

2007 ASSEMBLY BILL 389

May 31, 2007 – Introduced by Representatives BALLWEG, ALBERS, BERCEAU, BIES, BOYLE, FIELDS, GRONEMUS, GUNDERSON, JESKEWITZ, JORGENSEN, A. OTT, PETROWSKI and TOWNSEND, cosponsored by Senators LASSA, PLALE and ROESSLER. Referred to Committee on Colleges and Universities.

1 **AN ACT** *to amend* 39.41 (2) (a), 39.41 (2) (b), 39.41 (2) (c) and 39.41 (3) (a) of the
2 statutes; **relating to:** the maximum amount of an academic excellence higher
3 education scholarship.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Higher Educational Aids Board (HEAB) administers the Academic Excellence Higher Education Scholarship Program. Under the program, HEAB awards scholarships to certain students, on the basis of high school grade point average, who enroll full time in a public or private institution of higher education in this state that is participating in the program (designated scholar). Currently, a designated scholar who enrolls in an institution within the University of Wisconsin (UW) System or a technical college that is participating in the program is entitled to receive a scholarship that exempts the scholar from all tuition and fees at the institution or technical college, subject to a maximum amount of \$2,250 per academic year, with HEAB to pay an amount equal to 50 percent of the student's tuition and fees, subject to a maximum amount of \$1,125 per academic year, and the institution or technical college to match the amount HEAB pay. Similarly, a designated scholar who enrolls in a private institution of higher education that is participating in the program is entitled to have HEAB pay, on the scholar's behalf, an amount equal to 50 percent of the tuition and fees charged a resident undergraduate at the UW-Madison in the same academic year, subject to a maximum amount of \$1,125 per academic year, with the private institution of higher education to match the amount paid by HEAB.

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This bill eliminates the maximum scholarship amounts so that a designated scholar who enrolls in an institution within the UW System or a technical college that is participating in the program is exempt from all tuition and fees at the institution or technical college, with HEAB to pay 50 percent of the scholar's tuition and fees, and the institution or technical college to match the amount paid by HEAB. A designated scholar who enrolls in a private institution of higher education that is participating in the program is entitled to have HEAB pay, on the scholar's behalf, an amount equal to 50 percent of the tuition and fees charged a resident undergraduate at the UW-Madison in the same academic year, with the private institution of higher education to match the amount paid by HEAB.

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

1 **SECTION 1.** 39.41 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

2 39.41 **(2)** (a) If a designated scholar under sub. (1m) is admitted to and enrolls,
3 on a full-time basis, by September 30 of the academic year immediately following the
4 school year in which the senior was designated a scholar, in an institution within the
5 University of Wisconsin System or in a technical college district school that is
6 participating in the program under this section, the scholar shall receive a higher
7 education scholarship that exempts the scholar from all tuition and fees, including
8 segregated fees, at the institution or district school for one year, ~~except that the~~
9 ~~maximum scholarship for a scholar who receives an original scholarship for the~~
10 ~~1996-97 academic year or for any academic year thereafter may not exceed \$2,250~~
11 ~~per academic year.~~

12 **SECTION 2.** 39.41 (2) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

13 39.41 **(2)** (b) For each year that a scholar who receives a scholarship under par.
14 (a) is enrolled full time, maintains at least a 3.000 grade point average, or the
15 equivalent as determined by the institution or district school, and makes satisfactory

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1 progress toward an associate degree, a bachelor's degree, or a vocational diploma, the
2 student shall be exempt from all tuition and fees, including segregated fees, in the
3 subsequent year, ~~except that the maximum scholarship for a scholar who receives an~~
4 ~~original scholarship for the 1996-97 academic year or for any academic year~~
5 ~~thereafter may not exceed \$2,250 per academic year.~~ No scholar is eligible for an
6 exemption for more than 4 years in the University of Wisconsin System or more than
7 3 years at a district school.

8 **SECTION 3.** 39.41 (2) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 39.41 (2) (c) Subject to sub. (4), for each year the student is exempt from tuition
10 and fees under par. (a) or (b), the board shall pay the institution or district school,
11 on behalf of the student, an amount equal to 50% of the student's tuition and fees,
12 ~~except that the maximum payment for a student who receives an original~~
13 ~~scholarship for the 1996-97 academic year or for any academic year thereafter may~~
14 ~~not exceed \$1,125 per academic year.~~

15 **SECTION 4.** 39.41 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

16 39.41 (3) (a) If a designated scholar under sub. (1m) is admitted to and enrolls,
17 on a full-time basis, by September 30 of the academic year immediately following the
18 school year in which the senior was designated a scholar, in a private institution of
19 higher education that is located in this state and participating in the program under
20 this section, the board shall pay the institution, on behalf of the pupil, an amount
21 equal to 50% of the tuition and fees charged a resident undergraduate at the
22 University of Wisconsin-Madison in the same academic year, ~~except that the~~
23 ~~maximum payment for a pupil who receives an original scholarship for the 1996-97~~

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SECTION 4

1 ~~academic year or for any academic year thereafter may not exceed \$1,125 per~~

2 ~~academic year.~~

3 (END)