

Senate File 2024 - Reprinted

SENATE FILE 2024

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(As Amended and Passed by the Senate February 22, 2012)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to workforce training programs in community
2 colleges and making appropriations.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 84A.6, Code Supplement 2011, is amended
2 by adding the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 4. The department of workforce
4 development, in consultation with the college student aid
5 commission, shall issue a quarterly report identifying
6 industries in which the department finds a shortage of skilled
7 workers in this state for the purposes of the skilled workforce
8 shortage tuition grant program established in section 261.130.

9 Sec. 2. Section 260C.18A, subsection 1, Code Supplement
10 2011, is amended by adding the following new paragraph:

11 NEW PARAGRAPH. c. There is appropriated from the general
12 fund of the state to the workforce training and economic
13 development funds, the following amounts:

14 (1) For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012, and ending
15 June 30, 2013, the sum of twelve million dollars.

16 (2) For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013, and ending
17 June 30, 2014, the sum of twelve million dollars.

18 (3) For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014, and ending
19 June 30, 2015, the sum of twelve million dollars.

20 Sec. 3. Section 260C.18A, subsection 2, Code Supplement
21 2011, is amended by adding the following new paragraph:

22 NEW PARAGRAPH. j. Development and implementation of
23 the national career readiness certificate and the skills
24 certification system endorsed by the national association of
25 manufacturers.

26 Sec. 4. Section 260I.2, Code Supplement 2011, is amended to
27 read as follows:

28 **260I.2 Gap tuition assistance program — fund —**
29 **appropriation.**

30 1. A gap tuition assistance program is established to
31 provide funding to community colleges for need-based tuition
32 assistance to applicants to enable completion of continuing
33 education certificate training programs for in-demand
34 occupations.

35 2. a. There is established for the community colleges

1 a gap tuition assistance fund in the state treasury to be
2 administered by the department of education. The funds in the
3 gap tuition assistance fund are appropriated to the department
4 of education for the gap tuition assistance program.

5 b. There is appropriated from the general fund of the state
6 to the gap tuition assistance fund, the following amounts:

7 (1) For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012, and ending
8 June 30, 2013, the sum of two million dollars.

9 (2) For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013, and ending
10 June 30, 2014, the sum of two million dollars.

11 (3) For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014, and ending
12 June 30, 2015, the sum of two million dollars.

13 c. The aggregate total of grants awarded from the gap
14 tuition assistance fund during a fiscal year shall not be more
15 than two million dollars.

16 **Sec. 5. NEW SECTION. 261.130 **Skilled workforce shortage****
17 **tuition grant program — appropriation.**

18 1. A skilled workforce shortage tuition grant may be awarded
19 to any resident of Iowa who is admitted and in attendance
20 as a full-time or part-time student in a career-technical
21 or career option program to pursue an associate's degree or
22 other training at a community college in the state, and who
23 establishes financial need.

24 2. Skilled workforce shortage tuition grants shall be
25 awarded only to students pursuing a career-technical or career
26 option program in an industry identified as having a shortage
27 of skilled workers by a community college after conducting a
28 regional skills gap analysis or by the department of workforce
29 development in the department's most recent quarterly report
30 pursuant to section 84A.6, subsection 4.

31 3. The amount of a skilled workforce shortage tuition grant
32 shall not exceed the lesser of one-half of a student's tuition
33 and fees for an approved career-technical or career option
34 program or the amount of the student's established financial
35 need.

1 4. All classes identified by the community college
2 as required for completion of the student's approved
3 career-technical or career option program shall be considered a
4 part of the student's career-technical or career option program
5 for the purpose of determining the student's eligibility for a
6 grant. Notwithstanding subsection 5, if a student is making
7 satisfactory academic progress but the student cannot complete
8 a career-technical or career option program in the time frame
9 allowed for a student to receive a skilled workforce shortage
10 tuition grant as provided in subsection 5 because additional
11 classes are required to complete the program, the student may
12 continue to receive a skilled workforce shortage tuition grant
13 for not more than one additional enrollment period.

14 5. *a.* A qualified full-time student may receive skilled
15 workforce shortage tuition grants for not more than four
16 semesters or the trimester or quarter equivalent of two full
17 years of study. A qualified part-time student enrolled in a
18 course of study including at least three semester hours but
19 fewer than twelve semester hours or the trimester or quarter
20 equivalent may receive skilled workforce shortage tuition
21 grants for not more than eight semesters or the trimester or
22 quarter equivalent of two full years of full-time study.

23 *b.* However, if a student resumes study after at least a
24 two-year absence, the student may again be eligible for the
25 specified amount of time, except that the student shall not
26 receive assistance for courses for which credit was previously
27 received.

28 6. A skilled workforce shortage tuition grant shall be
29 awarded on an annual basis, requiring reapplication by the
30 student for each year. Payments under the grant shall be
31 allocated equally among the semesters or quarters of the year
32 upon certification by the community college that the student
33 is in full-time or part-time attendance in a career-technical
34 or career option program consistent with the requirements of
35 this section. If the student discontinues attendance before

1 the end of any term after receiving payment of the grant, the
2 entire amount of any refund due that student, up to the amount
3 of any payments made under the annual grant, shall be paid by
4 the community college to the state.

5 7. If a student receives financial aid under any other
6 program, the full amount of that financial aid shall be
7 considered part of the student's financial resources available
8 in determining the amount of the student's financial need for
9 that period.

10 8. The commission shall administer this program and shall:

11 a. Provide application forms for distribution to students by
12 Iowa high schools and community colleges.

13 b. Adopt rules for approving career-technical or career
14 option programs in industries identified by the department of
15 workforce development pursuant to section 84A.6, subsection 4;
16 determining financial need; defining residence for the purposes
17 of this section; processing and approving applications for
18 grants; and determining priority for grants.

19 c. Approve and award grants on an annual basis.

20 d. Make an annual report to the governor and general
21 assembly. The report shall include the number of students
22 receiving assistance and the industries identified by
23 the community colleges and by the department of workforce
24 development pursuant to section 84A.6, subsection 4, for which
25 students were admitted to a career-technical or career option
26 program.

27 9. Each applicant, in accordance with the rules established
28 by the commission, shall:

29 a. Complete and file an application for a skilled workforce
30 shortage tuition grant.

31 b. Be responsible for the submission of the financial
32 information required for evaluation of the applicant's need for
33 a grant, on forms determined by the commission.

34 c. Report promptly to the commission any information
35 requested.

1 *d.* Submit a new application for reevaluation of the
2 applicant's eligibility to receive a second-year renewal of the
3 grant.

4 10. *a.* There is appropriated from the general fund of the
5 state to the commission for the skilled workforce shortage
6 tuition grant program, the following amounts:

7 (1) For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012, and ending
8 June 30, 2013, the sum of six million dollars.

9 (2) For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013, and ending
10 June 30, 2014, the sum of six million dollars.

11 (3) For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014, and ending
12 June 30, 2015, the sum of six million dollars.

13 *b.* Notwithstanding section 8.33, moneys appropriated in this
14 subsection that remain unencumbered or unobligated at the close
15 of the fiscal year shall not revert but shall remain available
16 for expenditure for the purposes designated until the close of
17 the fiscal year that begins July 1, 2014.