

# State of South Dakota

NINETY-THIRD SESSION  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2018

826Z0605

## SENATE BILL NO. 94

Introduced by: Senators Kolbeck, Curd, Greenfield (Brock), Jensen (Phil), Klumb, Langer, Nelson, Netherton, Rusch, and Stalzer and Representatives Peterson (Sue), Barthel, Beal, Bordeaux, Brunner, Campbell, Chase, Clark, Dennert, Diedrich, DiSanto, Duvall, Frye-Mueller, Glanzer, Goodwin, Greenfield (Lana), Haugaard, Heinemann, Howard, Jamison, Jensen (Kevin), Johnson, Latterell, Lesmeister, Livermont, Lust, Marty, May, McCleerey, McPherson, Mills, Pischke, Qualm, Rasmussen, Reed, Rhoden, Rounds, Schaefer, Schoenfish, Smith, Steinhauer, Wiese, York, and Zikmund

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to establish certain provisions regarding the opportunity  
2 scholarship program.

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

4 Section 1. That chapter 13-55 be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

5 To be eligible for a South Dakota opportunity scholarship, a student receiving alternative  
6 instruction pursuant to § 13-27-3 shall:

7 (1) Be a resident of South Dakota and have a valid certificate of excuse pursuant to  
8 §§ 13-27-3 and 13-27-7;

9 (2) Have a composite score of 24, or higher, on the test administered by the American  
10 College Testing Program (ACT) or an equivalent score as determined by the Board  
11 of Regents on the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT). The student shall take the ACT  
12 or SAT test before beginning postsecondary education;



- 1 (3) Provide a transcript of completed comparable coursework issued by the parent or  
2 guardian listed on the certificate of excuse that meets the course requirements of  
3 § 13-55-31;
- 4 (4) Attend a university, college, or technical school that is accredited by the North  
5 Central Association of Colleges and Schools and that provides instruction from a  
6 campus located in South Dakota; and
- 7 (5) Enter into the program within five years of graduation from the end of a certificate  
8 of excuse or within one year of the student's release from active duty with an active  
9 component of the armed forces if the release is within five years of the end of the  
10 student's certificate of excuse. If a student attends full-time a regionally accredited  
11 university, college, or technical school located outside South Dakota and within two  
12 years following the end of the student's certificate of excuse or within two years  
13 following release from active military service returns to the state to attend full-time  
14 a regionally accredited university, college, or technical school, the student is eligible  
15 to receive a partial award.

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

21 A student who would have been eligible for the scholarship, but who applies after  
22 completing one or more semesters of full-time work at an accredited institution, may be  
23 admitted to the program only if the student has complied with the same credit hour requirements  
24 that would apply to program participants. Admission granted under these circumstances may

- 1 not be retroactive, and eligibility for participation in the program shall be reduced by one
- 2 semester for each semester of work completed before admission to the program.