

Amendment to HB 607-FN-A

1 Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

2
3 AN ACT establishing a New Hampshire student access grant program and making an
4 appropriation therefor.
5

6 Amend the bill by replacing all after the enacting clause with the following:

7
8 1 New Section; New Hampshire Student Access Grant Program. Amend RSA 21-N by inserting
9 after section 8-b the following new section:

10 21-N:8-c New Hampshire Student Access Grant Program Established.

11 I. There is hereby established the New Hampshire student access grant program. The
12 purpose of this program is to provide postsecondary education and training opportunities to
13 graduates of any public or private secondary school approved for operation in New Hampshire by
14 the department of education, including chartered public schools, home educated students, and
15 students who have received a high school equivalency certificate, by providing a grant of up to
16 \$1,000 each year for a maximum of 4 years to eligible students pursuing a full-time degree program
17 at any public postsecondary educational institution in New Hampshire.

18 II. A student shall be eligible to apply for a grant under this program if the student:

19 (a) Is admitted as a first-year student to any public postsecondary educational
20 institution in New Hampshire approved by the United States Department of Education to receive
21 Title 4 funds and will be a full-time student in a degree program;

22 (b) Has graduated secondary school with at least a 2.5 grade point average on a 4.0
23 scale, and has been designated by the secondary school as a New Hampshire scholar or its
24 equivalent; and

25 (c) Has submitted the Free Application for Federal Student Aid and is eligible to receive
26 a Pell grant.

27 III. A student shall submit a grant application to the postsecondary educational institution
28 on a form developed by the institution.

29 IV. Grant recipients shall maintain a minimum 2.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.
30 Grant recipients shall receive an award of up to \$1,000 each year for a maximum of 4 years.

31 V. Not later than August 1 of each academic year, the postsecondary educational institution
32 shall select the applicants who will receive a grant and shall submit to the higher education

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1 commission a list of those applicants selected.

2 VI. Upon notification from the postsecondary educational institution, the higher education
3 commission shall disburse funds from the New Hampshire student access grant fund established in
4 this section to each institution to provide grants. If the amount in the fund is insufficient, the
5 amount shall be prorated proportionally among the applicants selected to receive a grant.

6 VII. There is hereby established in the office of the state treasurer a fund to be known as
7 the New Hampshire student access grant fund. The fund shall include any sums appropriated for
8 such purpose. In addition, the higher education commission may accept public sector and private
9 sector grants, gifts, or donations of any kind for the purpose of funding the provisions of this
10 section. The moneys in this fund shall be nonlapsing and shall be continually appropriated to the
11 higher education commission. The fund shall be expended by the higher education commission to
12 award grants to selected students in accordance with this section. The state treasurer may invest
13 moneys in the fund as provided by law, with interest received on such investment credited to the
14 fund.

15 VIII. The higher education commission shall adopt rules, pursuant to RSA 541-A, relative
16 to deadlines for a postsecondary educational institution to request disbursement of funds to grant
17 recipients.

18 2 New Subparagraph; Application of Receipts; New Hampshire Student Access Grant Fund.
19 Amend RSA 6:12, I(b) by inserting after subparagraph (333) the following new subparagraph:

20 (334) Moneys deposited in the New Hampshire student access grant fund
21 established in RSA 21-N:8-c.

22 3 Appropriation. The sum of \$1 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018 and the sum of \$1 for
23 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019 are hereby appropriated to the higher education commission
24 for the purposes of the New Hampshire student access grant program established in RSA 21-N:8-c.
25 The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sums out of any money in the treasury not
26 otherwise appropriated.

27 4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.