

**First Regular Session
Seventy-first General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 17-0893.01 Julie Pelegrin x2700

HOUSE BILL 17-1180

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Winter and Lawrence,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Neville T. and Kerr,

House Committees
Education

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**
102 **FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED IN CAREER AND TECHNICAL**
103 **EDUCATION CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)

Under the existing tuition assistance program for students enrolled in career and technical education certificate programs (certificate programs), students enrolled in certificate programs may qualify for tuition assistance if they meet the income eligibility requirements for the federal Pell grant program but the certificate program does not meet the

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

Pell grant minimum credit hour requirements. Under the bill, the tuition assistance program is available to students who are enrolled in certificate programs that do not meet the minimum credit hour requirements for the federal Pell grant program and who meet an income eligibility standard set by the Colorado commission on higher education. The bill clarifies that tuition assistance means money a student may use to pay for tuition, fees, and course materials.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-3.3-1101, **amend**
3 (1) as follows:

4 **23-3.3-1101. Career and technical education certificate**
5 **programs - tuition assistance - funding - definitions.** (1) (a) The
6 commission shall establish a tuition assistance program for students
7 enrolled in QUALIFYING career and technical education certificate
8 programs. ~~referred to in this section as "certificate programs"~~. Subject to
9 available appropriations, the commission shall allocate ~~moneys~~ MONEY
10 to community colleges, Colorado Mesa university, area technical
11 colleges, and local district junior colleges to provide tuition assistance for
12 students who ARE ENROLLED IN QUALIFYING CAREER AND TECHNICAL
13 EDUCATION CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS AND meet the income eligibility
14 requirements ~~for the federal Pell grant but do not qualify for the Pell grant~~
15 ~~because the certificate program in which they are enrolled does not meet~~
16 ~~the Pell grant minimum credit hour requirements~~ ESTABLISHED IN
17 GUIDELINES ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION. The department of higher
18 education and the institutions that receive tuition assistance ~~moneys~~
19 MONEY pursuant to this section shall administer the program in
20 accordance with policies and procedures that the commission establishes.

21 (b) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE
22 REQUIRES:

1 (I) "QUALIFYING CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION
2 CERTIFICATE PROGRAM" MEANS A CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION
3 CERTIFICATE PROGRAM THAT DOES NOT MEET THE MINIMUM CREDIT HOUR
4 REQUIREMENTS FOR THE FEDERAL PELL GRANT PROGRAM.

5 (II) "TUITION ASSISTANCE" MEANS MONEY THAT A STUDENT MAY
6 USE TO PAY FOR TUITION, FEES, AND COURSE MATERIALS.

7 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
8 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
9 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.