

PRINTING CODE. Deletions appear in ~~this style type~~. Insertions appear in this style type. Typeface changes are shown in ~~this~~ ~~style~~ ~~type~~ or in this style type.

HOUSE BILL No. 1528

Proposed Changes to February 9, 2023 printing by AM152806

DIGEST OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Alternative teacher certification programs. Provides that a one time nonrenewable next general Hoosier educators scholarship may be awarded to an applicant who is enrolled in an alternative teacher certification program and meets certain other requirements.

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning higher education.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 21-12-16-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.63-2021,
2 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2023]: Sec. 5. (a) An applicant who is enrolled in an
4 accredited postsecondary educational institution after June 30, 2017,
5 may qualify for a scholarship under this ~~chapter~~ **section**. To qualify for
6 a scholarship, an applicant must:

7 (1) apply for a scholarship on a form supplied by the
8 commission;

9 (2) except as provided in subsection (b), have graduated from an
10 Indiana nonaccredited nonpublic or state accredited high school
11 accredited under IC 20-31-4.1 and:

12 (A) graduated in the highest twenty percent (20%) of
13 students in the applicant's high school graduating class;

14 (B) received a score in the top twentieth percentile on the
15 SAT or ACT examination; or

16 (C) achieved a cumulative grade point average upon
17 graduation of at least 3.5 on a 4.0 grading scale (or its
18 equivalent if another grading scale is used) for courses
19 taken during grades 9, 10, 11, and 12;

20 (3) have participated in school activities and community service
21 activities during high school;

M
a
r
k
u
p

(4) have applied to and been accepted for enrollment in an accredited postsecondary educational institution approved by the commission under section 10 of this chapter;

(5) agree in writing to:

(A) obtain a license to teach under IC 20-28-5; and

(B) teach for at least five (5) consecutive years in a public school or an eligible school (as defined in IC 20-51-1-4.7) in Indiana after graduating with a baccalaureate degree from the accredited postsecondary educational institution described in subdivision (4); and

(6) meet any other criteria established by the commission.

(b) A student who graduates from a nonaccredited nonpublic school must meet the requirement described in subsection (a)(2)(B) in order to meet the eligibility requirement described in subsection (a)(2).

SECTION 2. IC 21-12-16-5.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023]: **Sec. 5.5. An applicant who is enrolled in a transition to teaching program for an alternative teacher certification program after June 30, 2023, may qualify for a scholarship under section 8.5 of this chapter. To qualify for a scholarship, an applicant must:**

(1) be employed by a school corporation in Indiana;

(2) apply for a scholarship on a form supplied by the commission;

(3) possess a baccalaureate degree from an accredited postsecondary four (4) year institution;

(4) have enrolled in:

(A) a transition to teaching program described in IC 20-28-4; or

(B) an alternative teacher certification program described in IC 20-28-5-12.5;

(5) agree in writing to:

(A) complete:

(i) a transition to teaching program described in IC 20-28-4; or

(ii) an alternative teacher certification program described in IC 20-28-5-12.5;

and obtain an initial practitioner license under ~~IC 20-28-4-6~~ IC 20-28; and

(B) teach for at least five (5) consecutive years in a public school or an eligible school (as defined in IC 20-51-1-4.7) in Indiana after obtaining the initial practitioner license under ~~IC 20-28-4-6~~ IC 20-28; and

(6) meet any other criteria established by the commission.

SECTION 3. IC 21-12-16-7, AS ADDED BY P.L.105-2016, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023]: **Sec. 7. Before receiving a scholarship under this chapter, the applicant must enter into a contract with the commission**

M
a
r
k
u
p

agreeing to:

- (1) the terms and conditions described in section 5(a)(5) or **5.5** of this chapter, **as applicable**; and
- (2) any other terms and conditions established by the commission.

SECTION 4. IC 21-12-16-8, AS ADDED BY P.L.105-2016, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023]: Sec. 8. (a) Subject to subsections (b) and (c), if an applicant meets the requirements under **section 5** of this chapter, the commission may award, for not more than four (4) academic years, a scholarship to the applicant in an amount of seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500) for each academic year that the applicant attends the accredited postsecondary educational institution approved by the commission under section 10 of this chapter.

(b) The commission may not do the following:

- (1) Award a scholarship under **section 5** of this chapter in an amount of more than a total of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) to an individual applicant.
- (2) Award scholarships under **section 5** of this chapter to more than two hundred (200) new applicants each academic year.

(c) If the total amount to be distributed from the fund in a state fiscal year exceeds the amount available for distribution, the amount to be distributed to each eligible applicant shall be proportionately reduced so that the total reductions equal the amount of the excess.

SECTION 5. IC 21-12-16-8.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023]: **Sec. 8.5. (a) Subject to subsection (b), if an applicant meets the requirements under section 5.5 of this chapter, the commission may award a one (1) time nonrenewable scholarship to the applicant in an amount of up to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for:**

- (1) transition to teaching program and initial practitioner licensure costs under IC 20-28-4; or**
- (2) alternative teacher certification program and initial practitioner licensure costs under IC 20-28-5-12.5].**

(b) The total annual amount of scholarships awarded by the commission under this section may not exceed one million dollars (\$1,000,000). If the total amount of scholarships exceeds the limit under this subsection, the commission shall reduce the scholarships awarded under subsection (a) in a manner prescribed by the commission.

SECTION 6. IC 21-12-16-10, AS ADDED BY P.L.105-2016, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023]: Sec. 10. (a) The commission may not award a scholarship under **section 5** of this chapter to an applicant unless the applicant has applied to and been accepted for enrollment in an accredited postsecondary educational institution approved by the commission under this section.

(b) The commission shall establish standards for teacher education

M
a
r
k
u
p

that an accredited postsecondary educational institution must meet to receive approval by the commission under this section, including the:

- (1) information an accredited postsecondary educational institution is required to submit to the commission regarding the institution's teacher education program; and
- (2) criteria and standards for approval.

SECTION 7. IC 21-12-16-11, AS ADDED BY P.L.105-2016, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023]: Sec. 11. (a) An individual who:

- (1) received a scholarship under **section 5** of this chapter;
- (2) is no longer enrolled in an accredited postsecondary educational institution approved by the commission under section 10 of this chapter; and
- (3) did not receive a baccalaureate degree from an accredited postsecondary educational institution approved by the commission under section 10 of this chapter;

shall repay the amount of the scholarship awarded to the individual under this chapter in a timely fashion, as determined by the commission.

(b) An individual who:

- (1) received a scholarship under **section 5.5** of this chapter;
- (2) is no longer enrolled in:

(A) a transition to teaching program under IC 20-28-4;
or

(B) an alternative teacher certification program described in IC 20-28-5-12.5; and

- (3) did not receive an initial practitioner license after completing:

(A) a transition to teaching program described in IC 20-28-4; or

(B) an alternative teacher certification program described in IC 20-28-5-12.5;

shall repay the amount of the scholarship awarded to the individual under this chapter in a timely fashion, as determined by the commission.

SECTION 8. IC 21-12-16-12, AS ADDED BY P.L.105-2016, SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023]: Sec. 12. (a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c), if an individual:

- (1) receives a scholarship under **section 5 or 5.5** of this chapter; and
- (2) fails to teach in a public school or an eligible school (as defined in IC 20-51-1-4.7) in Indiana for at least five (5) consecutive years as described in section 5(a)(5) **or 5.5(5)** of this chapter, **as applicable;**

the individual shall repay the total amount of the scholarship awarded to the individual under this chapter in a timely fashion. The total amount that an individual is required to repay shall be reduced by twenty percent (20%), as determined by the commission, for each

M
a
r
k
u
p

consecutive year the individual teaches at a public school or eligible school (as defined in IC 20-51-1-4.7).

(b) The commission may extend the length of time in which an individual must complete the requirements of an agreement described in section 5(a)(5) or 5.5(~~4~~5) of this chapter if the individual submits a petition to the commission in a manner prescribed by the commission and the commission makes a determination that extenuating circumstances, as determined by the commission, prevented the individual from timely meeting the requirements described in section 5(a)(5) or 5.5(~~4~~5) of this chapter, **as applicable.**

(c) The commission may waive repayment under subsection (a) if the individual has been declared to be totally and permanently disabled under 34 CFR 685.213.

(d) The commission may enter into an agreement with the department of state revenue established by IC 6-8.1-2-1 or another third party vendor to assist in the enforcement of subsection (a) and section 11 of this chapter.

M
a
r
k
u
p