

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS25267

To establish the Adult Postsecondary Completion Scholarship to help Idaho residents return to school and complete their academic studies. The scholarship is intended to support adult students returning to an Idaho college or university after an absence of at least three (3) years or more and who are completing their first undergraduate degree. Applicants may qualify for up to \$3,000 per academic year for up to eight (8) consecutive semesters. Applicants must meet the following criteria in order to be eligible for consideration: be a resident of the state of Idaho; enroll as a student at an Idaho higher education institution seeking a first undergraduate degree or certificate; be an undergraduate reentry student who has experienced a gap (three full academic years or more) in the pursuit of postsecondary education; have a minimum of 24 credits earned from any institution toward a degree (must be transcriptable credits); demonstrate financial need as determined by the Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) calculation on a completed FAFSA; be registered at least part time in an eligible postsecondary institution: a minimum of 6 credits per semester; and have a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or higher. Additional scholarship provisions allow for a veterans preference when ranking eligible applicants and provisions specifying that individuals who receive the scholarship and then discontinue attendance would then no longer be eligible to receive the scholarship, except under certain conditions.

FISCAL NOTE

Recommended \$3 million ongoing General Fund appropriation to fund scholarship awards as well as implementation costs of the program. In addition, going General Fund of \$95,300, of which \$89,300 is for salary and benefits, \$3,000 for Operating Expenditures, and \$3,000 for one-time Capital Outlay to the State Board of Education to cover salary, benefits and operation costs for this program.

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DISCLAIMER: This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).