

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 190

BY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO SCHOLARSHIPS; AMENDING CHAPTER 43, TITLE 33, IDAHO CODE, BY  
2 THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 33-4305, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE FOR THE  
3 ADULT POSTSECONDARY COMPLETION SCHOLARSHIP, TO PROVIDE FOR PURPOSES OF  
4 SPECIFIED LAW, TO DEFINE TERMS, TO PROVIDE FOR RULEMAKING, TO PROVIDE  
5 FOR PREFERENCES, TO PROVIDE FOR RESTRICTIONS ON THE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD  
6 AMOUNT, TO PROVIDE FOR AWARD PAYMENTS, TO PROVIDE FOR THE REMITTANCE OF  
7 PAYMENTS BY INSTITUTIONS TO THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION UNDER CERTAIN  
8 CONDITIONS, TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXTENSION OF ELIGIBILITY UNDER CERTAIN  
9 CONDITIONS, TO PROVIDE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE  
10 EVALUATION OF EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROGRAM.  
11

12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

13 SECTION 1. That Chapter 43, Title 33, Idaho Code, be, and the same is  
14 hereby amended by the addition thereto of a NEW SECTION, to be known and des-  
15 ignated as Section 33-4305, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

16 33-4305. ADULT POSTSECONDARY COMPLETION SCHOLARSHIP. (1) The pur-  
17 poses of this section are to:

18 (a) Increase the number of Idaho citizens who have a postsecondary de-  
19 gree or credential necessary to meet future workforce needs;

20 (b) Recognize the many challenges adults face as they return to col-  
21 lege, including financing their education and the need to attend part  
22 time while remaining in the workforce;

23 (c) Provide access to eligible Idaho postsecondary education through  
24 funding for part-time attendance to remove financial barriers; and

25 (d) Incentivize nontraditional students to complete a postsecondary  
26 education degree or certificate.

27 (2) For the purposes of this section:

28 (a) "Adult postsecondary completion scholarship" means the scholar-  
29 ship program described in this section and in the rules promulgated by  
30 the state board of education for the implementation of this section.

31 (b) "Educational costs" means the dollar amount determined annually  
32 by the state board of education as necessary for student tuition, fees,  
33 books and other expenses reasonably related to attendance at an eligi-  
34 ble Idaho postsecondary educational institution.

35 (c) "Eligible institution" shall be defined in the same manner as pro-  
36 vided in section 33-4303(2)(b), Idaho Code.

37 (d) "Eligible student" means a student who:

38 (i) Is an Idaho resident as defined in section 33-3717B, Idaho  
39 Code;

40 (ii) Is enrolled in or has applied to an eligible institution as  
41 either a full-time or part-time student;

1 (iii) Is a postsecondary undergraduate student who has not previ-  
2 ously completed an undergraduate certificate or degree;

3 (iv) Is a postsecondary undergraduate student who has earned no  
4 fewer than twenty-four (24) postsecondary technical or academic  
5 credits;

6 (v) Is an undergraduate reentry student who has experienced a gap  
7 of three (3) years or more in the pursuit of postsecondary credits;  
8 and

9 (vi) Is pursuing a program of study leading to completion of a cer-  
10 tificate or degree.

11 (e) "State board" means the state board of education.

12 (3) The state board shall promulgate rules to specify student eligibil-  
13 ity, academic and financial criteria, an application and selection process  
14 for eligible students, how the amount of the awards will be set, when the  
15 awards will be made, a process for assessing and applying credit for work-  
16 place experience to a certificate or degree program, as well as other rules  
17 necessary for the administration of this section.

18 (4) Preference may be granted to military veterans, including members  
19 of the national guard and reserves who are not eligible for other state or  
20 federal education tuition assistance.

21 (5) The adult postsecondary completion scholarship award shall not ex-  
22 ceed the actual educational costs at the eligible institution that the stu-  
23 dent attends. The amount of the scholarship shall not exceed the educational  
24 costs established by the state board.

25 (6) Award payments shall be made to an eligible institution. In no in-  
26 stance may the entire amount of an award be paid to or on behalf of any student  
27 in advance.

28 (7) If an eligible student becomes ineligible for a scholarship under  
29 the provisions of this chapter, or if a student discontinues attendance  
30 before the end of any semester, quarter, term or equivalent covered by the  
31 award after receiving payment under this chapter, then the eligible institu-  
32 tion shall remit, up to the amount of any payments made under this program,  
33 any prorated tuition or fee balances to the state board.

34 (8) If funding for scholarship renewal is not appropriated, eligible  
35 students will receive an extension of eligibility commensurate with the pe-  
36 riod of time for which there is no funding for the program.

37 (9) Of the funding appropriated to the state board of education for the  
38 adult postsecondary completion scholarship program, no more than one hun-  
39 dred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) may be used for operating expenses  
40 for the implementation and maintenance of an application program, operating  
41 expenses to administer the program, personnel costs necessary to administer  
42 the program and costs related to promoting awareness of the program.

43 (10) The effectiveness of the adult postsecondary completion scholar-  
44 ship program will be evaluated by the state board on an annual basis. This  
45 evaluation will include annual data collection as well as longer-term evalu-  
46 ations.