

1 B. Subject to the availability of funds, for each eligible
2 Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program student enrolled at a
3 private institution of higher learning located within this state and
4 accredited pursuant to Section 4103 of this title, the Oklahoma
5 State Regents for Higher Education shall award from the Oklahoma
6 Higher Learning Access Trust Fund an amount equivalent to the amount
7 of resident tuition for which the student would be eligible if the
8 student were enrolled in a comparable program at a comparable
9 institution of The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education.
10 Comparability shall be determined by the State Regents.

11 C. Subject to the availability of funds, an amount equivalent
12 to the tuition for any eligible Oklahoma Higher Learning Access
13 Program student enrolled in a public postsecondary vocational-
14 technical program or course for the purpose set forth in Section
15 2602 of this title shall be awarded by allocation from the Oklahoma
16 Higher Learning Access Trust Fund. Provided, such allocation shall
17 not exceed the amount a student would have received for comparable
18 enrollment at a two-year institution within The Oklahoma State
19 System of Higher Education.

20 D. An award allowed by this section shall not include an amount
21 equivalent to tuition or fees for remedial non-credit-earning
22 courses or units taken by an eligible Oklahoma Higher Learning
23 Access Program student. The provisions of this subsection shall not

1 apply to any student who has received an Oklahoma Higher Learning
2 Access Program benefit award prior to the 2013-2014 school year.

3 E. 1. An award allowed by this section shall not be allowed
4 for courses or other postsecondary units taken in excess of the
5 requirements for completion of a baccalaureate program or taken more
6 than five (5) years after the student's first semester of
7 postsecondary enrollment. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher
8 Education may award the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program
9 benefits for courses of postsecondary units taken more than five (5)
10 years after the student's first semester of postsecondary enrollment
11 only in hardship circumstances; provided, however, no Oklahoma
12 Higher Learning Access Program participant may receive benefits
13 beyond a cumulative time period of five (5) years.

14 2. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education may award
15 the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program benefits for a student's
16 first semester or other academic unit of postsecondary enrollment
17 taken more than three (3) years after the student graduates from
18 high school or completes an educational program equivalent to high
19 school graduation as authorized in subsection A of Section 2603 of
20 this title or after the student turns twenty-one (21) years of age
21 as authorized in subsection B of Section 2603 of this title if the
22 student is a member of the Armed Forces of the United States, the
23 Reserve Corps of the Armed Forces of the United States, or the

1 Oklahoma National Guard, and is ordered to active duty or active
2 duty for special work or training and due to the duty commitment the
3 student is unable to enroll prior to the end of the three-year
4 period or before the student reaches twenty-one (21) years of age.
5 The period shall be extended by the length of the term of duty.

6 3. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education may
7 establish a maximum limit on the number of courses or other
8 postsecondary units to which Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program
9 benefits will apply.

10 4. An award for eligible Oklahoma Higher Learning Access
11 Program students enrolled in cooperative programs pursuant to
12 agreements between technology center schools and institutions of The
13 Oklahoma State System of Higher Education shall be satisfied for
14 both vocational-technical and college work in which enrolled
15 pursuant to such cooperative program.

16 ~~E.~~ F. Benefits awarded under the Oklahoma Higher Learning
17 Access Program shall be awarded to all eligible applicants without
18 any limitation on the number of awards in any year other than the
19 amount of funds available for the program and the number of eligible
20 applicants. Subject to the provisions of subsection F of this
21 section, if funds are not sufficient to provide awards for all
22 eligible applicants, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
23 shall make awards on the basis of need. Provided, the Oklahoma

1 State Regents for Higher Education shall take into consideration
2 other grants and scholarships received by an eligible applicant when
3 making awards.

4 ~~F.~~ G. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education may, at
5 the time an award is made on behalf of an Oklahoma Higher Learning
6 Access Program student, set aside in the Oklahoma Higher Learning
7 Access Trust Fund funds for the full commitment made to such Higher
8 Learning Access Program student. For all academic years, students
9 who have previously received awards under the provisions of the
10 Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Act, Section 2601 et seq. of this
11 title, and who have continued at all times to fulfill the
12 requirements for eligibility to receive awards provided pursuant to
13 this program shall be given an absolute priority for continued
14 financial support by the Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program
15 superior to any students who are applying for such benefits for the
16 first time.

17 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2012.

18 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
19 of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby
20 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
21 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

22
23 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND BUDGET, dated
24 02/23/2012 - DO PASS, As Coauthored.