

HOUSE BILL No. 2287

By Committee on K-12 Education Budget

2-9

1 AN ACT concerning workforce development; relating to postsecondary
2 education; creating the Kansas promise scholarship act; providing
3 scholarships to students who attend postsecondary educational
4 programs that correspond to in-demand career fields.

5
6 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

7 Section 1. (a) The provisions of section 1 et seq., and amendments
8 thereto, shall be known and may be cited as the Kansas promise
9 scholarship act.

10 (b) As used in the Kansas promise scholarship act:

11 (1) "Eligible postsecondary educational institution" means:

12 (A) Any community college established pursuant to chapter 71 of the
13 Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto;

14 (B) any technical college established under the laws of this state;

15 (C) the Washburn institute of technology; or

16 (D) any two-year associate degree program or career and technical
17 education program offered by a private postsecondary educational
18 institution accredited by the higher learning commission with its primary
19 location in Kansas.

20 (2) "Military servicemember" means the same as defined in K.S.A.
21 2020 Supp. 48-3406, and amendments thereto.

22 Sec. 2. (a) There is hereby established the Kansas promise
23 scholarship program. The state board of regents shall administer the
24 program.

25 (b) On or before March 1, 2022, the state board of regents shall adopt
26 rules and regulations to implement and administer the Kansas promise
27 scholarship program. Such rules and regulations shall establish:

28 (1) Scholarship application deadlines;

29 (2) appeal procedures for denial or revocation of a Kansas promise
30 scholarship;

31 (3) guidelines to ensure as much as is practicable that, if a student
32 who received a Kansas promise scholarship graduates from a career and
33 technical education program or transfer associate degree program pursuant
34 to this act and subsequently enrolls in a state educational institution, as
35 defined in K.S.A. 76-711, and amendments thereto, or municipal
36 university any courses taken by such student shall be transferred to the

1 state educational institution or municipal university and qualify toward the
2 student's baccalaureate degree;

3 (4) procedures for a student who receives a Kansas promise
4 scholarship to record and report proof of community service and
5 community service hours;

6 (5) the terms, conditions and requirements that shall be incorporated
7 into each Kansas promise scholarship agreement;

8 (6) procedures for requesting and approving medical, military and
9 personal absences from an eligible postsecondary educational institution
10 while receiving a Kansas promise scholarship;

11 (7) criteria for determining whether any student who received a
12 Kansas promise scholarship fulfilled the employment and repayment
13 requirements included in a Kansas promise scholarship agreement as
14 provided in section 5, and amendments thereto; and

15 (8) criteria for determining when a student who received a Kansas
16 promise scholarship may be released from the requirements of a Kansas
17 promise scholarship, if there are special circumstances that caused such
18 student to be unable to complete such requirements.

19 (c) The state board of regents shall:

20 (1) Work with community partners, such as community foundations,
21 school districts, postsecondary educational institutions, Kansas business
22 and industry and Kansas economic development organizations to publicize
23 Kansas promise scholarships, including, but not limited to, publicizing
24 eligible postsecondary educational institutions, approved scholarship-
25 eligible educational programs, application procedures and application
26 deadlines;

27 (2) allocate funds to each eligible postsecondary educational
28 institution for the purpose of awarding Kansas promise scholarships;

29 (3) request information from eligible postsecondary educational
30 institutions necessary for the administration of this act;

31 (4) annually collaborate with the department of commerce and
32 Kansas business and industry to identify up to 10 job fields and pathways
33 that currently have the highest need for skilled employees;

34 (5) designate scholarship-eligible career and technical programs and
35 transfer education programs that correspond to the job fields and pathways
36 identified in paragraph (4);

37 (6) ensure that any student who received a Kansas promise
38 scholarship fulfills the employment or repayment requirements provided in
39 section 5, and amendments thereto; and

40 (7) beginning January 2022, annually evaluate the Kansas promise
41 scholarship program and prepare and submit a report to the senate standing
42 committee on education and the house of representatives standing
43 committee on education.

1 Sec. 3. (a) Subject to appropriations, the amount of a Kansas promise
2 scholarship for a student for each semester shall be the aggregate amount
3 of tuition, required fees and the cost of books and required materials for
4 the educational program at the eligible postsecondary educational
5 institution for the academic year in which the student is enrolled and
6 receiving the scholarship minus the aggregate amount of all other aid
7 awarded to such student for such semester. Aid includes any grant,
8 scholarship or financial assistance awards that do not require repayment.
9 During any fiscal year, the appropriation pursuant to this section shall not
10 exceed \$10,000,000.

11 (b) If a student is enrolled in an eligible postsecondary education
12 program offered by a four-year eligible postsecondary educational
13 institution, the aggregate amount of tuition, mandatory fees and the cost of
14 books and materials for such eligible postsecondary education program
15 shall be the average cost of tuition, mandatory fees and the cost of books
16 and materials for such eligible postsecondary education program when
17 offered by an eligible public postsecondary educational institution that is
18 not a four-year institution.

19 Sec. 4. (a) To be eligible for a Kansas promise scholarship, a student
20 shall:

21 (1) Be a Kansas resident;

22 (2) be a graduate of a Kansas public or private secondary school or
23 have obtained a high school equivalency certificate within the preceding
24 12 months. This paragraph shall not apply to a student who is a dependent
25 child of a military servicemember permanently stationed in another state
26 who graduates from a postsecondary school or obtains a high school
27 equivalency certificate within the preceding 12 months;

28 (3) complete the required scholarship application on such forms and
29 in such manner as established by the state board of regents;

30 (4) enter into a Kansas promise scholarship agreement pursuant to
31 section 5, and amendments thereto;

32 (5) complete the free application for federal student aid for the
33 academic year in which the student applies to receive a Kansas promise
34 scholarship; and

35 (6) enroll in an eligible postsecondary educational institution in a
36 scholarship-eligible career and technical education program or associate
37 degree program with coursework in an identified job field that corresponds
38 to a baccalaureate degree program.

39 (b) To continue to receive a Kansas promise scholarship, a student
40 shall:

41 (1) Annually complete 100 hours of community service or be verified
42 by the eligible postsecondary educational institution to be employed part-
43 time throughout the time period in which the student is receiving a Kansas

1 promise scholarship;

2 (2) maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0; and

3 (3) satisfy any other requirements of a Kansas promise scholarship
4 agreement as provided in section 5, and amendments thereto.

5 (c) Nothing in this act shall prohibit a student who received
6 postsecondary course credit while enrolled in high school from qualifying
7 for a Kansas promise scholarship.

8 Sec. 5. (a) As a condition to receiving a Kansas promise scholarship,
9 an eligible student shall enter into a Kansas promise scholarship agreement
10 with the eligible postsecondary educational institution making the
11 scholarship award to such student. Such agreement shall require such
12 student who receives a Kansas promise scholarship to:

13 (1) Enroll as a full-time student at the eligible postsecondary
14 educational institution for which the student is receiving a Kansas promise
15 scholarship and engage in and complete the required career and technical
16 education program or associate degree program with coursework in an
17 identified job field that corresponds to a baccalaureate degree program;

18 (2) within six months after graduation from the career and technical
19 education program or associate degree program with coursework in an
20 identified job field that corresponds to a baccalaureate degree program:

21 (A) Commence work in the state of Kansas for at least two
22 consecutive years following completion of such program; or

23 (B) enroll as a full-time student in any public or private
24 postsecondary educational institution with its primary location in Kansas
25 and upon graduation or failure to re-enroll as a full-time student at such
26 institution, commence work in Kansas for at least two consecutive years
27 following the completion of such program;

28 (3) maintain records and make reports to the state board of regents on
29 such forms and in such manner as required by the state board of regents to
30 document the satisfaction of the requirements of this act; and

31 (4) upon failure to satisfy the requirements of a Kansas promise
32 scholarship agreement, repay the amount of the Kansas promise
33 scholarship the student received under the program as provided in
34 subsection (b).

35 (b) (1) Except as provided in subsection (c), if any student who
36 receives a Kansas promise scholarship fails to satisfy the requirements of a
37 Kansas promise scholarship agreement entered into pursuant to this
38 section, such student shall pay an amount equal to the total amount of
39 money received by such student pursuant to such agreement that is
40 financed by the state of Kansas plus accrued interest at a rate equivalent to
41 the interest rate applicable to loans made under the federal PLUS program
42 at the time such person first entered into an agreement. Installment
43 payments of such amounts may be made in accordance with rules and

1 regulations of the state board of regents. Such installment payments shall
2 begin six months after the date of the action or circumstances that cause
3 such student to fail to satisfy the requirements of a Kansas promise
4 scholarship agreement, as determined by the state board of regents upon
5 the circumstances of each individual case. All moneys received pursuant to
6 this subsection shall be remitted to the state treasurer in accordance with
7 the provisions of K.S.A. 75-4215, and amendments thereto. Upon receipt
8 of each such remittance, the state treasurer shall deposit the entire amount
9 in the state treasury to the credit of the state general fund.

10 (2) The state board of regents is authorized to turn any repayment
11 account arising under this act to a designated loan servicer or collection
12 agency, the state not being involved other than to receive payments from
13 the loan servicer or collection agency at the interest rate prescribed under
14 this subsection.

15 (c) Any requirement under a Kansas promise scholarship agreement
16 entered into pursuant to this section may be postponed for good cause in
17 accordance with rules and regulations of the state board of regents.

18 (d) A student who received a Kansas promise scholarship and entered
19 into a Kansas promise scholarship agreement satisfies the requirements
20 under such agreement when such student:

21 (1) Completes the requirements in accordance with such agreement;

22 (2) fails to satisfy the requirements for completion of the educational
23 requirements after making the best effort possible to do so;

24 (3) is unable to obtain employment and continue in such employment
25 after making the best effort possible to do so;

26 (4) is unable to satisfy the requirements due to permanent physical
27 disability; or

28 (5) dies.

29 Sec. 6. On and after July 1, 2026, no Kansas promise scholarship
30 shall be awarded to any student who has not previously been awarded a
31 Kansas promise scholarship prior to July 1, 2026.

32 Sec. 7. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
33 publication in the statute book.