



2024 South Dakota Legislature

Senate Bill 157

Introduced by: **Senator Bordeaux**

1 **An Act to establish the nonbeneficiary student scholarship program and make an**
 2 **appropriation therefor.**

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 **Section 1. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 13-55:**

5 The nonbeneficiary student scholarship program is established to defray costs
 6 associated with the enrollment of a nonbeneficiary student in a tribally controlled
 7 institution of higher education.

8 For purposes of this Act, the term "nonbeneficiary student" means an individual
 9 who:

10 (1) Is enrolled as a student at:

11 (a) Oglala Lakota College in Kyle;

12 (b) Sinte Gleska University in Rosebud;

13 (c) Sitting Bull College in Mobridge; or

14 (d) Sisseton-Wahpeton Community College in Sisseton;

15 (2) Meets the residency requirements set forth in § 13-53-24; and

16 (3) Is not an enrolled member of a federally recognized Indian tribe.

17 The Department of Tribal Relations shall administer the nonbeneficiary student
 18 scholarship program.

19 **Section 2. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 13-55:**

20 To receive a scholarship under section 1 of this Act, a nonbeneficiary student must
 21 file an application with the Department of Tribal Relations. The department shall develop
 22 the application form and make it available on the department's website and in printed
 23 form upon request.

24 A student may participate in the scholarship program for up to four consecutive
 25 semesters or until the attainment of a baccalaureate degree, whichever occurs first.

1 The department may waive the requirement that a student's enrollment be in
2 consecutive semesters, upon a showing of good cause.

3 The department shall, by rules promulgated in accordance with chapter 1-26,
4 establish:

5 (1) The time and manner in which a waiver under this section may be requested; and

6 (2) The criteria to be used in determining what constitutes good cause.

7 **Section 3. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 13-55:**

8 The Department of Tribal Relations shall forward, to the institution in which the
9 student is enrolled:

10 (1) One-half of the student's annual scholarship amount at the beginning of the fall
11 semester; and

12 (2) One-half of the student's annual scholarship amount at the beginning of the spring
13 semester.

14 The scholarship amount to which a full-time equivalent nonbeneficiary student is
15 entitled, in accordance with sections 1 and 2 of this Act, is one thousand dollars per school
16 year.

17 If in any school year the amount available for nonbeneficiary scholarships is
18 insufficient to fully fund all eligible students, the department must prorate the amount
19 awarded to each student.

20 **Section 4.** There is hereby appropriated from the general fund the sum of \$49,000 to the
21 Department of Tribal Relations, for purposes of providing nonbeneficiary student scholarships.

22 **Section 5.** The secretary of the Department of Tribal Relations shall approve vouchers and
23 the state auditor shall draw warrants to pay expenditures authorized by this Act.

24 **Section 6.** Any amounts appropriated in this Act not lawfully expended or obligated shall
25 revert in accordance with the procedures prescribed in chapter 4-8.