

LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF IDAHO
Sixty-third Legislature First Regular Session - 2015

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 83

BY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO SCHOLARSHIPS; AMENDING CHAPTER 43, TITLE 33, IDAHO CODE, BY THE
ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 33-4305, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE FOR THE POST-
SECONDARY CREDIT SCHOLARSHIP AND RELATED REQUIREMENTS.

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

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

33-4305. POSTSECONDARY CREDIT SCHOLARSHIP. (1) Subject to the provi-
sions of subsection (2) of this section:

(a) Any student who has earned at least ten (10) postsecondary semester
credits upon graduation from an Idaho public high school or Idaho public
charter high school shall be entitled to a postsecondary credit schol-
arship in the amount of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) that shall be used
for tuition and fees at any publicly funded institution of higher educa-
tion in Idaho. The award amount shall be limited by the number of cred-
its accepted by the institution of higher education where the scholar-
ship is to be applied. The awards shall be annual awards. One-quarter
(1/4) of the scholarship amount shall be distributed in each semester
of full-time attendance until the total scholarship is expended or ex-
pires.

(b) Any student who has earned at least twenty (20) postsecondary
semester credits upon graduation from an Idaho public high school or
Idaho public charter high school shall be entitled to a postsecondary
credit scholarship in the amount of four thousand dollars (\$4,000) that
shall be used for tuition and fees at any publicly funded institution
of higher education in Idaho. The award amount shall be limited by the
number of credits accepted by the institution of higher education where
the scholarship is to be applied. The awards shall be annual awards.
One-quarter (1/4) of the scholarship amount shall be distributed in
each semester of full-time attendance until the total scholarship is
expended or expires.

(c) Any student who has earned an associate's degree from an accred-
ited institution upon graduation from an Idaho public high school or
Idaho public charter high school shall be entitled to a postsecondary
credit scholarship in an amount equal to the tuition and fees charged by
the publicly funded institution of higher education in Idaho where the
scholarship is to be applied. The awards shall be annual awards. The
scholarship amount shall be distributed in each semester of full-time
attendance, up to four (4) semesters of attendance, until it expires.

(2) In order to be eligible for a full postsecondary credit scholarship
set forth in subsection (1) of this section:

1 (a) The student must be awarded an academic merit-based scholarship in
2 an amount at least equal to the postsecondary credit scholarship amount
3 awarded in the same school year;

4 (b) The student must have attended schools in the Idaho public school
5 system full time for the year immediately preceding high school gradua-
6 tion; and

7 (c) Except for the first semester in which the postsecondary credit
8 scholarship amount is distributed, in order to receive the scholarship
9 distribution in a given semester, the student must have successfully
10 passed at least twelve (12) credits during the immediately preceding
11 semester in which the scholarship was distributed.

12 For the purposes of paragraph (a) of this subsection, an Idaho opportunity
13 scholarship awarded under section 33-4303, Idaho Code, will be considered an
14 academic merit-based scholarship.

15 (3) A student shall use the postsecondary credit scholarship within
16 four (4) years of his or her high school graduation date, at which time the
17 scholarship shall expire and may no longer be used.

18 (4) A student is entitled to only one (1) of the postsecondary credit
19 scholarships set forth in subsection (1) of this section.

20 (5) If a student has been awarded scholarships that pay for one hun-
21 dred percent (100%) of the cost of tuition and fees, then part or all of the
22 remaining postsecondary credit scholarship moneys may be used for room and
23 board at the discretion of the publicly funded institution of higher educa-
24 tion in Idaho where the student will attend.

25 (6) The state board of education shall distribute the postsecondary
26 credit scholarship moneys directly to the institutions of higher education
27 from moneys appropriated.

28 (7) No later than every January 15, the state board of education shall
29 report to the senate and the house of representatives education committees
30 the number of scholarships awarded pursuant to this section during the pre-
31 vious school year. The report shall include the total amount of moneys dis-
32 tributed for the scholarships.

33 (8) The state board of education may promulgate rules to implement the
34 provisions of this section.