i) Is located in ~~the~~ **this** state. ~~, which have~~

(ii) **Has** filed with the board of education a certificate of assurance of compliance with title 6 of the civil rights act of 1964, Public Law 88-352, 77 Stat. 241, as in effect on January 1, 1966. ~~, whose~~

(iii) **Has** instructional programs **that** are not ~~comprised~~ **composed** solely of sectarian instruction or religious worship. ~~, and which~~ **are**

(iv) Is approved by the ~~state board of education.~~ **department.**

Sec. 2. The ~~Michigan higher education assistance authority created by Act No. 77 of the Public Acts of 1960, as amended, being sections 390.951 to 390.961 of the Michigan Compiled Laws,~~ **department** shall administer the grants **awarded under this act**, which ~~shall~~ **must** be available to each eligible resident student registered as an eligible undergraduate or graduate student. ~~Priority shall be given~~ **The department shall give priority** to full-time students.

Sec. 3. (1) ~~Upon~~ **Except as otherwise provided in subsection (4), upon** application of an eligible resident student who has resided in this state continuously for the preceding 12 months, is not considered a resident of any other state, ~~is not incarcerated in a corrections institution,~~ and is registered in an **eligible**

1 independent nonprofit college or university, ~~in this state, as~~
 2 ~~described in section 1, the Michigan higher education assistance~~
 3 ~~authority~~ **department** shall grant an amount as provided for in this
 4 act for each semester of attendance. Except as otherwise provided
 5 in this subsection, a student is not eligible for a grant for
 6 tuition and fees for more than 10 semesters of undergraduate
 7 education, or its equivalent in trimesters, or its equivalent as
 8 determined by the ~~authority~~ **department** for less than full-time
 9 students. ~~; for more than 6 semesters of graduate education, or its~~
 10 ~~equivalent in trimesters; or for more than 8 semesters in dental~~
 11 ~~education, or its equivalent in trimesters.~~ A student enrolled as
 12 an undergraduate during the 2020 spring term and the 2020-2021
 13 academic year is eligible for a grant of tuition and fees for up to
 14 12 semesters of undergraduate education, or its equivalent in
 15 trimesters, or its equivalent as determined by the ~~authority~~
 16 **department** for less than full-time students.

17 (2) A student must maintain satisfactory academic progress, as
 18 defined by the **eligible independent nonprofit** college or university
 19 in which the student is enrolled, to remain eligible for the
 20 tuition grant under this act.

21 (3) If a student possessing a degree at a given academic level
 22 enrolls for a second degree at the same academic level, the
 23 ~~authority~~ **department** shall include tuition grants received by the
 24 student when enrolled for the previous degree at the same level in
 25 determining the student's eligibility under subsection (1).

26 (4) **Notwithstanding any other provision of this act, students**
 27 **who receive Michigan achievement scholarships under section 248 of**
 28 **the school aid act of 1979, 1979 PA 94, MCL 388.1848, are not**
 29 **eligible to receive tuition grants under this act.**

1 Sec. 4. (1) The amount of the grant to be paid for each
2 semester or trimester ~~shall~~**must** be determined by the ~~Michigan~~
3 ~~higher education assistance authority~~**department** based ~~upon~~**on** an
4 evaluation of the family's financial resources. In determining
5 financial resources, the ~~authority~~**department** shall use the same
6 criteria as used in ~~Act No. 208 of the Public Acts of 1964, as~~
7 ~~amended, being sections 390.971 to 390.981 of the Michigan Compiled~~
8 ~~Laws. 1964 PA 208, MCL 390.971 to 390.981.~~ The evaluation shall
9 **must** make allowance for other members of the applicant's family
10 enrolled in an ~~approved institution of higher education.~~**eligible**
11 **independent nonprofit college or university.**

12 (2) A grant ~~shall~~**must** not be made under this act to a student
13 who is enrolled in a program of study leading to a degree in
14 theology, divinity, or religious education.

15 (3) Prorated payments ~~shall~~**must** be made at the beginning of
16 each semester or term to the student or to the **eligible independent**
17 **nonprofit** college or university for credit to the student's
18 account.

19 Sec. 5. Each tuition grant ~~shall~~**must** not exceed the amount of
20 tuition and fees for the full academic year as reported by the
21 **eligible independent nonprofit** college or university in which the
22 applicant is enrolled, or an amount the ~~Michigan higher education~~
23 ~~assistance authority~~**department** finds appropriate in relation to
24 the family's financial resources, whichever is the lesser. If there
25 are not sufficient appropriated funds to provide each student with
26 the grant amount for which the student is eligible, the ~~Michigan~~
27 ~~higher education assistance authority~~**department** shall establish a
28 maximum grant level for that academic year.

29 Sec. 6. The ~~Michigan higher education assistance authority~~

1 **department** shall promulgate rules to carry out this act ~~pursuant to~~
2 ~~Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, as amended, being sections~~
3 ~~24.201 to 24.315 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.~~**under the**
4 **administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to**
5 **24.328.**

6 Sec. 7. A student who receives a state competitive scholarship
7 authorized by ~~Act No. 208 of the Public Acts of 1964, as amended,~~
8 **1964 PA 208, MCL 390.971 to 390.981**, is not eligible to receive a
9 tuition grant concurrently. However, the state competitive
10 scholarship award of a student enrolled in an **eligible** independent
11 nonprofit college or university may be increased with funds from
12 the tuition grant program under this act up to the level of the
13 maximum tuition grant award as provided in section 5, if the
14 maximum tuition grant award is greater than the maximum competitive
15 scholarship award in a given year.

16 Sec. 7a. If a student receives other scholarship awards by a
17 private, nonprofit institution of higher learning covering full
18 tuition and fees, ~~he-the student~~ is not eligible for a tuition
19 grant. If a student receives other scholarship awards by a private,
20 nonprofit institution of higher learning covering only a portion of
21 ~~his-the student's~~ tuition and fees, the student may qualify for a
22 proportionate tuition grant in accordance with the provisions of
23 this act.