

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 1569
102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

3749H.03C

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal sections 173.1105 and 173.1352, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof four new sections relating to support for students attending institutions of higher education.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 173.1105 and 173.1352, RSMo, are repealed and four new
2 sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 173.685, 173.836, 173.1105, and
3 173.1352, to read as follows:

173.685. 1. As used in this section, the following terms mean:

2 **(1) "Approved institution", any approved private institution, approved public**
3 **institution, or approved virtual institution, as such terms are defined in section**
4 **173.1102, that is located in this state, has been approved under 6 CSR 10-2.140, and has**
5 **been approved to participate in the federal student financial assistance programs**
6 **created under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended;**

7 **(2) "CGPA", a student's cumulative grade point average as calculated based on**
8 **the policies of the student's approved institution as such policies are applied to other**
9 **students in similar circumstances;**

10 **(3) "Department", the department of higher education and workforce**
11 **development;**

12 **(4) "Initial recipient", a student who qualifies for initial financial assistance**
13 **under section 173.1104, has received an award under the access Missouri financial**
14 **assistance program established in sections 173.1101 to 173.1107, and has not received a**
15 **STEM grant in any prior academic year;**

16 **(5) "Renewal recipient", a student who qualifies for renewed financial assistance**
17 **under section 173.1104, has received an award under the access Missouri financial**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

18 assistance program established in sections 173.1101 to 173.1107, and has received a
19 STEM grant;

20 (6) "Satisfactory academic progress":

21 (a) For a student's grade point average, a CGPA of at least two and one-half on a
22 four-point scale or the equivalent on another scale; and

23 (b) For determinations of academic progress other than grade point average, the
24 institution's measures of a student's academic progress as otherwise determined by the
25 approved institution's policies as applied to other students at the approved institution
26 receiving assistance from federal student financial assistance programs created under
27 Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended;

28 (7) "STEM degree", an associate's degree, bachelor's degree, or certificate in a
29 STEM field;

30 (8) "STEM field", a field of study involving science, technology, engineering, or
31 mathematics including, but not limited to:

32 (a) Agriculture and related sciences;

33 (b) Computer science;

34 (c) Information technology and information systems;

35 (d) STEM-related education;

36 (e) Engineering;

37 (f) Biological and biomedical sciences;

38 (g) Mathematics and statistics; and

39 (h) Physical sciences;

40 (9) "STEM grant", a renewable award of five hundred dollars of financial
41 assistance granted under this section.

42 2. Subject to appropriation, the department shall make available a STEM grant
43 to a student of an approved institution who is an initial recipient or a renewal recipient
44 and who has committed to a program of study that will result in a STEM degree at an
45 approved institution as provided in this section. No student shall receive more than two
46 thousand dollars of STEM grants under this section.

47 3. A renewal recipient may continue to receive a STEM grant as long as such
48 recipient:

49 (1) Maintains satisfactory academic progress;

50 (2) Continues to meet eligibility criteria under the access Missouri financial
51 assistance program established under sections 173.1101 to 173.1107; and

52 (3) Has not exceeded five semesters at an approved two-year institution or a total
53 of ten semesters or fifteen quarters at an approved four-year institution or any
54 combination of approved institutions.

55 **4. No STEM grant shall be awarded under this section to a student who also**
56 **received an award under the access Missouri financial assistance program after:**

57 **(1) A baccalaureate degree has been granted to the student;**

58 **(2) The hours or the equivalent to the hours required for a baccalaureate degree**
59 **have been completed by the student; or**

60 **(3) The student has completed coursework equal to:**

61 **(a) One hundred fifty semester hours or the equivalent; or**

62 **(b) Two hundred twenty-five quarter hours or the equivalent.**

63 **5. The department may promulgate all necessary rules and regulations for the**
64 **administration of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in**
65 **section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall**
66 **become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter**
67 **536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable**
68 **and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to**
69 **review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently**
70 **held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or**
71 **adopted after August 28, 2024, shall be invalid and void.**

72 **6. Under section 23.253 of the Missouri sunset act:**

73 **(1) The provisions of the new program authorized under this section shall**
74 **automatically sunset six years after the effective date of this section unless reauthorized**
75 **by an act of the general assembly; and**

76 **(2) If such program is reauthorized, the program authorized under this section**
77 **shall automatically sunset twelve years after the effective date of the reauthorization of**
78 **this section; and**

79 **(3) This section shall terminate on September first of the calendar year**
80 **immediately following the calendar year in which the program authorized under this**
81 **section is sunset.**

173.836. 1. This section shall be known and may be cited as the "Career-Tech
2 **Certificate (CTC) Program".**

3 **2. As used in this section, the following terms mean:**

4 **(1) "Approved institution", an institution of postsecondary education that is**
5 **subject to the coordinating board for higher education under section 173.005, offers**
6 **eligible programs of study or training programs, and is at least one of the following:**

7 **(a) A public community college or vocational or technical school as provided**
8 **under subsection 8 of section 160.545;**

9 **(b) A two-year private vocational or technical school authorized to obtain**
10 **reimbursements under subsection 8 of section 160.545 as provided under subsection 10**
11 **of section 160.545;**

12 **(c) An approved virtual institution, as defined in section 173.1102; or**

13 **(d) An eligible training provider;**

14 **(2) "Department", the department of higher education and workforce**
15 **development;**

16 **(3) "Eligible program of study", a program of instruction for which the required**
17 **length for completion of such program does not exceed the equivalent of sixty credit**
18 **hours or the equivalent under a different measure of student progress and that results in**
19 **the award of a non-graduate-level certificate or other industry-recognized credential**
20 **below the graduate level that has been designated by the coordinating board for higher**
21 **education as preparing students to enter an area of occupational shortage as determined**
22 **and updated annually by such board under subdivision (5) of subsection 2 of section**
23 **173.2553;**

24 **(4) "Eligible student", any student that meets the eligibility requirements for**
25 **reimbursement of tuition, books, and fees under the "A+ Schools Program" created in**
26 **section 160.545, provided that such student has not received a reimbursement for**
27 **tuition, books, or fees under section 160.545;**

28 **(5) "Eligible training provider", a training organization listed in the state of**
29 **Missouri eligible training provider system maintained by the office of workforce**
30 **development in the department of higher education and workforce development that is**
31 **not a four-year institution of higher education;**

32 **(6) "Training program", a program of study that leads to a certificate or degree**
33 **and is offered by an approved institution but that does not meet the length-of-program**
34 **requirements for an eligible program under 34 CFR 668.8, as amended. The term**
35 **includes, but is not limited to, certified nurse assistant (CNA) programs, certified**
36 **medication technician (CMT) programs, level 1 medication aide (L1MA) programs,**
37 **insulin administration programs, or commercial driver's license (CDL) programs.**

38 **3. (1) Beginning in the 2025-26 academic year and all subsequent academic**
39 **years, the department shall, by rule, establish a procedure for the reimbursement of the**
40 **costs of tuition, books, and fees from the career-tech certificate (CTC) program fund to**
41 **the approved institution at which an eligible student is enrolled in an eligible program of**
42 **study or a training program.**

43 **(2) No tuition reimbursements in excess of the tuition rate charged by a public**
44 **community college for coursework offered by a two-year private vocational or technical**
45 **school, approved virtual institution as defined under section 173.1102, or eligible**

46 training provider within the service area of such college shall be reimbursed under this
47 section.

48 (3) (a) If a public community college or vocational or technical school offers the
49 same or a substantially similar eligible program of study or training program as a
50 private vocational or technical school, virtual institution, or eligible training provider at
51 which an eligible student intends to enroll and the school or provider is located in the
52 service region of the public community college or vocational or technical school that
53 offers the same or similar program of study or training program, no tuition
54 reimbursement shall be provided under this section for such eligible student unless,
55 before the eligible student enrolls:

56 a. The private vocational or technical school, virtual institution, or eligible
57 training provider requests authorization from the department for such tuition
58 reimbursement; and

59 b. The department authorizes such request.

60 (b) The department shall:

61 a. Develop and adopt a tuition reimbursement authorization request form and a
62 procedure for submitting such request;

63 b. Review and either authorize or deny such request within twenty business days
64 of receiving an accurate, complete, and properly submitted request; and

65 c. If the department denies such request, provide the educational entity and the
66 eligible student with the reasons for such denial.

67 (c) The department shall not deny a tuition reimbursement authorization
68 request without good cause, as determined by the department on a case-by-case basis.

69 (4) The reimbursements provided under this section to a two-year private
70 vocational or technical school, approved virtual institution as defined under section
71 173.1102, or eligible training provider shall not violate the provisions of Article IX,
72 Section 8, or Article I, Section 7, of the Constitution of Missouri or the First Amendment
73 to the Constitution of the United States.

74 4. (1) There is hereby created in the state treasury the "Career-Tech Certificate
75 (CTC) Program Fund", which shall consist of any moneys appropriated annually by the
76 general assembly, gifts, bequests, grants, public or private donations, or transfers. The
77 state treasurer shall be custodian of the fund. In accordance with sections 30.170 and
78 30.180, the state treasurer may approve disbursements. The fund shall be a dedicated
79 fund and, upon appropriation, moneys in this fund shall be used solely for
80 reimbursements as provided in this section.

81 **(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080 to the contrary, any moneys**
82 **remaining in the fund at the end of the biennium shall not revert to the credit of the**
83 **general revenue fund.**

84 **(3) The state treasurer shall invest moneys in the fund in the same manner as**
85 **other funds are invested. Any interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be**
86 **credited to the fund.**

87 **5. No rule promulgated by the department under this section shall prohibit**
88 **students enrolled in an eligible program of study or a training program from qualifying**
89 **for tuition reimbursement under this section solely because the eligible program of**
90 **study or training program does not meet the length-of-program requirements for an**
91 **eligible program under 34 CFR 668.8, as amended, or because the eligible training**
92 **provider at which a student enrolls does not participate in federal student aid programs.**

93 **6. Eligibility for tuition, books, and fees reimbursement to an approved**
94 **institution as provided under this section shall expire upon the earliest of:**

95 **(1) Receipt of the reimbursement for the required length for completion of such**
96 **program as determined by the department;**

97 **(2) A student's successful completion of an eligible program of study or training**
98 **program; or**

99 **(3) A student's completion of one hundred fifty percent of the time usually**
100 **required to complete an eligible program of study or training program.**

101 **7. The department may promulgate all necessary rules and regulations for the**
102 **implementation and administration of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that**
103 **term is defined in section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this**
104 **section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the**
105 **provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter**
106 **536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly**
107 **pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul**
108 **a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority**
109 **and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2024, shall be invalid and void.**

173.1105. 1. An applicant who is an undergraduate postsecondary student at an
2 approved private, public, or virtual institution and who meets the other eligibility criteria shall
3 be eligible for financial assistance, with a minimum and maximum award amount as follows:

4 (1) For academic years 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, and 2013-14:

5 (a) One thousand dollars maximum and three hundred dollars minimum for students
6 attending institutions classified as part of the public two-year sector;

7 (b) Two thousand one hundred fifty dollars maximum and one thousand dollars
8 minimum for students attending institutions classified as part of the public four-year sector,
9 including State Technical College of Missouri; and

10 (c) Four thousand six hundred dollars maximum and two thousand dollars minimum
11 for students attending approved private institutions;

12 (2) For the 2014-15 academic year [~~and subsequent years~~] **through the 2023-24**
13 **academic year:**

14 (a) One thousand three hundred dollars maximum and three hundred dollars
15 minimum for students attending institutions classified as part of the public two-year sector;
16 and

17 (b) Two thousand eight hundred fifty dollars maximum and one thousand five
18 hundred dollars minimum for students attending institutions classified as part of the public
19 four-year sector, including State Technical College of Missouri, approved private institutions,
20 or approved virtual institutions; **and**

21 **(3) For the 2024-25 academic year and all subsequent academic years:**

22 **(a) One thousand seven hundred dollars maximum and five hundred dollars**
23 **minimum for students attending institutions classified as part of the public two-year**
24 **sector; and**

25 **(b) Three thousand five hundred dollars maximum and one thousand seven**
26 **hundred fifty dollars minimum for students attending institutions classified as part of**
27 **the public four-year sector, including State Technical College of Missouri, approved**
28 **private institutions, or approved virtual institutions.**

29 2. All students with an expected family contribution of twelve thousand dollars or
30 less shall receive at least the minimum award amount for his or her institution. Maximum
31 award amounts for an eligible student with an expected family contribution above seven
32 thousand dollars shall be reduced by ten percent of the maximum expected family
33 contribution for his or her increment group. Any award amount shall be reduced by the
34 amount of a student's payment from the A+ schools program or any successor program to it.
35 For purposes of this subsection, the term "increment group" shall mean a group organized by
36 expected family contribution in five hundred dollar increments into which all eligible students
37 shall be placed.

38 3. If appropriated funds are insufficient to fund the program as described, the
39 maximum award shall be reduced across all sectors by the percentage of the shortfall. If
40 appropriated funds exceed the amount necessary to fund the program, the additional funds
41 shall be used to increase the number of recipients by **either extending the deadline for filing**
42 **an application or** raising the cutoff for the expected family contribution rather than by
43 increasing the size of the award, **as determined by the department.**

44 4. Every three years, beginning with **the 2024-25** academic year [~~2009-10~~], the award
45 amount may be adjusted to increase no more than the Consumer Price Index for All Urban
46 Consumers (CPI-U), 1982-1984 = 100, not seasonally adjusted, as defined and officially
47 recorded by the United States Department of Labor, or its successor agency, for the previous
48 academic year. The coordinating board shall prepare a report prior to the legislative session
49 for use of the general assembly and the governor in determining budget requests which shall
50 include the amount of funds necessary to maintain full funding of the program based on the
51 baseline established for the program upon the effective date of sections 173.1101 to 173.1107.
52 Any increase in the award amount shall not become effective unless an increase in the amount
53 of money appropriated to the program necessary to cover the increase in award amount is
54 passed by the general assembly.

173.1352. 1. As used in this section, the following terms mean:

2 (1) "Advanced placement examination", any examination administered through the
3 College Board's Advanced Placement Program (AP);

4 (2) "Institution", any in-state public community college, college, or university that
5 offers postsecondary freshman-level courses;

6 **(3) "International baccalaureate examination", any examination for assessment**
7 **purposes administered through the International Baccalaureate Organization at the end**
8 **of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme.**

9 2. (1) Each institution shall adopt and implement a policy to grant undergraduate
10 course credit to entering freshman students for each advanced placement examination upon
11 which such student achieves a score of three or higher, **or each international baccalaureate**
12 **examination for an international baccalaureate diploma programme course upon which**
13 **such student achieves a score of 4 or higher**, for any similarly correlated course offered by
14 the institution at the time of such student's acceptance into the institution.

15 (2) In the policy, the institution shall:

16 (a) Establish the institution's conditions for granting course credit; and

17 (b) Identify the specific course credit or other academic requirements of the
18 institution, including the number of semester credit hours or other course credit, that the
19 institution will grant to a student who achieves required scores on advanced placement
20 examinations **or international baccalaureate examinations.**

21 3. On request of an applicant for admission as an entering freshman, and based on
22 information provided by the applicant, an institution shall determine and notify the applicant
23 regarding:

24 (1) The amount and type of any course credit that would be granted to the applicant
25 under the policy; and

26 (2) Any other academic requirement that the applicant would satisfy under the policy.

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