

ASSEMBLY, No. 394

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman EDWARD H. THOMSON

District 30 (Monmouth and Ocean)

Assemblyman SEAN T. KEAN

District 30 (Monmouth and Ocean)

Assemblywoman AURA K. DUNN

District 25 (Morris and Somerset)

SYNOPSIS

Requires public and nonpublic school to provide student with more information about NJ STARS Program and improve notification of potential eligibility.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 8/24/2020)

1 **AN ACT** concerning information on eligibility for the New Jersey
2 Student Tuition Assistance Reward Scholarship (NJ STARS)
3 Program and amending P.L.2009, c.280.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

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8 1. Section 1 of P.L.2009, c.280 (C.18A:71B-85.5) is amended
9 to read as follows:

10 1. a. In September of each school year, the board of
11 education of a school district or the chief school administrator of a
12 nonpublic school shall provide each student in the 8th and 9th grade
13 with general information on the New Jersey Student Tuition
14 Assistance Reward Scholarship (NJ STARS) Program created
15 pursuant to P.L.2004, c.59 (C.18A:71B-81 et seq.).

16 b. In September of each school year, the board of education of
17 a school district or the chief school administrator of a nonpublic
18 school shall notify each student in the 10th, 11th **【grade】**, and 12th
19 grades who is ranked in the top 25.0% of the class of his potential
20 to qualify for the NJ STARS Program if the student's class rank at
21 the completion of the 11th grade or 12th grade is within the top
22 15.0% of the class.

23 The notification shall include information about the rigorous
24 course of study required to qualify for the program.

25 A student in the 12th grade shall be notified of conditional
26 eligibility for the NJ STARS Program by the Higher Education
27 Student Assistance Authority in accordance with the provisions of
28 section 2 of P.L.2008, c.124 (C.18A:71B-85.1).

29 c. The notification by the board of education or chief school
30 administrator required pursuant to subsections a. and b. of this
31 section shall be communicated via regular or electronic mail or sent
32 home with the student and include a brief description of the NJ
33 STARS Program and the requirements for eligibility for the
34 program.

35 (cf: P.L.2014, c.55, s.2)

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37 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall first apply to
38 the 2018-2019 school year.

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STATEMENT

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43 Under current law, a student receives general information about
44 the New Jersey Student Tuition Assistance Reward Scholarship (NJ
45 STARS) program and the program's requirements for eligibility in
46 the 9th grade. In September of each school year, the board of

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **【thus】** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 education of a school district or the chief school administrator of a
2 nonpublic school is required to notify each student in the 11th grade
3 who is ranked in the top 25.0% of the class of his potential to
4 qualify for the NJ STARS Program if the student's class rank at the
5 completion of the 11th grade or 12th grade is within the top 15.0%
6 of the class. This bill requires the board of education of a school
7 district or the chief school administrator of a nonpublic school to
8 also provide general information about the NJ STARS program in
9 the 8th grade. The bill also requires the notice of potential eligibility
10 to be distributed in the 10th and 12th grades to students who are
11 ranked in the top 25% of the class.