

AN ACT

ENTITLED, An Act to revise the eligibility requirements for the opportunity scholarship by allowing a student to take the ACT or SAT test after graduating from high school.

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

Section 1. That § 13-55-31 be amended to read as follows:

13-55-31. In order to be eligible for a South Dakota opportunity scholarship award, a student shall:

- (1) Be a resident of South Dakota at the time of graduation from high school;
- (2) Have a composite score of 24, or higher, on the test administered by the American College Testing Program or a verbal-mathematics score of 1070-1100, on the Scholastic Assessment Test. The student shall take the ACT or SAT test before beginning postsecondary education;
- (3) Meet the high school course requirements as provided in Board of Regents Policy Number 2:3(2)(F) as in effect on January 1, 2003;
- (4) Attend a university, college, or technical school that is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and that provides instruction from a campus located in South Dakota; and
- (5) Enter into the program within five years of graduation from high school or within one year of the student's release from active duty with an active component of the armed forces if the release is within five years of the student's graduation from high school. If a student attends full-time a regionally accredited university, college, or technical school located outside South Dakota and within two years following high school graduation or within two years following release from active military service returns to the state to attend full-time a regionally accredited university, college, or technical school, the student

is eligible to receive a partial award.

A student is eligible to participate in the South Dakota opportunity scholarship program for the equivalent of four academic years (eight consecutive spring and fall terms) or until the attainment of a baccalaureate or technical degree, whichever comes first. However, the executive director of the Board of Regents may grant exceptions to the continuous enrollment requirements for good cause shown.

A student who would have been eligible for the scholarship, but who applies after completing one or more semesters of full-time work at an accredited institution, may be admitted to the program only if the student has complied with the same grade point and credit hour requirements that would apply to program participants. Admission granted under these circumstances may not be retroactive, and eligibility for participation in the program shall be reduced by one semester for each semester of work completed prior to admission to the program.

An Act to revise the eligibility requirements for the opportunity scholarship by allowing a student to take the ACT or SAT test after graduating from high school.

\_\_\_\_\_  
I certify that the attached Act  
originated in the

HOUSE as Bill No. 1186

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

House Bill No. 1186  
File No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Chapter No. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Received at this Executive Office  
this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ ,

20\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ M.

By \_\_\_\_\_  
for the Governor  
\_\_\_\_\_

The attached Act is hereby  
approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of  
\_\_\_\_\_, A.D., 20\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor  
\_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA,  
ss.

Office of the Secretary of State

Filed \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_  
at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Secretary of State