

ASSEMBLY, No. 5485

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 17, 2021

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman RONALD S. DANCER

District 12 (Burlington, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean)

Assemblyman NICHOLAS CHIARAVALLOTI

District 31 (Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Scharfenberger

SYNOPSIS

Prohibits four-year public institution of higher education from charging tuition to student who is spouse or dependent child of disabled veteran.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/25/2021)

1 **AN ACT** concerning tuition-free enrollment in a four-year public
2 institution of higher education for certain students and
3 supplementing chapter 62 of Title 18A of the New Jersey
4 Statutes.

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

8
9 1. a. No four-year public institution of higher education shall
10 charge tuition to the spouse or dependent child of a disabled veteran
11 provided that:

12 (1) the spouse or child has been accepted to pursue a course of
13 undergraduate study and is enrolled as an undergraduate student in
14 good standing at that institution;

15 (2) the spouse or child has applied for all available State student
16 grants and scholarships and all available federal student grants and
17 scholarships for which the spouse or child is eligible;

18 (3) the spouse or child has applied for tuition benefits available
19 through the United States Department of Veterans Affairs for which
20 the spouse or child is eligible under the "Post-9/11 Veterans
21 Educational Assistance Act of 2008," Pub.L.110-252 (38 U.S.C.
22 s.3301 et seq.); and

23 (4) available classroom space permits and tuition-paying students
24 constitute the minimum number required for the course.

25 b. The State shall reimburse each institution of higher education
26 for the costs of waiving tuition pursuant to the provisions of this
27 act.

28 c. As used in this act: "disabled veteran" means a person who
29 has served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States
30 and who was discharged or released therefrom under conditions
31 other than dishonorable, and who has experienced a total and
32 permanent disability as certified by the United States Department of
33 Veterans Affairs as a consequence of military service.

34
35 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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38 STATEMENT

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40 This bill prohibits four-year public institutions of higher
41 education from charging tuition to the spouse or dependent child of
42 a disabled veteran. Under the bill, the spouse or dependent child of
43 a disabled veteran is eligible to attend a four-year public institution
44 of higher education tuition free provided that:

45 (1) the spouse or child has been accepted to pursue a course of
46 undergraduate study and is enrolled as an undergraduate student in
47 good standing at that institution;

1 (2) the spouse or child has applied for all available State student
2 grants and scholarships and all available federal student grants and
3 scholarships for which the spouse or child is eligible;

4 (3) the spouse or child has applied for tuition benefits available
5 through the United States Department of Veterans Affairs for which
6 the spouse or child is eligible under the "Post-9/11 Veterans
7 Educational Assistance Act of 2008," Pub.L.110-252 (38 U.S.C.
8 s.3301 et seq.); and

9 (4) available classroom space permits and tuition-paying students
10 constitute the minimum number required for the course.

11 The bill directs the State to reimburse each institution of higher
12 education for the costs of waiving tuition pursuant to the bill's
13 provisions.