

1 AN ACT relating to Kentucky educational excellence scholarships.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 164.7884 is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) As used in this section:

5 (a) "Academic year" means July 1 through June 30 of each year;

6 (b) "Apprentice" has the same meaning as in KRS 343.010;

7 (c) **"Approved workforce solutions training program" means a local high-**  
8 **demand work sector training program that is approved by the authority and**  
9 **is offered by the Kentucky Community and Technical College System**  
10 **through consultation with representatives of the local workforce**  
11 **development area and the local Kentucky Community and Technical**  
12 **College System campus where the program will be offered;**

13 (d) **"Eligible college of art and design" means a college that:**

14 **1. Qualifies as a tax exempt organization pursuant to Section 501(c)(3)**  
15 **of the Internal Revenue Code;**

16 **2. Is conditionally or unconditionally licensed by the Council on**  
17 **Postsecondary Education;**

18 **3. Is a candidate for accreditation by a regional accrediting association**  
19 **recognized by the United States Department of Education;**

20 **4. Has its main campus physically located in Kentucky;**

21 **5. Limits its degree program offerings to the area of fine arts; and**

22 **6. Does not qualify as a participating institution as defined in KRS**  
23 **164.7874;**

24 (e) "Eligible student" means an eligible high school student who has graduated  
25 from high school or a student eligible under KRS 164.7879(3)(e);

26 (f) **"Proprietary school" means a school that:**

27 **1. Is licensed by the Kentucky Commission on Proprietary Education;**

- 1           **2. Has operated for at least five (5) years;**  
 2           **3. Has its headquarters or main campus physically located in Kentucky;**  
 3           **and**  
 4           **4. Does not qualify as a participating institution under KRS**  
 5           **164.7874(20);**

6           **(g) "Qualified proprietary school program" means a program offered by a**  
 7           **proprietary school that is in the field of agriculture as defined in KRS**  
 8           **246.010 or is in one (1) of Kentucky's top five (5) high-demand work sectors**  
 9           **as determined by the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board;**

10          ~~(h)(d)~~ "Qualified workforce training program" means a program that is in one  
 11           (1) of Kentucky's top five (5) high-demand work sectors as determined by the  
 12           Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board;

13          ~~(i)(e)~~ "Registered apprenticeship program" means an apprenticeship program  
 14           that:

- 15           1. Is established in accordance with the requirements of KRS Chapter 343;
- 16           2. Requires a minimum of two thousand (2,000) hours of on-the-job work  
 17           experience;
- 18           3. Requires a minimum of one hundred forty-four (144) hours of related  
 19           instruction for each year of the apprenticeship; and
- 20           4. Is approved by the Education and Labor Cabinet;

21          ~~(j)(f)~~ "Related instruction" has the same meaning as in KRS 343.010; and

22          ~~(k)(g)~~ "Sponsor" has the same meaning as in KRS 343.010.

23          (2) Notwithstanding KRS 164.7881, an eligible student who earned a KEES award  
 24           shall be eligible for a Kentucky educational excellence scholarship if the student  
 25           meets the requirements of this section and is:

26           (a) An apprentice in a registered apprenticeship program;~~[-or]~~

27           (b) Enrolled in a qualified workforce training program that has a current

1 articulation agreement for postsecondary credit hours with a participating  
2 institution;

3 **(c) Enrolled in a qualified proprietary school program;**

4 **(d) Enrolled in an approved workforce solutions training program; or**

5 **(e) Enrolled in an eligible college of art and design.**

- 6 (3) (a) Beginning with the 2018-2019 academic year, an eligible student enrolled in a  
7 registered apprenticeship program or, for the academic year beginning July 1,  
8 2020, an eligible student enrolled in a qualified workforce training program  
9 **or, for the academic year beginning July 1, 2023, an eligible student**  
10 **enrolled in a qualified proprietary school program, an approved workforce**  
11 **solutions training program, or an eligible college of art and design,** may  
12 receive reimbursement of tuition, books, required tools, and other approved  
13 expenses required for participation in the program, upon certification by the  
14 sponsor, **school, or college** and approval by the authority.
- 15 (b) The reimbursement amount an eligible student may receive in an academic  
16 year shall not exceed the student's KEES award maximum.
- 17 (c) The total reimbursement amount an eligible student may receive under this  
18 section shall not exceed the student's KEES award maximum multiplied by  
19 four (4).
- 20 (4) Eligibility for a KEES scholarship under this section shall terminate upon the earlier  
21 of:
- 22 (a) The expiration of five (5) years following the eligible student's graduation  
23 from high school or receiving a High School Equivalency Diploma, except as  
24 provided in KRS 164.7881(5); or
- 25 (b) The eligible student's successful completion of the registered apprenticeship  
26 program, ~~for~~ ~~or~~ ~~qualified~~ ~~workforce~~ ~~training~~ ~~program,~~ **qualified proprietary**  
27 **school program, or approved workforce solutions training program.**

1 (5) The authority shall promulgate administrative regulations establishing the  
2 procedures for making awards under this section in consultation with the Kentucky  
3 Education and Labor Cabinet and the Kentucky Economic Development Cabinet.

4 ➔Section 2. KRS 164.7879 is amended to read as follows:

5 (1) Kentucky educational excellence scholarship awards shall be based upon an  
6 established base scholarship amount and an eligible high school student's grade  
7 point average. The base scholarship amount for students attaining a grade point  
8 average of at least 2.5 for the 1998-1999 academic year shall be as follows:

	GPA	Amount	GPA	Amount
9				
10	2.50	\$125.00	3.30	\$325.00
11	2.60	\$150.00	3.40	\$350.00
12	2.70	\$175.00	3.50	\$375.00
13	2.75	\$187.00	3.60	\$400.00
14	2.80	\$200.00	3.70	\$425.00
15	2.90	\$225.00	3.75	\$437.00
16	3.00	\$250.00	3.80	\$450.00
17	3.10	\$275.00	3.90	\$475.00
18	3.20	\$300.00	4.00	\$500.00
19	3.25	\$312.00		

20 The authority shall review the base amount of the Kentucky educational excellence  
21 scholarship each academic year and may promulgate an administrative regulation to  
22 make adjustments after considering the availability of funds.

23 (2) (a) The authority shall commit to provide to each eligible high school student the  
24 base amount of the Kentucky educational excellence scholarship for each  
25 academic year of high school study in the Kentucky educational excellence  
26 scholarship curriculum that the high school student has attained at least a 2.5  
27 grade point average. The award shall be based upon the eligible high school

1 student's grade point average at the close of each academic year. An award  
2 attributable to a past academic year shall not be increased after the award has  
3 been earned by an eligible high school student, regardless of any subsequent  
4 increases made to the base amount of the Kentucky educational excellence  
5 scholarship through the promulgation of an administrative regulation by the  
6 authority.

7 (b) Notwithstanding the definitions of "eligible high school student" and "high  
8 school" in KRS 164.7874, any high school student who maintains Kentucky  
9 residency and completes the academic courses that are required for a  
10 Kentucky educational excellence scholarship while participating in an  
11 approved educational high school foreign exchange program or participating  
12 in the United States Congressional Page School may apply his or her grade  
13 point average for that academic year toward the base as described in  
14 paragraph (a) of this subsection. The grade point average shall be reported by  
15 the student's Kentucky home high school, based on an official transcript from  
16 the school that the student attended during the out-of-state educational  
17 experience. The authority shall promulgate administrative regulations that  
18 describe the approval process for the educational exchange programs that  
19 qualify under this paragraph. The provisions in this paragraph shall likewise  
20 apply to any Kentucky high school student who participated in an approved  
21 educational exchange program or in a Congressional Page School since the  
22 1998-99 school year and maintained his or her Kentucky residency  
23 throughout.

24 (c) 1. Notwithstanding the definitions of "eligible high school student" and  
25 "high school" in KRS 164.7874 and the requirement that a student  
26 graduate from a Kentucky high school, a high school student who  
27 completes the KEES curriculum while attending an accredited out-of-

- 1 state high school or Department of Defense school may apply the grade  
2 point average for any applicable academic year toward the base as  
3 described in paragraph (a) of this subsection and shall also qualify for a  
4 supplemental award under subsection (3) of this section when:
- 5 a. His or her custodial parent or guardian is in active service of the  
6 Armed Forces of the United States;~~and~~
- 7 b. ~~The custodial parent or guardian maintained Kentucky as the~~  
8 ~~home of record at the time the~~ student attended an accredited out-  
9 of-state high school or a Department of Defense school **as a result**  
10 **of the custodial parent's or guardian's military transfer outside**  
11 **of Kentucky; and**
- 12 **c. The student earned a KEES base amount at a Kentucky high**  
13 **school prior to the custodial parent's or guardian's military**  
14 **transfer outside of Kentucky.**
- 15 2. The student or parent shall arrange for the out-of-state school to report  
16 the student's grade point average each academic year and the student's  
17 highest ACT score to the authority as required under KRS 164.7885.  
18 The authority shall promulgate administrative regulations implementing  
19 the requirements in this paragraph, including:
- 20 a. The documentation that the parent shall submit to the authority  
21 establishing the student's eligibility for the scholarship; and
- 22 b. The assurances that an out- of state institution shall submit to the  
23 authority for submission of the student grade point average.
- 24 3. The provisions in this paragraph shall apply to the 2001-2002 school  
25 year and thereafter.
- 26 (d) Beginning with the 2013-2014 academic year, a student who meets the  
27 Kentucky core academic standards for high school graduation established in

1 administrative regulation and graduates after completing three (3) years of  
 2 high school shall receive a Kentucky educational excellence scholarship  
 3 award equivalent to completing high school in four (4) years. The award shall  
 4 be determined by dividing the total actual KEES scholarship earned under  
 5 subsection (1) of this section by three (3) and multiplying that number by four  
 6 (4). The resulting number shall be the annual award the student is eligible for  
 7 under subsection (1) of this section.

8 (3) (a) The authority shall commit to provide to each eligible high school student  
 9 graduating from high school before June 30, 1999, and achieving a score of at  
 10 least 15 on the American College Test, a supplemental award for the award  
 11 period beginning in the fall of 1999, based on the eligible high school  
 12 student's highest ACT score attained by the date of graduation from high  
 13 school. The amount of the supplemental award shall be determined as follows:

14	ACT	Annual	ACT	Annual
15	Score	Bonus	Score	Bonus
16	15	\$21	22	\$171
17	16	\$43	23	\$193
18	17	\$64	24	\$214
19	18	\$86	25	\$236
20	19	\$107	26	\$257
21	20	\$129	27	\$279
22	21	\$150	28 or above	\$300

23 Subsequent supplemental awards for eligible high school students graduating  
 24 before June 30, 1999, shall be determined in accordance with the provisions  
 25 of paragraph (b) of this subsection.

26 (b) The authority shall commit to provide to each eligible high school student  
 27 upon achievement after June 30, 1999, of an ACT score of at least 15 on the

1 American College Test a supplemental award based on the eligible high  
 2 school student's highest ACT score attained by the date of graduation from  
 3 high school. The amount of the supplemental award shall be determined as  
 4 follows:

5	ACT		ACT	
6	Score	Amount	Score	Amount
7	15	\$36	22	\$286
8	16	\$71	23	\$321
9	17	\$107	24	\$357
10	18	\$143	25	\$393
11	19	\$179	26	\$428
12	20	\$214	27	\$464
13	21	\$250	28 and above	\$500

14 The authority shall review the base amount of the supplemental award  
 15 beginning with the 2001-2002 academic year and each academic year  
 16 thereafter and may promulgate an administrative regulation to make  
 17 adjustments after considering the availability of funds.

18 (c) Beginning with the 2008-2009 academic year, the authority shall commit to  
 19 provide a supplemental award for achievement on examinations for Advanced  
 20 Placement or International Baccalaureate as defined in KRS 164.002 to an  
 21 eligible high school student whose family was eligible for free or reduced-  
 22 price lunch for any year during high school enrollment.

- 23 1. The supplemental award for AP examination scores are as follows:
  - 24 a. Two hundred dollars (\$200) for each score of three (3);
  - 25 b. Two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for each score of four (4); and
  - 26 c. Three hundred dollars (\$300) for each score of five (5).
- 27 2. The supplemental award for IB examination scores are as follows:

- 1                   a.    Two hundred dollars (\$200) for each score of five (5);
- 2                   b.    Two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for each score of six (6); and
- 3                   c.    Three hundred dollars (\$300) for each score of seven (7).
- 4           (d)   Beginning with the 2013-2014 academic year, the authority shall commit to
- 5                   provide a supplemental award for achievement on examinations for
- 6                   Cambridge Advanced International as defined in KRS 164.002 to an eligible
- 7                   high school student whose family was eligible for free or reduced-priced
- 8                   lunch for any year during high school enrollment. The supplemental award for
- 9                   Cambridge Advanced International examination scores are as follows:
- 10                  1.    Two hundred dollars (\$200) for each score of "e";
- 11                  2.    Two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for each score of "c" or "d"; and
- 12                  3.    Three hundred dollars (\$300) for each score of "a\*", "a", or "b".
- 13           (e)   The authority shall promulgate administrative regulations establishing the
- 14                   eligibility criteria and procedures for making a supplemental award to
- 15                   Kentucky residents who are citizens, nationals, or permanent residents of the
- 16                   United States and who graduate from a nonpublic secondary school not
- 17                   certified by the Kentucky Board of Education and Kentucky residents who are
- 18                   citizens, nationals, or permanent residents of the United States and who obtain
- 19                   a High School Equivalency Diploma within five (5) years of their high school
- 20                   graduating class, and students under subsection (2)(c) of this section who do
- 21                   not attend an accredited high school.