

SENATE, No. 2411

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 7, 2020

Sponsored by:
Senator JOSEPH P. CRYAN
District 20 (Union)

SYNOPSIS

Requires institutions of higher education to refund to students percentage of tuition and fees and certain costs associated with student housing and meal plans for spring 2020 semester.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **AN ACT** concerning certain refunds for students at institutions of
2 higher education and supplementing chapter 3B of Title 18A of
3 the New Jersey Statutes.

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

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8 1. a. As used in this section, “qualified tuition expenses”
9 means payments made by a student for tuition and fees for the
10 spring 2020 semester, or such payments made on behalf of a student
11 through a student loan.

12 b. Each institution of higher education shall provide a 25 percent
13 refund of qualified tuition expenses for the spring 2020 semester to
14 any student who enrolled in and submitted payment for an in-person
15 course of instruction which course instead was provided in a virtual
16 or remote format due to the public health emergency and state of
17 emergency declared in response to the coronavirus disease 2019.

18
19 2. a. As used in this section, “qualified student expenses”
20 means payments made by a student for on-campus student housing
21 and a meal plan for the spring 2020 semester, or such payments
22 made on behalf of a student through a student loan.

23 b. Each institution of higher education shall provide a pro rata
24 refund of qualified student expenses for the spring 2020 semester to
25 any student who was required by the institution to vacate on-
26 campus student housing due to the public health emergency and
27 state of emergency declared in response to the coronavirus disease
28 2019. The refund shall reflect the number of days between the date
29 the institution required a student to vacate on-campus student
30 housing and the originally scheduled end-of-occupancy date for the
31 student housing.

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33 3. Each institution of higher education shall notify its students
34 of the refund available pursuant to the provisions of this act within
35 30 days of the effective date of this act.

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37 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

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40 **STATEMENT**

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42 In response to the public health emergency presented by COVID-
43 19, and pursuant to Executive Order 104, colleges across the State
44 have closed on-campus student housing and cancelled in-person
45 course instruction for the remainder of the spring 2020 semester,
46 instead offering courses in virtual or remote formats.

47 This bill requires each institution of higher education to provide
48 a 25 percent refund of tuition and fees to students who enrolled in

1 and submitted payment for an in-person course of instruction that
2 was instead provided to students in a virtual or remote format due to
3 the public health emergency.

4 This bill also requires each institution of higher education to
5 provide a pro rata refund of payments made for room and board and
6 meal plans for the spring 2020 semester to any student who was
7 required to vacate on-campus student housing in response to the
8 public health emergency. The refund will reflect the number of
9 days between the date the institution required a student to vacate
10 on-campus student housing and the originally scheduled end-of-
11 occupancy date for the student housing.