

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 47th Legislature (1999)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
4 FOR ENGROSSED
5 SENATE BILL NO. 196

By: Williams of the Senate

and

6 Braddock of the House

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10 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

11 An Act relating to higher education; amending 70 O.S.
12 1991, Sections 626.4 and 626.7, which relate to the
13 Oklahoma Higher Education Tuition Aid Act; modifying
14 eligibility requirements; making certain references
15 gender neutral; removing limit on certain award;
16 prohibiting increase in maximum award amount in
17 certain circumstances; authorizing Oklahoma State
18 Regents for Higher Education to set limits on certain
19 award; authorizing Oklahoma State Regents for Higher
20 Education to set award amounts based on need analysis
21 system; deleting certain award amounts; deleting
22 certain definition; providing for continuation of
23 certain eligibility criteria for certain students;
24 providing an effective date; and declaring an
25 emergency.

26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

27 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 1991, Section 626.4, is
28 amended to read as follows:

29 Section 626.4 State tuition aid grants shall be awarded to all
30 eligible applicants without any limitation on the number to be
31 awarded in any year other than the amount of appropriations
32 available therefor. The institution involved may appropriately
33 schedule work to permit recipients to earn the amount of said
34 tuition grants.

35 Definitions of full-time and part-time undergraduate and
36 graduate students shall be established by the Oklahoma State Regents
37 for Higher Education. ~~Provided, no student shall be eligible for a~~

1 ~~tuition aid grant under this act unless he is enrolled in a minimum~~
2 ~~of six (6) semester hours.~~

3 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 1991, Section 626.7, is
4 amended to read as follows:

5 Section 626.7 A college tuition aid grant shall be awarded
6 annually to each eligible, qualified full-time or part-time
7 undergraduate or graduate student enrolled in a curriculum leading
8 to a degree or certificate in an institution of collegiate grade or
9 postsecondary institution providing ~~not less than a one-year~~ program
10 of training to prepare students for employment in a recognized
11 occupation in Oklahoma approved or accredited by the Oklahoma State
12 Regents for Higher Education or appropriate postsecondary agency in
13 accordance with the following:

14 1. Eligibility. Each full-time or part-time resident student
15 ~~as previously defined~~ will be eligible to receive a grant in an
16 amount as provided in paragraph 2 of this section. The Oklahoma
17 State Regents for Higher Education shall determine by rules and
18 regulations the maximum number of semesters a student may be
19 eligible for grants. No student shall be eligible for grants unless
20 ~~he~~ the student maintains such minimum standards of academic
21 performance as are required by the institution in which ~~he~~ the
22 student is enrolled.

23 In the event a student for any reason ceases to continue to be
24 enrolled during the course of an academic year, ~~he~~ the student shall
25 cease to be eligible for tuition aid.

26 2. Amount of grant. The amount of tuition aid grant to any
27 student under this act for any semester shall represent a percentage
28 not greater than seventy-five percent (75%) of the tuition and
29 enrollment fees normally charged to residents of the State of
30 Oklahoma by the institution of attendance ~~and shall not exceed One~~
31 ~~Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) in one (1) academic year.~~ The Oklahoma
32 State Regents for Higher Education shall determine by rules the

1 annual maximum award amount based on an annual assessment of funds
2 availability. The State Regents shall not increase the annual
3 maximum award amount unless funding is sufficient to serve at least
4 the same number of students as the previous academic year.

5 ~~The~~ For the 2000-2001 academic year and each academic year
6 thereafter, the percentage of aid shall be determined by the amount
7 of effective income of the eligible student. Effective income of an
8 independent student shall be the income of the student and the
9 spouse of the student, if applicable. Effective income of a
10 dependent student shall be the income of the student and the spouse
11 of the student, if applicable, and the parents or legal guardian of
12 the student based on a need analysis system that is consistent with
13 federal student financial aid regulations. The Oklahoma State
14 Regents for Higher Education shall set an annual award payment
15 schedule upon which determination of the percentage is based shall
16 be based upon a maximum grant of seventy-five percent (75%) of
17 tuition and fees with grants based on lower percentages of tuition
18 and fees being awarded to students who demonstrate lower financial
19 need. , with an income range of from Seven Thousand Dollars
20 (\$7,000.00) to Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) at income
21 intervals of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) as follows:

| <u>EFFECTIVE</u> | <u>PERCENTAGE</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| <u>INCOME</u> | <u>OF AID</u> |
| <u>BELOW</u> | |
| \$ 7,000 | 75% |
| 8,000 | 70% |
| 9,000 | 65% |
| 10,000 | 60% |
| 11,000 | 55% |
| 12,000 | 50% |
| 13,000 | 45% |
| 14,000 | 40% |

| | | |
|---|--------|-----|
| 1 | 15,000 | 35% |
| 2 | 16,000 | 30% |
| 3 | 17,000 | 25% |
| 4 | 18,000 | 20% |
| 5 | 19,000 | 15% |
| 6 | 20,000 | 10% |

7 ~~"Effective income" shall be defined as total taxable and~~
8 ~~nontaxable income less a per-household-member cost-of-living~~
9 ~~allowance. The allowance shall be calculated by dividing the~~
10 ~~current Oklahoma low median family income by the current median~~
11 ~~household size published by the United States Department of Housing~~
12 ~~and Urban Development. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher~~
13 ~~Education are hereby authorized to adopt rules and regulations to~~
14 ~~permit exceptions to the determination of effective income in cases~~
15 ~~of unusual financial hardship.~~

16 Any student who receives an award for the 1999-2000 academic
17 year shall not be denied additional awards because of inability to
18 meet the financial standards established in this act as long as
19 other eligibility criteria continue to be met and as long as the
20 award status of the student is renewed on an annual basis. The
21 Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education are authorized to
22 establish procedures to determine the financial need of the student
23 under the standards used during the 1999-2000 academic year until
24 the initial degree requirements are met by the student.

25 Financial assistance received under this act will be considered
26 as part of a student's financial aid package.

27 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 1999.
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1 SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
2 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby
3 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
4 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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