

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

H.B. 1107
May 14, 2020
HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH10771-MKa-239

Short Title: NCSSM Tuition Grant Program. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Brewer, Hunt, Gailliard, and Hawkins (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE TUITION GRANT FOR GRADUATES OF THE NORTH
3 CAROLINA SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS PROGRAM.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 SECTION 1. Article 23 of Chapter 116 of the General Statutes is amended by adding
6 a new Part to read:

7 "Part 6. Tuition Grant for Graduates of the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics.

8 **§ 116-209.90. Tuition grants for graduates to attend a constituent institution.**

9 (a) Program Established. – There is established the Tuition Grant for Graduates of the
10 North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics Program (Program). Within the funds made
11 available for the Program, a State resident who graduates from the North Carolina School of
12 Science and Mathematics (NCSSM) in each school year, beginning with the 2020-2021 school
13 year, and who enrolls as a full-time student in a constituent institution of The University of North
14 Carolina in the next academic year after graduation shall be eligible for a tuition grant awarded
15 for that student's first academic year in accordance with this Part.

16 (b) Administration of Grants. – The Authority shall administer the tuition grants provided
17 for in this Part pursuant to guidelines and procedures established by the Authority consistent with
18 its practices for administering State-funded financial aid. The guidelines and procedures shall
19 include an application process and schedule, notification and disbursement procedures, standards
20 for reporting, and standards for return of tuition grants when a student withdraws. The Authority
21 shall not approve any grant until it receives proper certification from the appropriate constituent
22 institution that the student applying for the grant is an eligible student. Upon receipt of the
23 certification, the Authority shall remit, at the times it prescribes, the tuition grant to the
24 constituent institution on behalf, and to the credit, of the student. In the event a student on whose
25 behalf a tuition grant has been paid is not enrolled and carrying a minimum academic load as of
26 the tenth classroom day following the beginning of the school term for which the tuition grant
27 was paid, the constituent institution shall refund the full amount of the tuition grant to the
28 Authority.

29 (c) Award of Grants. – Except as provided in subsections (d) and (e) of this section, the
30 amount of the grant awarded to a student shall be the full tuition cost at the constituent institution
31 in which the student is enrolled for the student's first academic year. No tuition grant awarded to
32 a student under this section shall exceed the cost of attendance at the constituent institution for
33 which the student is enrolled.

34 (d) Reduction of an Award Due to Other Aid. – If a student, who is eligible for a tuition
35 grant under this section, also receives a scholarship or other grant covering the cost of attendance
36 at the constituent institution for which the tuition grant is awarded, then the amount of the tuition



1 grant shall be reduced by an appropriate amount determined by the Authority so that the total
2 amount of scholarships and grants received by the student does not exceed the cost of attendance
3 for the institution. The cost of attendance shall be determined by the Authority for each
4 constituent institution.

5 (e) Pro Rata Amount. – In the event there are not sufficient funds available for the
6 Program to provide each eligible student with a full tuition grant as provided for by this Part,
7 each eligible student shall receive a pro rata share of funds available for that academic year.

8 **"§ 116-209.91. North Carolina Tuition Grant Fund Reserve.**

9 The North Carolina Tuition Grant Fund Reserve is established as a reserve to be administered
10 by the Authority. All funds appropriated to or otherwise received by the Authority to provide
11 tuition grants under this Part, all returned tuition grant monies, and all interest earned on these
12 funds shall be placed in the Fund. The Fund shall be used for (i) tuition grants for the academic
13 year that begins in the fiscal year following the fiscal year in which the appropriation is made to
14 the Reserve and (ii) the administrative costs of the Authority, provided that no more than five
15 percent (5%) of the funds appropriated each fiscal year for tuition grants is expended for
16 administrative purposes."

17 **SECTION 3.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the North Carolina
18 Tuition Grant Fund Reserve established pursuant to G.S. 116-209.91, as enacted by this act, the
19 sum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) in recurring funds for the 2020-2021 fiscal year for the
20 purpose of awarding tuition grants in accordance with this act.

21 **SECTION 4.** If House Bill 966, 2019 Regular Session, becomes law, then Section
22 8A.2 of that act and the provision of the Committee Report described in Section 42.2 of that act
23 appropriating funds to implement Section 8A.2 of that act are repealed.

24 **SECTION 5.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2020, and applies beginning with
25 the award of tuition grants for the 2021-2022 academic year.