

IC 21-12-10

Chapter 10. Mitch Daniels Early Graduation Scholarship

IC 21-12-10-1

"Publicly supported school"

Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "publicly supported school" means the following:

- (1) A school corporation (as defined in IC 20-18-2-16(a)).
- (2) A charter school (as defined in IC 20-24-1-4).
- (3) A high school maintained by a state educational institution under IC 20-24.5 or another law.

As added by P.L.229-2011, SEC.231.

IC 21-12-10-2

Scholarship program established

Sec. 2. The Mitch Daniels early graduation scholarship program is established. The commission shall administer the Mitch Daniels early graduation scholarship program.

As added by P.L.229-2011, SEC.231.

IC 21-12-10-3

Eligibility

Sec. 3. An individual is eligible for a Mitch Daniels early graduation scholarship if the individual:

- (1) is a resident of Indiana, as defined by the commission;
- (2) attended a publicly supported school on a full-time equivalency basis for at least the last two (2) semesters before the individual graduated from high school;
- (3) had legal settlement (as defined in IC 20-18-2-11) in Indiana for at least the last two (2) semesters before the individual graduated from high school;
- (4) met at least the minimum requirements set by the Indiana state board of education for granting a high school diploma by the end of grade 11 (including any summer school courses completed before July 1 of a year) and was awarded after December 31, 2010, a high school diploma by the publicly supported school that the individual last attended for course credits earned before the end of grade 11;
- (5) was not enrolled in a publicly supported school for any part of grade 12;
- (6) applies to the commission for a Mitch Daniels early graduation scholarship in the manner specified by the commission; and
- (7) within five (5) months after graduating from high school:
 - (A) becomes a student in good standing at an approved postsecondary educational institution whose students are eligible to receive, before September 1, 2014, a higher education award (IC 21-12-3-11) or a freedom of choice

grant (IC 21-12-4-4), or, after August 31, 2014, a higher education award or freedom of choice grant published under IC 21-12-1.7-3; and

(B) is engaged in a program that will lead to an approved postsecondary degree or credential.

As added by P.L.229-2011, SEC.231. Amended by P.L.281-2013, SEC.26; P.L.233-2015, SEC.314.

IC 21-12-10-4

Eligibility; graduation from program subject to waiver

Sec. 4. Graduation from a nonstandard course and curriculum program or a program for high ability students that has been granted a waiver by the Indiana state board of education shall be treated as meeting the minimum requirements set by the state board of education for granting a high school diploma.

As added by P.L.229-2011, SEC.231.

IC 21-12-10-5

Submission of names of eligible students; publicly supported school

Sec. 5. (a) A publicly supported school shall submit to the department of education the name of each individual described in section 3(1) through 3(4) of this chapter.

(b) The department of education shall submit to the commission the information submitted under subsection (a) and any other supporting information requested by the commission on the schedule and in the form specified by the commission.

As added by P.L.229-2011, SEC.231.

IC 21-12-10-6

Notice of admission; postsecondary institution

Sec. 6. (a) If an applicant becomes a student in good standing at an approved postsecondary institution, the institution shall provide a written notice to the commission.

(b) If the applicant has met the eligibility requirements prescribed in this chapter, the commission shall award the applicant a Mitch Daniels early graduation scholarship and make the payment directly to the institution. The institution may apply the payment to any outstanding tuition and fees and shall remit the balance of the scholarship to the student.

As added by P.L.229-2011, SEC.231.

IC 21-12-10-7

Amount of scholarship

Sec. 7. The amount of a Mitch Daniels early graduation scholarship is four thousand dollars (\$4,000).

As added by P.L.229-2011, SEC.231.

IC 21-12-10-8

Exclusion of scholarship from calculation of available financial

resources

Sec. 8. The amount of a Mitch Daniels early graduation scholarship awarded under this chapter shall not be considered as a financial resource in a determination of the amount of any grant or scholarship under this article or, except as required by federal law, the amount of any other grant or scholarship administered by the commission.

As added by P.L.229-2011, SEC.231.

IC 21-12-10-9**Effect of scholarship on admission standards of postsecondary institution**

Sec. 9. An institution is not required to change its admission standards to accept an individual to whom the commission has issued a Mitch Daniels early graduation scholarship. The scholarship may not be used for remedial course work at the institution. The institution shall provide facilities and instruction to the applicant on the same terms as to other students.

As added by P.L.229-2011, SEC.231.

IC 21-12-10-10**Offset of scholarships against state tuition support distributions**

Sec. 10. (a) The commission shall notify the department of the amount of Mitch Daniels early graduation scholarships granted for each state fiscal year. The department shall deduct the scholarship amount presented by the commission from the appropriation for tuition support for that state fiscal year and promptly transfer the amount to the commission.

(b) In the department's biennial budget request, the department shall estimate the number of students that are expected to become eligible for a Mitch Daniels early graduation scholarship and the estimated total amount needed to provide the scholarships for each state fiscal year for which the department requests an appropriation for tuition support. The department shall include in its request for tuition support an amount sufficient to provide the scholarships. The requested amount may not exceed the amount that would have been included in the department's request for tuition support if the students had not graduated early.

As added by P.L.229-2011, SEC.231.