

SENATE BILL No. 44

By Committee on Education

1-21

1 AN ACT concerning education; relating to the Kansas promise scholarship
2 program; expanding the postsecondary educational institutions eligible
3 to participate in such program; amending K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 74-32,271
4 and 74-32,274 and repealing the existing sections.

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6 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

7 Section 1. K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 74-32,271 is hereby amended to read as
8 follows: 74-32,271. (a) K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 74-32,271 et seq., and
9 amendments thereto, shall be known and may be cited as the Kansas
10 promise scholarship act.

11 (b) As used in the Kansas promise scholarship act:

12 (1) "Eligible postsecondary educational institution" means:

13 (A) Any community college or technical college established under
14 the laws of this state and with a recognized service area;

15 (B) the Washburn institute of technology; ~~or~~

16 (C) any not-for-profit institution of postsecondary education with its
17 main campus or principal place of operation in Kansas that offers a
18 promise eligible program, is operated independently and not controlled or
19 administered by any state agency or subdivision of the state, maintains
20 open enrollment and is accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting
21 agency for higher education in the United States; *or*

22 (D) *any institution of postsecondary education with its main campus*
23 *or principal place of operation in Kansas that offers a promise eligible*
24 *program, is recognized by the state board of regents, is accredited by a*
25 *nationally recognized accrediting agency for higher education in the*
26 *United States and is eligible to receive funding under title IV of the higher*
27 *education act of 1965.*

28 (2) "Military servicemember" means the same as defined in K.S.A.
29 2024 Supp. 48-3406, and amendments thereto.

30 (3) "Part-time student" means a student who is enrolled for six credit
31 hours or more in the fall, summer or spring semester and is not enrolled as
32 a full-time student.

33 (4) "Promise eligible program" means any two-year associate degree
34 program or career and technical education certificate or stand-alone

1 program offered by an eligible postsecondary educational institution that
2 is:

- 3 (A) Approved by the state board of regents;
- 4 (B) high wage, high demand or critical need; and
- 5 (C) identified as a "promise eligible program" by the state board of
6 regents pursuant to K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 74-32,272, and amendments
7 thereto, or a "promise eligible program" within a field of study designated
8 by an eligible postsecondary educational institution pursuant to K.S.A.
9 2024 Supp. 74-32,273, and amendments thereto.

10 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 74-32,274 is hereby amended to read as
11 follows: 74-32,274. (a) Subject to appropriations, the amount of a Kansas
12 promise scholarship for a student for each academic year shall be
13 determined as follows:

14 (1) For a student enrolled in a promise eligible program offered by an
15 eligible public postsecondary educational institution described in K.S.A.
16 2024 Supp. 74-32,271(b)(1)(A) or (B), and amendments thereto, the
17 scholarship amount shall be the aggregate amount of tuition, required fees
18 and the cost of books and required materials for the promise eligible
19 program at the eligible postsecondary educational institution for the
20 academic year in which the student is enrolled and receiving the
21 scholarship minus the aggregate amount of all other aid awarded to such
22 student for such academic year.

23 (2) For a student enrolled in a promise eligible program offered by an
24 eligible private postsecondary educational institution described in K.S.A.
25 2024 Supp. 74-32,271(b)(1)(C) *or* (D), and amendments thereto, the
26 scholarship amount shall be the aggregate amount of tuition, required fees
27 and the cost of books and materials for such program for the academic
28 year in which the student is enrolled and receiving the scholarship minus
29 the aggregate amount of all other aid awarded to such student for such
30 academic year, except that a scholarship awarded pursuant to this
31 paragraph shall not exceed the average cost of tuition, required fees and
32 the cost of books and required materials for such promise eligible program
33 when offered by an eligible public postsecondary educational institution
34 described in K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 74-32,271(b)(1)(A) or (B), and
35 amendments thereto.

36 (b) Kansas promise scholarships shall only be awarded to an eligible
37 student whose family household income equals \$100,000 or less for a
38 family of one or two, \$150,000 or less for a family of three and, for
39 household sizes above three, a household income that is equal to or less
40 than the family of three amount plus \$4,800 for each additional family
41 member.

42 (c) (1) Kansas promise scholarship awards shall be used only to pay
43 for up to a total of 68 promise scholarship funded credit hours or a total of

1 \$20,000 in Kansas promise scholarship awards, whichever occurs first,
2 over the lifetime of the student who received the Kansas promise
3 scholarship award regardless of the eligible postsecondary educational
4 institution such student attended.

5 (2) Kansas promise scholarship awards shall not be used to fund:

6 (A) Prerequisite classes required for a promise eligible program
7 unless such classes are a designated course within the eligible program; or

8 (B) any remedial course, as defined in K.S.A. 76-7,151, and
9 amendments thereto, unless such course is offered in a corequisite format.

10 (d) For each fiscal year, the appropriation made for the Kansas
11 promise scholarship program shall not exceed ~~\$10,000,000~~ **{ \$15,000,000 }**.

12 (e) The state board of regents shall disburse funds based on
13 reimbursement requests from eligible postsecondary educational
14 institutions. Reimbursement requests shall be based on the actual amount
15 of Kansas promise scholarship amounts awarded by an eligible
16 postsecondary educational institution for the appropriate academic period.
17 Any eligible postsecondary educational institution seeking reimbursement
18 shall submit a reimbursement request to the state board of regents on or
19 before September 1, December 1, March 1 and June 1 of each year. The
20 state board of regents shall disburse the appropriate amount of funds to
21 eligible postsecondary educational institutions on September 15,
22 December 15, March 15 and June 15 each year.

23 (f) As used in this section, "aid" includes any grant, scholarship or
24 financial assistance awards that do not require repayment. "Aid" does not
25 include any military financial educational benefits or any family
26 postsecondary savings account or other qualified tuition program
27 established pursuant to section 529 of the internal revenue code of 1986, as
28 amended.

29 Sec. 3. K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 74-32,271 and 74-32,274 are hereby
30 repealed.

31 Sec. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
32 publication in the ~~statute book~~ **{Kansas register}**.