RULES OF

Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development

Division 10—Commissioner of Higher Education

Chapter 2—Student Financial Assistance Programs

Title		Page
6 CSR 10-2.010	Institutional Eligibility For Student Participation (Rescinded June 30, 2009)	3
6 CSR 10-2.020	Student Eligibility and Application Procedures (Rescinded June 30, 2009)	3
6 CSR 10-2.030	Eligibility to Participate in the Missouri Student Loan Program.	3
6 CSR 10-2.040	Eligibility and Responsibilities of Educational Institutions to Participate in the Missouri Guaranteed Student Loan Program (Rescinded January 13, 1984)	3
6 CSR 10-2.041	Limitation, Suspension and Termination of Educational Institution Eligibility in the Missouri Guaranteed Student Loan Program (Rescinded January 13, 1984)	3
6 CSR 10-2.050	Eligibility and Responsibilities of Lenders to Participate in the Missouri Guaranteed Student Loan Program (Rescinded January 13, 1984)	4
6 CSR 10-2.051	Limitation, Suspension and Termination of Lender Participation in the Missouri Guaranteed Student Loan Program (Rescinded January 13, 1984)	4
6 CSR 10-2.060	Loan Origination and Servicing in Missouri Guaranteed Student Loan Program (Rescinded January 13, 1984)	4
6 CSR 10-2.070	Missouri Prospective Teacher Loan Program (Rescinded December 30, 2018).	4
6 CSR 10-2.080	Higher Education Academic Scholarship Program	4
6 CSR 10-2.090	Guarantors of Student Loans to Missourians (Rescinded March 30, 2023)	7
6 CSR 10-2.100	Public Safety Officer or Employee's Child Survivor Grant Program	7
6 CSR 10-2.110	Wage Garnishment for Repayment of Defaulted Guaranteed Student Loans (Rescinded May 30, 2023)	8

6 CSR 10-2.120 Competitiveness Scholarship Program 8

6 CSR 10-2.130 Vietnam Veteran's Survivors Grant Program (Rescinded November 30, 2016) 10

6 CSR 10-2.140 Institutional Eligibility for Student Participation. 10

6 CSR 10-2.150 Access Missouri Financial Assistance Program 12

6 CSR 10-2.160 War Veteran's Survivors Grant Program. 14

6 CSR 10-2.170 Kids' Chance Scholarship Program 16

6 CSR 10-2.180 Minority and Underrepresented Environmental Literacy Program 17

6 CSR 10-2.190 A+ Scholarship Program 19

6 CSR 10-2.195 Dual Credit/Dual Enrollment Scholarship Program 24

6 CSR 10-2.200 Minority Teaching Scholarship Program 25

6 CSR 10-2.210 Fast Track Workforce Incentive Grant 28

6 CSR 10-2.220 Public Safety Recruitment and Retention Scholarship 32

TITLE 6 – DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
Division 10 – Commissioner of Higher Education
Chapter 2 – Student Financial Assistance Programs

6 CSR 10-2.010 Institutional Eligibility for Student Participation
(Rescinded June 30, 2009)

AUTHORITY: section 173.210, RSMo 1994. Original rule filed June 9, 1978, effective Dec. 16, 1978. Amended: Filed Dec. 15, 1988, effective April 1, 1989. Rescinded: Filed Dec. 15, 2008, effective June 30, 2009.

6 CSR 10-2.020 Student Eligibility and Application Procedures
(Rescinded June 30, 2009)

AUTHORITY: section 173.210, RSMo 2000. Original rule filed Aug. 7, 1978, effective March 17, 1979. Emergency amendment filed Sept. 13, 1979, effective Sept. 23, 1979, expired Jan. 11, 1980. Amended: Filed Sept. 13, 1979, effective March 13, 1980. Amended: Filed Dec. 16, 1988, effective April 1, 1989. Amended: Filed Jan. 10, 1990, effective April 16, 1990. Amended: Filed Jan. 12, 2007, effective July 30, 2007. Rescinded: Filed Dec. 15, 2008, effective June 30, 2009.

***Missourians for Separation of Church and State v. Robertson**, 592 SW2d 825 (Mo. App. 1979). A taxpayer may sue in his/her county of residence on a declaratory judgment action to have an administrative rule declared invalid on first amendment grounds.*

6 CSR 10-2.030 Eligibility to Participate in the Missouri Student Loan Program

*PURPOSE: This rule is contained in the **Common Manual, Unified Student Loan Policy**, which is produced collectively by the Missouri Student Loan Program and all other guaranty agencies that administer the guaranteed student loan program. It establishes the policies for implementation and operation of the loan program for borrowers, schools, lenders, and third-party servicers.*

PUBLISHER'S NOTE: The secretary of state has determined that the publication of the entire text of the material which is incorporated by reference as a portion of this rule would be unduly cumbersome or expensive. Therefore, the material which is so incorporated is on file with the agency who filed this rule, and with the Office of the Secretary of State. Any interested person may view this material at either agency's headquarters or the same will be made available at the Office of the Secretary of State at a cost not to exceed actual cost of copy reproduction. The entire text of the rule is printed here. This note refers only to the incorporated by reference material.

(1) The *Common Manual, Unified Student Loan Policy* establishes the guidelines and specifies the federal policies by which the Missouri Student Loan Program administers the guaranteed student loan program, including Stafford Loans, Parent Loans for Undergraduate Students (PLUS), Consolidated Loans, and Supplemental Loans for Students (SLS). These national policies standardize administrative processes and enhance default prevention procedures.

(2) The manual includes policies to be followed by schools, lenders and third-party servicers that participate in the guaranteed student loan program.

(A) The manual contains general program information relevant to student loan borrowers, such as available loan types, eligibility criteria, borrowing limits, repayment options, interest rates, disbursement methods, and default activities.

(B) For schools, the manual outlines all applicable federal policies, including topics such as institutional eligibility criteria, recordkeeping and verification requirements, compliance reviews, entrance and exit counseling requirements, loan certification, disbursement and delivery methods, cohort default rates, and limitation, suspension and termination.

(C) For lenders, the manual also outlines all applicable federal policies, including topics such as eligibility criteria, audits, disbursement and delivery methods, loan servicing, due diligence requirements, claim filing, compliance reviews, and limitation, suspension, and termination.

(D) The manual also contains applicable policies that third-party servicers must adhere to in administering the guaranteed student loan program on behalf of schools and lenders.

(3) The manual includes the standard forms necessary to the administration of the guaranteed student loan program.

(4) This rule incorporates by reference the full text of the material titled *Common Manual, Unified Student Loan Policy* in order to ensure consistent administrative processes for all guaranteed student loan programs and enhance default prevention procedures.

AUTHORITY: sections 173.095, 173.100, 173.105, 173.110, 173.115 and 173.120–173.186, RSMo 2000. Original rule filed June 8, 1979, effective Nov. 11, 1979. Rescinded and readopted: Filed Oct. 11, 1983, effective Jan. 13, 1984. Amended: Filed Oct. 1, 1985, effective Jan. 12, 1986. Amended: Filed July 1, 1988, effective Oct. 1, 1988. Amended: Filed Dec. 13, 1991, effective April 9, 1992. Rescinded and readopted: Filed Nov. 26, 1996, effective June 30, 1997. Amended: Filed Oct. 27, 2000, effective April 30, 2001. Amended: Filed Nov. 1, 2001, effective April 30, 2002.*

**Original authority: 173.095, RSMo 1967, amended 1978; 173.100, RSMo 1967, amended 1978, 1981, 1988, 1994; 173.105, RSMo 1978, amended 1981, 1993, 1994; 173.110, RSMo 1967, amended 1978, 1981, 1994; 173.115, RSMo 1988; 173.120, RSMo 1967, amended 1978, 1982; 173.130, RSMo 1967, amended 1978; 173.141, RSMo 1981; 173.150, RSMo 1967, amended 1978, 1994; 173.160, RSMo 1967, amended 1978, 1981, 1994; 173.170, RSMo 1967, amended 1978, 1981, 1994; 173.180, RSMo 1967, amended 1978; and 173.186, RSMo 1986.*

6 CSR 10-2.040 Eligibility and Responsibilities of Educational Institutions to Participate in the Missouri Guaranteed Student Loan Program
(Rescinded January 13, 1984)

AUTHORITY: sections 173.105 and 173.160, RSMo 1978. Original rule filed June 8, 1979, effective Nov. 11, 1979. Rescinded: Filed Oct. 11, 1983, effective Jan. 13, 1984.

6 CSR 10-2.041 Limitation, Suspension and Termination of Educational Institution Eligibility in the Missouri Guaranteed Student Loan Program
(Rescinded January 13, 1984)

AUTHORITY: sections 173.105 and 173.160, RSMo 1978. Original rule filed June 8, 1979, effective Nov. 11, 1979. Rescinded: Filed Oct.

11, 1983, effective Jan. 13, 1984.

6 CSR 10-2.050 Eligibility and Responsibilities of Lenders to Participate in the Missouri Guaranteed Student Loan Program
(Rescinded January 13, 1984)

AUTHORITY: sections 173.105 and 173.160, RSMo 1978. Original rule filed June 8, 1979, effective Nov. 11, 1979. Rescinded: Filed Oct. 11, 1983, effective Jan. 13, 1984.

6 CSR 10-2.051 Limitation, Suspension and Termination of Lender Participation in the Missouri Guaranteed Student Loan Program
(Rescinded January 13, 1984)

AUTHORITY: sections 173.105 and 173.160, RSMo 1978. Original rule filed June 8, 1979, effective Nov. 11, 1979. Rescinded: Filed Oct. 11, 1983, effective Jan. 13, 1984.

6 CSR 10-2.060 Loan Origination and Servicing in Missouri Guaranteed Student Loan Program
(Rescinded January 13, 1984)

AUTHORITY: sections 173.105 and 173.160, RSMo 1978. Original rule filed June 8, 1979, effective Nov. 11, 1979. Rescinded: Filed Oct. 11, 1983, effective Jan. 13, 1984.

6 CSR 10-2.070 Missouri Prospective Teacher Loan Program
(Rescinded December 30, 2018)

AUTHORITY: sections 168.550–168.595, RSMo 1995. Original rule filed Jan. 11, 1986, effective June 12, 1986. Rescinded: Filed June 19, 2018, effective Dec. 30, 2018.

6 CSR 10-2.080 Higher Education Academic Scholarship Program

PURPOSE: The Higher Education Academic Scholarship Program permits the Coordinating Board for Higher Education to provide academic scholarships for eligible Missouri residents to attend an approved Missouri college or university of their choice pursuant to the provisions included in section 173.250, RSMo. This rule sets forth qualifications required of student applicants for the scholarships, criteria to be used in selecting scholarship recipients, and qualifications which approved colleges or universities must meet.

(1) Definitions.

(A) Academic year or the period of the scholarship is the period from July 1 of any year through June 30 of the following year.

(B) ACT means the American College Testing Program.

(C) Applicant is anyone who applies to the Missouri Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development (MDHEWD) for a scholarship under the academic scholarship program and who qualifies under section 173.1104, RSMo, excluding undergraduate status.

(D) Approved institution means any institution located in the state of Missouri that meets the requirements set forth in subdivision 173.1102.1(2) or (3), RSMo, and that has been approved under 6 CSR 10-2.140.

(E) Approved student deferment period or deferment is a period of time up to the maximum time allowed in section 173.250, RSMo, during which an eligible initial or renewal recipient may cease enrollment without losing scholarship eligibility. The deferment shall begin on July 1 of the academic year for which the student's deferment was approved or July 1 following the most recent academic year that the student received scholarship assistance.

(F) Certificate of high school equivalence shall be a certificate that is awarded to an applicant who has successfully completed and passed the General Educational Development (GED) examination as established by the Commission on Educational Credit and Credentials of the American Council on Education (ACE).

(G) Completed secondary coursework or completion of secondary coursework shall be graduation from high school or the virtual public school established in section 161.670, RSMo, receipt of a GED diploma, completion of a program of study through homeschooling, or any other program of academic instruction that satisfies the compulsory attendance requirement under section 167.031, RSMo.

(H) Consortium agreement means a written agreement between two (2) or more approved institutions that allows students to take courses at a school other than the home school and have those courses count toward the degree or certificate at the home school that complies with the United States Department of Education requirements for federal student financial assistance.

(I) Continually enrolled shall be enrollment as a full-time student who receives scholarship assistance at an approved institution for at least one (1) semester, trimester, or quarter, not including summer terms, in the academic year for which the scholarship award was offered.

(J) CBHE means the Coordinating Board for Higher Education created by section 173.005, RSMo.

(K) Expenses shall be any education-related expenses including but not limited to tuition, fees, and room and board.

(L) Full-time student shall be defined by the approved institution as a postsecondary student who is enrolled in and is carrying a sufficient number of credit hours or its equivalent (minimum twelve (12) credit hours) at the approved private or public Missouri institution to secure the degree or certificate toward which the student is working in accordance with paragraph (2)(A)5. of this rule. Provided, however, that an otherwise eligible student having a disability as defined by Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. 12101-12213) who, because of the student's disability, is unable to satisfy the statutory minimum requirements for full-time status under Title IV student aid programs shall be considered by the approved institution to be a full-time student and shall be considered to be making satisfactory academic progress, as defined in subsection (1)(W) of this rule, while carrying a minimum of six (6) credit hours or their equivalent at the approved institution.

(M) Higher Education Academic Scholarship Program or academic scholarship program shall mean the academic scholarship program provisions created by section 173.250, RSMo.

(N) Initial recipient shall be any applicant who meets the eligibility requirements and is awarded an academic scholarship under the academic scholarship program in the academic year immediately following completion of secondary coursework.

(O) Medical need shall be a verified illness, disability, pregnancy, or other medical condition that prevents an eligible

applicant from enrolling as a renewal recipient or which requires a recipient to cease all attendance at an approved institution in the academic year for which the scholarship award was originally offered.

(P) MDHEWD shall be the Missouri Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development created by section 173.005, RSMo.

(Q) Missouri test takers shall be all Missouri high school students taking the ACT examination or the SAT during the student's senior year in high school.

(R) Nonprofit organization shall be any organization which is organized under the laws of its home state as a not-for-profit corporation or organization, such as a charitable, scientific, or literary organization.

(S) Qualifying score shall be a composite score on the ACT examination or the SAT achieved in an eligible student's high school sophomore, junior, or senior year that is in the top five percent (5%) of Missouri test takers, as established at the beginning of an eligible student's final year of secondary coursework.

(T) Renewal recipient shall be any applicant who received an academic scholarship as an initial recipient under the academic scholarship program and meets the eligibility requirements under the provisions of this rule and requirements as defined by the approved institution and is awarded a renewable academic scholarship under the academic scholarship program.

(U) Resident of Missouri is any person who meets the requirements for resident status for Missouri set forth by the CBHE in 6 CSR 10-3.010.

(V) SAT means the Scholastic Aptitude Test of the College Board.

(W) Satisfactory academic progress shall be a cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of at least two and one-half (2.5) on a four-point (4.0) scale, or the equivalent on another scale, and, with the exception of grade point average, as otherwise determined by the approved institution's policies as applied to other students at the approved institution receiving assistance under Title IV financial aid programs included in the Higher Education Act of 1965. The calculation of CGPA shall be based on the approved institution's policies as applied to other students in similar circumstances.

(X) Scholarship assistance or award shall be an amount of money paid by Missouri to a qualified applicant pursuant to the provisions of this rule.

(Y) Service-related expenses shall be any allowable expenses related to room, board, travel, and personal costs of the applicant necessary to satisfactorily provide and complete a service to a nonprofit organization, or a state or federal government agency.

(Z) Student exchange program shall be any recognized international or national secondary-level exchange program recognized by the student's high school that is available to qualified students to continue their educational studies.

(AA) Sufficient documentation shall be documents including but not limited to letters of participation, application materials, copies of orders or release papers, or a statement of medical need provided by the student exchange program, the nonprofit organization, a state or federal government agency, any branch of the armed forces, or a practicing medical physician that verifies a student's status to the satisfaction of the MDHEWD.

(2) Basic Eligibility Policy.

(A) To be eligible for initial or renewed scholarship assistance under the academic scholarship program, an applicant must meet the following conditions:

1. Be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States;

2. Be a resident of Missouri;

3. Be enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a full-time postsecondary student at an approved institution for the period of the scholarship and be in compliance with section 173.1104, RSMo, excluding the requirement of undergraduate status;

4. Not be enrolled or intend to use the award to enroll in a course of study leading to a degree in theology or divinity; and

5. Be allotted scholarship assistance for one (1) academic year, but an applicant shall be eligible for renewed assistance until the applicant has obtained a baccalaureate degree, provided the scholarship assistance shall not exceed a total of ten (10) semesters or fifteen (15) quarters or their equivalents.

(B) To be eligible for initial scholarship assistance, an applicant must also –

1. Have completed secondary coursework and have achieved a qualifying score;

2. Be offered and receive a scholarship award as a first-time, full-time, first-year postsecondary student the academic year immediately following completion of secondary coursework; and

3. Complete and submit all requested eligibility information to the MDHEWD according to the provisions of this rule.

(C) To be eligible for renewed scholarship assistance, an applicant must also –

1. Be continually enrolled in an approved institution full-time, excluding periods of enrollment during summer terms, as a second-, third-, fourth- or fifth-year student, or other student meeting the eligibility requirements of this rule;

2. Have continually received an academic scholarship subject to the availability of state-appropriated funds; and

3. Maintain satisfactory academic progress in the applicant's course of study.

(D) To be approved for a deferment, initial and renewal recipients who cease all enrollment due to participation in a student exchange program, provision of a service to a nonprofit organization, a state or federal government agency, or service on active duty in any branch of the armed forces of the United States, or because of medical need must meet the eligibility requirements for scholarship assistance in accordance with the provisions of this rule, with the exception of continuous enrollment. Prior to the student's change in status, the student must –

1. Contact the CBHE in writing to request a student deferment of eligibility; and

2. Complete and submit the deferment of eligibility form that is provided by the MDHEWD, along with sufficient documentation indicating the renewal recipient ceased all attendance or the initial recipient was unable to enroll and receive scholarship assistance at an approved institution in the academic year for which the scholarship was originally offered.

(E) To satisfactorily complete the approved student deferment period, applicants and recipients must meet the following requirements in the academic year immediately following the student deferment period:

1. Notify the MDHEWD by submitting sufficient documentation verifying the approved student deferment period was satisfactorily completed within the maximum time frame allowed in section 173.250, RSMo;

2. Complete and submit all requested eligibility information to the MDHEWD according to the provisions of this rule;

3. Have met all other requirements established for eligibility to receive an initial or renewal scholarship;

4. Enroll as a full-time student at an approved institution within the time frames referenced in section 173.250, RSMo; and

5. Submit sufficient documentation verifying to the MDHEWD that the student was not compensated for other than service-related expenses for a service that was provided to a nonprofit organization.

(3) Responsibilities of Approved Institutions. Institutions participating in the Higher Education Academic Scholarship Program must meet the requirements set forth in 6 CSR 10-2.140, Institutional Eligibility for Student Participation.

(4) Application and Evaluation Policy.

(A) The MDHEWD shall prescribe the form of and the time and method of filing applications under the academic scholarship program.

(B) An application for scholarship assistance under the academic scholarship program shall be made in the form and method prescribed by the MDHEWD.

(C) The MDHEWD will determine if an applicant has achieved a qualifying score and is eligible for an award as an initial recipient by evaluating the official ACT or SAT test scores from national test dates, approved special test dates, or census test dates in comparison to the Missouri high school senior score report provided by ACT or the College Board. Verification of the initial recipient's test scores from national, special, or census test dates must be provided by ACT or the College Board, or by an official at the high school from which the initial recipient graduated or a financial aid officer at the approved institution in which the initial recipient is enrolled or plans to enroll based on documentation from ACT or the College Board. Failure to provide official test score verification will result in the application being incomplete.

(D) If an eligible applicant has been offered or has received a scholarship award under the provisions of this rule and if the applicant's qualifying composite test score has officially been cancelled and is determined to be invalid by ACT or the College Board then the applicant will be declared ineligible for further award by the MDHEWD for the scholarship program.

(E) All applicants and renewal students will be evaluated by the MDHEWD according to the eligibility criteria under the provisions of this rule, the information submitted by the approved institution, and on any other information received by and deemed reliable by the MDHEWD.

(F) The deadline for having completed eligibility information on file will be published annually by the MDHEWD for each academic year. Completed eligibility information must be on file with the MDHEWD on or before the published deadline to be considered on time and for the applicant to have priority consideration. Incomplete records received by the MDHEWD will not be processed.

(G) Eligibility information completed after the annual deadline published by the MDHEWD will be awarded provided program funds are available, based on a review by the MDHEWD.

(5) Award Policy.

(A) The maximum academic scholarship program award amount for each applicant per academic year shall be the amount(s) referenced in section 173.250, RSMo.

(B) Awards at approved institutions utilizing trimester academic programs shall be evenly distributed over the three (3) terms.

(C) Financial need shall not be used by the MDHEWD in determining eligibility for awards under the academic scholarship program for an applicant.

(D) If program funds are insufficient to award to all recipients in the top three percent (3%), the award amounts will be reduced equally for those recipients until all funds have been expended. All students in the top three percent (3%) of all Missouri test-takers shall receive the maximum academic scholarship program award amount referenced in section 173.250, RSMo, before any student in the top fourth and fifth percentiles receives any award.

(E) If program funds are insufficient to award to all recipients in the top fourth and fifth percentiles, the award amounts will be reduced equally for those recipients until all funds have been expended.

(F) A student who has been denied an academic scholarship award for lack of satisfactory academic progress may not receive another academic scholarship award until the enrollment period after the applicable standard has once again been met.

(G) The award amount for any given academic year will be disbursed to the approved institution equally according to the number of semesters at the approved institution and awarded for each semester of enrollment.

(H) Awards will not be made for periods of enrollment during summer terms.

(I) Awards will be issued only after certification of full-time attendance of the student by the institution. For a student enrolled as part of a consortium agreement, the student must be considered to be enrolled full-time at the home institution to be certified.

(J) An applicant may change the approved institution choice by the established deadline and may transfer between approved institutions during the academic year. Failure to notify the MDHEWD of such action may result in loss of the award.

(K) Award notifications will be sent to initial applicants and renewal students by the MDHEWD once the awards have been determined. Notification of initial and renewal awards also will be sent to the student financial aid office at the approved institution where the applicant plans to enroll or has enrolled.

(L) The applicant's award will be sent to the approved institution to be delivered to the student's account. The institution shall retain the portion of the award that the student owes for expenses and promptly give the applicant any remaining funds.

(6) Information Sharing Policy. All information on an individual's academic scholarship program application will be shared with the financial aid office of the institution to which the individual has applied or is attending to permit verification of data submitted. Information may be shared with federal financial aid offices if necessary to verify data furnished by the state or federal governments as provided for in the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. sections 552, 552a.

AUTHORITY: section 173.250, RSMo 2016. Original rule filed Nov. 14, 1986, effective Feb. 28, 1987. Amended: Filed Feb. 3, 1988, effective April 28, 1988. Amended: Filed Dec. 5, 1988, effective March 1, 1989. Amended: Filed Aug. 15, 1989, effective Nov. 15, 1989. Amended: Filed Oct. 14, 1992, effective May 6, 1993. Amended: Filed Sept. 29, 1994, effective March 30, 1995. Amended:*

Filed Jan. 12, 2007, effective July 30, 2007. Amended: Filed Dec. 15, 2008, effective June 30, 2009. Amended: Filed Dec. 10, 2010, effective June 30, 2011. Amended: Filed June 15, 2016, effective Nov. 30, 2016. Amended: Filed Jan. 29, 2019, effective July 30, 2019. Rescinded: Filed Sept. 23, 2022, effective March 30, 2023. Readopted: Filed May 12, 2023, effective Nov. 30, 2023.

**Original authority: 173.250, RSMo 1986, amended 1988, 1990, 1991, 2007, 2010.*

6 CSR 10-2.090 Guarantors of Student Loans to Missourians
(Rescinded March 30, 2023)

AUTHORITY: section 173.186, RSMo 1994. Original rule filed Oct. 15, 1986, effective March 12, 1987. Rescinded: Filed Sept. 30, 2022, effective March 30, 2023.

6 CSR 10-2.100 Public Safety Officer or Employee's Child Survivor Grant Program

PURPOSE: The public safety officer or employee's child survivor grant program, established by section 173.260, RSMo, authorizes the Coordinating Board for Higher Education to provide educational benefits for eligible Missouri residents who are public safety officers who are permanently and totally disabled in the line of duty or eligible children or spouses of certain public safety officers and certain public employees killed or permanently and totally disabled in the line of duty to attend an approved Missouri college or university. This rule sets forth qualifications required of student applicants for grant assistance.

(1) Definitions.

(A) Academic year or the period of the grant is the period from July 1 of any year through June 30 of the following year.

(B) Applicant shall mean an eligible child, spouse, or public safety officer, as defined in this rule, who has filed a complete and accurate application to receive a survivor grant as prescribed by the CBHE and who qualifies to receive such an award under section 173.260, RSMo.

(C) CBHE is the Coordinating Board for Higher Education created by section 173.005, RSMo.

(D) Eligible child is the natural, adopted, or stepchild of a public safety officer or employee who is less than twenty-four (24) years of age and who is a dependent of a public safety officer or employee or was a dependent at the time of death or permanent and total disability of a public safety officer or employee.

(E) Employee shall be any full-time employee of the Department of Transportation engaged in the construction or maintenance of the state's highways, roads, and bridges who is killed or permanently and totally disabled in the line of duty.

(F) Full-time student means a student who is enrolled in at least twelve (12) semester hours, eight (8) quarter hours, or the equivalent in another measurement system, but not less than the number sufficient to secure the certificate or degree toward which the student is working in no more than the number of semesters or their equivalent normally required by the institution for the program in which the student is enrolled, provided, however, that an otherwise eligible student having a disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. 12101-12213) who, because of the student's disability, is unable to satisfy the statutory minimum requirements for full-time status under Title IV student aid programs shall be considered by the approved institution to be a full-time student and shall be considered to be making satisfactory academic degree progress, as defined in subsection (1)(M) of this rule, while carrying a minimum of six (6) credit hours or their equivalent at the approved institution.

(G) Grant assistance or award shall be an amount of money paid to a qualified applicant pursuant to the provisions of this rule.

(H) Institution of postsecondary education or approved institution shall be any private or public institution located in Missouri that meets the requirements set forth in subdivision 173.1102.1(2) or (3), RSMo.

(I) Line of duty shall mean any action of an employee directly connected to their employment with the Department of Transportation, or of a public safety officer who is authorized or obligated by law, rule, regulation, or condition of employment or service to perform such function.

(J) MDHE means the Missouri Department of Higher Education created by section 173.005, RSMo.

(K) Permanent and total disability shall mean a disability which renders a person unable to engage in any gainful work.

(L) Public safety officer shall be any firefighter, uniformed employee of the office of the state fire marshal, police officer, capitol police officer, parole officer, probation officer, state correctional employee, water safety officer, park ranger, conservation officer, or highway patrolman employed by the state of Missouri or a political subdivision thereof, including an individual serving in any such capacity as a certified volunteer, who is killed or permanently and totally disabled in the line of duty, or any emergency medical technician, air ambulance pilot, air ambulance registered professional nurse, air ambulance registered respiratory therapist, or flight crew member, as these terms are defined in subsection 173.260.1, RSMo, who is killed or permanently and totally disabled in the line of duty.

(M) Satisfactory academic progress shall be determined by the approved institution's policies as applied to other students at the approved institution receiving assistance under Title IV financial aid programs included in the Higher Education Act of 1965.

(N) Similar program funds shall be need-based funds an applicant receives under any federal or state grant aid programs.

(O) Spouse shall mean the husband, wife, widow, or widower of a public safety officer or employee at the time of death or permanent and total disability of such public safety officer or employee.

(P) Survivor grant or grant shall mean the public safety officer or employee survivor grant as established by section 173.260, RSMo.

(Q) Tuition or incidental fee shall be the amount charged for nondesignated and unrestricted fees by an institution of postsecondary education for an applicant to attend full-time at that institution as a resident of the state of Missouri.

(2) Responsibilities of Institutions of Postsecondary Education. Institutions participating in the Public Safety Officer or Employee's Child Survivor Grant program must meet the requirements set forth in 6 CSR 10-2.140, Institutional Eligibility for Student Participation.

(3) Eligibility Policy.

(A) To be eligible for grant assistance under the survivor grant program, an applicant must meet the following conditions:

1. Be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States;
2. Be a resident of Missouri;

3. Be an eligible child or spouse of a public safety officer or an eligible child of an employee who was killed or permanently and totally disabled in the line of duty; or be a public safety officer who was permanently and totally disabled in the line of duty;

4. Be enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a full-time undergraduate student in a course of study leading to a certificate or an associate or baccalaureate degree at an approved institution for the period of the grant;

5. Maintain satisfactory academic progress in the applicant's course of study, according to standards determined by the approved institution; and

6. Complete an application for grant assistance according to the provisions of this rule.

(B) No award shall be made under section 173.260, RSMo to any applicant who is enrolled or who intends to use the award to enroll in a course of study leading to a degree in theology or divinity.

(C) Grant assistance shall be allotted for one (1) academic year, but an applicant shall be eligible for renewed assistance until receipt of a baccalaureate degree or, only in the case of an applicant who is an eligible child, has reached age twenty-four (24) years, whichever occurs first, except that the applicant may receive such grant assistance through the completion of the semester or similar grading period in which the eligible child reaches twenty-four (24) years of age.

(D) An eligible child of a public safety officer or employee, spouse of a public safety officer, or public safety officer shall cease to be eligible for a grant pursuant to section 173.260, RSMo, when the public safety officer or employee is no longer permanently and totally disabled.

(4) Application and Evaluation Policy.

(A) The CBHE annually shall prescribe the form of, and the time and method of filing, applications under the survivor grant program.

(B) An application for grant assistance under the survivor grant program shall be made annually by the applicant on the form prescribed by the CBHE.

(C) Completed applications must be received by the MDHE to be approved for grant awards.

(5) Award Policy.

(A) The maximum survivor grant program award amount for each applicant per academic year shall be the lesser of the actual tuition and incidental fees charged at the approved institution where the applicant is enrolled or accepted for full-time enrollment; or the amount of tuition and incidental fees charged a Missouri undergraduate resident enrolled full-time (maximum twelve (12) credit hours) at the University of Missouri – Columbia.

(B) The applicant's survivor grant, when combined with similar program funds for which the applicant is eligible for and receives, shall not exceed the total cost of tuition and incidental fees charged by the approved institution for full-time enrollment.

(C) An applicant receiving an award under the survivor grant program shall have made satisfactory academic progress as defined by the approved institution in order to be eligible for a subsequent award under the survivor grant program.

(D) An applicant who has been denied a survivor grant award for lack of satisfactory academic progress may not receive another survivor grant award until the enrollment period after the applicable standard has once again been met.

(E) Award amounts will be calculated and issued for each semester of enrollment in a given academic year and will be disbursed to the approved institution.

(F) Awards will not be made for periods of enrollment during the summer term(s).

(G) An applicant may change the approved institution choice prior to the beginning of the first day of classes and may transfer between approved institutions during the academic year. A new application is required to transfer the award. Failure to notify the MDHE by these dates of the change may result in loss of the award.

(H) Award notifications will be sent to applicants by the MDHE once applications have been approved and the awards have been determined. Notification of awards also will be sent to the student financial aid office at the approved institution in which the applicant plans to or has enrolled.

(I) The applicant's award will be sent to the approved institution to be delivered to the applicant's account. The institution shall retain the portion of the award that the student owes for expenses and promptly give the applicant any remaining funds.

(6) Information Sharing Policy. All information on an individual's survivor grant application will be shared with the financial aid office of the institution to which the individual has applied or is attending to permit verification of data submitted. Information may be shared with federal financial aid offices if necessary to verify data furnished to the state or federal governments as provided for in the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. 552a.

AUTHORITY: section 173.260, RSMo Supp. 2018. Original rule filed April 29, 1988, effective July 28, 1988. Amended: Filed May 27, 1999, effective Jan. 30, 2000. Amended: Filed Feb. 20, 2009, effective Aug. 30, 2009. Amended: Filed June 15, 2016, effective Nov. 30, 2016. Amended: Filed Jan. 29, 2019, effective July 30, 2019.*

**Original authority: 173.260, RSMo 1987, amended 1998, 2018.*

6 CSR 10-2.110 Wage Garnishment for Repayment of Defaulted Guaranteed Student Loans

(Rescinded May 30, 2023)

AUTHORITY: section 173.115, RSMo 1994. Original rule filed July 18, 1989, effective Oct. 15, 1989. Rescinded: Filed Nov. 3, 2022, effective May 30, 2023.

6 CSR 10-2.120 Competitiveness Scholarship Program

PURPOSE: The competitiveness scholarship program permits the Coordinating Board for Higher Education to provide scholarships for eligible part-time Missouri residents to attend an approved Missouri college or university pursuant to the provisions included in 173.262, RSMo. This rule sets forth qualifications required of student applicants for the scholarships, criteria to be used in selecting scholarship recipients and qualifications which approved colleges or universities must meet.

(1) Definitions.

(A) Academic year or period of the scholarship is the period from July 1 of any year through June 30 of the following year.

(B) Applicant means a student who applies to the MDHE for a scholarship under the competitiveness scholarship program as prescribed by the CBHE and who meets the criteria to

receive such an award under section 173.262, RSMo, and this administrative rule.

(C) Approved institution means any institution located in Missouri that meets the requirements set forth in subdivision 173.1102.1(2) or (3), RSMo, and that has been approved under 6 CSR 10-2.140.

(D) Award amount shall be an amount of money paid by Missouri to a qualified applicant pursuant to the provisions of this rule.

(E) Competitiveness scholarship program or scholarship program shall mean the scholarship program established by section 173.262, RSMo.

(F) CBHE means the Coordinating Board for Higher Education created by section 173.005, RSMo.

(G) Expenses shall be undergraduate tuition or incidental fees for the current academic year.

(H) Financial need shall be the difference between the total financial resources available to an applicant and the applicant's total cost of attendance, including tuition, fees, room and board, books and supplies, personal expenses, and transportation while attending part-time at an approved institution.

(I) Financial resources shall be the amount of financial assistance (scholarship, grant, work) awarded to the applicant by the approved institution and the amount of the applicant's expected family contribution as calculated annually by the United States Department of Education as a result of an official federal need analysis based on the student's federal need-based application form.

(J) Initial recipient shall be any applicant who meets the eligibility requirements and is awarded and received a competitiveness scholarship for the first time.

(K) MDHE means the Missouri Department of Higher Education created by section 173.005, RSMo.

(L) Part-time student shall be any undergraduate student who is enrolled less than full-time but at least half-time in a degree program as defined by the approved private or public Missouri institution.

(M) Renewal recipient shall be any applicant who received a competitiveness scholarship as an initial recipient under the competitiveness scholarship program and meets the eligibility requirements under the provisions of this rule and requirements as defined by the approved institution and is awarded and received a renewable competitiveness scholarship under the competitiveness scholarship program at an approved institution in Missouri.

(N) Resident of Missouri is any person who meets the requirements for resident status for Missouri as set forth by the CBHE in 6 CSR 10-3.010, the residency rule for higher education.

(O) Satisfactory academic progress shall be a cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of at least two and one-half (2.5) on a four-point (4.0) scale or the equivalent on another scale and, with the exception of grade point average, as otherwise determined by the approved institution's policies as applied to other students at the approved institution receiving assistance under Title IV financial aid programs included in the Higher Education Act of 1965. Calculation of CGPA shall be based on the approved institution's policies as applied to other students in similar circumstances.

(P) Undergraduate student shall be any student who has not obtained a first baccalaureate degree.

(2) Basic Eligibility Policy.

(A) To be eligible for an initial or renewed award under the competitiveness scholarship program, an applicant must –

1. Be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States;
2. Be a resident of Missouri;
3. Be enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a part-time undergraduate student at an approved institution for the period of the scholarship;
4. Complete an application for scholarship assistance according to the provisions of this rule;
5. Demonstrate financial need based on a positive result from subtracting financial resources from the cost of attendance;
6. Be eighteen (18) years of age or older at the time the application is submitted to the MDHE;
7. Be employed and compensated for twenty (20) hours or more per week; and
8. Not be employed under the federal Title IV College Work-Study Program.

(B) To be eligible for a renewal scholarship under the competitiveness scholarship program, an applicant must meet the requirements in subsection (2)(A) of this administrative rule and maintain satisfactory academic progress in a course of study.

(C) No award shall be made under section 173.262, RSMo, to any applicant who is enrolled or who intends to use the award to enroll in a course of study leading to a degree in theology or divinity.

(D) Scholarship assistance shall be allotted for one (1) academic year, but an applicant shall be eligible for renewed assistance until the applicant has obtained a baccalaureate degree or completed one hundred fifty (150) semester credit hours.

(3) Responsibilities of Institutions of Postsecondary Education. Institutions participating in the competitiveness scholarship program must meet the requirements set forth in 6 CSR 10-2.140, Institutional Eligibility for Student Participation.

(4) Application and Evaluation Policy.

(A) The CBHE annually shall prescribe the form of, and the time and method of filing, applications for participation in the competitiveness scholarship program.

(B) An application for an award under the competitiveness scholarship program shall be made annually by the applicant upon the form prescribed by the CBHE.

(C) Completed applications must be received by the MDHE to be approved for scholarship awards.

(D) The deadline for receiving completed competitiveness scholarship applications will be published annually by the MDHE for each academic year. Completed applications must be received by the MDHE on or before the published deadline to be considered on time and to have priority consideration. Incomplete applications received by the MDHE will not be processed.

(E) Completed competitiveness scholarship applications received after the annual deadline published by the MDHE will be awarded provided program funds are available, based on a review by the MDHE.

(5) Award Policy.

(A) Within the limits of the funds appropriated and made available, the maximum award amount for each applicant per academic year shall be the lesser of the actual undergraduate tuition charged at an approved institution where the applicant is enrolled or accepted for part-time enrollment or the amount of tuition charged a Missouri undergraduate resident enrolled part-time in the same class level (freshman, sophomore, junior,

senior) and in the same academic major of the applicant at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

(B) For part-time students enrolled in courses totaling six (6), seven (7), or eight (8) semester credit hours, or the equivalent, the award amount shall be calculated based on six (6) semester credit hours. For part-time students enrolled in courses totaling nine (9), ten (10), or eleven (11) semester credit hours, or the equivalent, the award amount shall be calculated based on nine (9) semester credit hours.

(C) Applicants who qualify as initial recipients under the provisions of this rule will be awarded based on the availability of program funds.

(D) If sufficient program funds are unavailable to award to initial recipients, the awards will be made based on the earliest date the completed applications are received by the MDHE until all funds have been expended.

(E) Renewal recipients shall have priority in the awarding of program funds. If sufficient program funds are unavailable to award all eligible renewal recipients, priority for program funds shall be awarded based on the earliest date the completed application is received by the MDHE.

(F) Award amounts will be calculated and issued for each semester of part-time enrollment in a given academic year and will be disbursed to the approved institution.

(G) An applicant who has been denied a competitiveness scholarship award for lack of satisfactory academic progress may not receive another competitiveness scholarship award until the enrollment period after the applicable standard has once again been met.

(H) Awards will not be made for periods of enrollment during the summer term(s).

(I) An applicant's approved institution choice may be changed and the applicant may transfer between approved institutions during the academic year by the deadline established by the MDHE. Failure to notify the MDHE by the prescribed dates of this action may result in loss of the award.

(J) The applicant's award amount will be sent to the approved institution to be delivered to the student's account. The institution shall retain the portion of the award that the student owes for expenses and promptly give the applicant any remaining funds.

(6) Information Sharing Policy. All information on an individual's competitiveness scholarship program application will be shared with the financial aid office of the institution to which the individual has applied or is attending to permit verification of data submitted. Information may be shared with federal financial aid offices if necessary to verify data furnished by the state or federal governments as provided for in the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. section 552a.

AUTHORITY: section 173.262, RSMo 2016. Original rule filed May 24, 1990, effective Nov. 30, 1990. Amended: Filed Jan. 12, 2007, effective July 30, 2007. Amended: Filed Feb. 20, 2009, effective Aug. 30, 2009. Amended: Filed June 15, 2016, effective Nov. 30, 2016. Amended: Filed Jan. 29, 2019, effective July 30, 2019.*

**Original authority: 173.262, RSMo 1988, amended 1992.*

6 CSR 10-2.130 Vietnam Veteran's Survivors Grant Program
(Rescinded November 30, 2016)

AUTHORITY: section 173.236, RSMo 2000. Original rule filed April 5, 1993, effective Sept. 9, 1993. Amended: Filed Feb. 20, 2009, effective Aug. 30, 2009. Rescinded: Filed June 15, 2016, effective Nov. 30, 2016.

6 CSR 10-2.140 Institutional Eligibility for Student Participation

PURPOSE: This rule sets forth policies and procedures of the Coordinating Board for Higher Education regarding the certification of public and private institutions of higher education so their full-time students may qualify for participation in any state student assistance programs.

(1) Definitions.

(A) Approved institution means any institution located in the state of Missouri that meets the requirements set forth in subdivisions 173.1102.1(2), (3), or (4), RSMo; that has been approved under 6 CSR 10-2.140; and that has been approved to participate in the federal student financial assistance programs created in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended.

(B) Approved private institution means an educational institution as defined in subdivision 173.1102.1(2), RSMo.

(C) Approved public institution means an educational institution as defined in subdivision 173.1102.1(3), RSMo.

(D) Approved virtual institution means an educational institution as defined in subdivision 173.1102.1(4), RSMo.

(E) CBHE means the Coordinating Board for Higher Education created by section 173.005, RSMo.

(F) Department means the Department of Higher Education created by section 173.005, RSMo.

(G) Expenses shall mean any charges the student owes to the institution that can be paid with state student assistance program funds as defined by each state student assistance program.

(H) Standard admission policies shall mean policies approved and published by the approved institution to admit students to the institution.

(I) State student assistance program shall be any financial aid program created by Missouri statute that charges the CBHE with program administration and that establishes institutional eligibility through criteria consistent with section 173.1102, RSMo, as determined by the CBHE.

(2) Policy. In establishing this rule of institutional eligibility, the CBHE is guided principally by the *Constitution of Missouri*; the provisions of section 173.1102, RSMo; and the decisions of the Missouri Supreme Court construing the laws of the state.

(3) Institutional Eligibility.

(A) Only institutions certified by the CBHE as approved public or private institutions may participate in any state student assistance program.

(B) Public, private, and virtual institutions are eligible to participate in state student assistance programs only if they permit faculty members to select textbooks without influence or pressure from any source in order to be approved institutions. This requirement is in addition to requirements set forth in subdivisions 173.1102.1(2), (3), and (4), RSMo, and elsewhere in this rule. Selection of textbooks within individual departments or schools by faculty curriculum committees shall not be considered inconsistent with this requirement.

(C) To be an approved private institution, an institution must be a nonprofit educational institution operating privately under the control of an independent board and not directly

controlled or administered by any public agency or political subdivision. This requirement is in addition to requirements set forth in subdivision 173.1102.1(2), RSMo, and elsewhere in this rule. For the purposes of this rule, an independent board is one that meets the following minimum criteria:

1. The governing instrument of the institution gives the governing board final decision making authority for the institution;

2. The governing board is composed of a number of members as fixed or provided for in the governing instrument of the institution, who serve for terms of definite duration;

3. Each member of the governing board is free to exercise judgment independently in the interest of the institution without being controlled by any person or authority; and

4. The members of the governing board may not be removed by any authority during their respective terms, except for cause. For purposes of this criterion, "cause" shall not include any reason based upon religious affiliation, including failure to follow the directives of any purported superior authority, religious or otherwise.

(D) No institution offering a course of study leading only to a degree in theology or divinity shall be eligible for certification as an approved institution under this rule.

(4) The CBHE shall assign institutions to appropriate institutional groups based on length of program, institutional structure, and other criteria it considers applicable to such assignment.

(5) Institutional Responsibilities.

(A) Approved institutions shall:

1. Admit students based on the institution's standard admission policies;

2. Submit a copy of the institution's policy on satisfactory academic progress for the records of the CBHE;

3. Establish fair and equitable refund policies covering tuition, fees, and, where applicable, room and board charges. The refund policy shall be the same policy used by the institution for refunding all federal Title IV financial aid included in the Higher Education Act of 1965;

4. Systematically organize all student records (student financial aid, registrar, business office) pertaining to students who receive state student assistance program awards to be made readily available for review upon request by the CBHE. The retention period for these records shall be the same period used by the institution to comply with federal Title IV program requirements included in the Higher Education Act of 1965; and

5. Verify each state student assistance program award recipient's eligibility by transmitting the student's payment request to the department by the deadline published by the department. The verification must occur not more than ten (10) business days before the institution transmits the student's payment request to the department. Funds must be delivered not more than ten (10) business days after this verification or eligibility must be reconfirmed by the institution before delivery.

(B) Before the approved institution delivers the state student assistance program funds to an applicant, the approved institution must require the applicant to provide affirmative proof that the applicant is a United States (U.S.) citizen, permanent resident of the U.S., or lawfully present in the U.S., in accordance with the rules of the state student assistance program. Students who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents of the U.S. need only provide this proof before the first time they receive an award and shall not be required to provide it before they receive subsequent awards. Students who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents of the U.S. must present affirmative proof annually.

(C) When the approved institution receives the state student assistance program funds for the awards made by the CBHE, the approved institution must:

1. Deliver the state student assistance program funds to the award recipient in the amount determined by the CBHE using the institution's standard award delivery procedures. The applicant's award will be sent to the approved institution to be delivered to the student's account. The institution shall retain the portion of the state student assistance award that the applicant owes to that institution for expenses, and promptly give the applicant any remaining funds;

2. Return the applicant's award to the CBHE within thirty (30) days of learning the applicant is no longer eligible to receive an award, if this is determined prior to the delivery of funds to the applicant;

3. Be responsible for the repayment of any funds sent to it by the CBHE within thirty (30) days of learning any of the following:

A. The institution delivered funds to an ineligible applicant if the award was based on erroneous, improper, or misleading information provided by the institution to the CBHE; or

B. The institution delivered the funds to a person other than the one to whom the CBHE has directed the funds be delivered; or

C. The award amount for an eligible student exceeded the maximum amount for which the student was eligible; and

4. Determine and calculate the amount of refunds to the CBHE based on the institution's refund formula for applicants who withdraw. The funds must be returned to the CBHE within thirty (30) days of the determination a withdrawal has occurred.

(D) The CBHE may refuse to make state student assistance awards to applicants who attend institutions that fail to make timely refunds to the CBHE as provided above.

(6) Procedures.

(A) All institutions currently holding an approved institution status shall retain said status for a period of three (3) years from the effective date of this rule, unless that status is terminated in accordance with 6 CSR 10-2.140(3) or 6 CSR 10-2.140(6)(C).

(B) Any institution not designated an approved institution on the effective date of this rule shall make application to the CBHE to be certified as an approved institution and shall sign participation agreements for all state student assistance programs in which the institution will participate in order for students attending the institution to be eligible to receive state student assistance awards. Applications for approved institution status shall be made on forms provided therefore by the CBHE. Upon certification of an institution as an approved institution by the CBHE, the status of an approved institution shall continue for a period of no more than three (3) years from the date of certification unless earlier terminated for changes in operation specified in 6 CSR 10-2.140(3) or 6 CSR 10-2.140(6)(C).

(C) During a period in which an institution is certified as an approved institution, if a substantial change occurs in the institution's governing structure; in the institution's hiring policies pertaining to administration, faculty, and staff; in the institution's admissions policies; in the institution's textbook selection procedures; in the level of programs or degrees offered by the institution; in the institution's qualification for accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission or

other United States Department of Education-recognized accrediting agency; in the institution's record of compliance with lawfully promulgated CBHE policies and procedures; or in any other matter affecting the criteria set forth in subdivisions 173.1102.1(2), (3), or (4), RSMo, the CBHE may consider whether to terminate the institution's approved status because of such change. Institutions shall notify the CBHE in writing within thirty (30) days after any such change occurs. Before the CBHE makes a decision regarding the status of an approved institution, the CBHE may, at its own discretion, hold one (1) or more public hearing(s) under the procedures set forth in subsection (6)(G) of this rule.

(D) If any institution's approved institution status is terminated before the expiration of the three- (3-) year term, the institution may thereafter apply to the CBHE for recertification on forms provided by the CBHE.

(E) If an approved institution desires to continue its status as an approved institution, it may apply for renewal of its approved institution status by filing an application for recertification as an approved institution and signing participation agreements for all state student assistance programs in which the institution will participate at least sixty (60) days before the date its certification would normally expire. An application for recertification as an approved institution shall be made to the CBHE on forms provided by the CBHE.

(F) Upon receipt of a completed institutional application form, the CBHE may certify or recertify the institution as an approved institution or deny certification as an approved institution. The CBHE may base its decision on the information submitted by the institution, on the institution's record of compliance with CBHE policies and procedures, and on any other information that the CBHE deems reliable. The CBHE, at its own discretion, may hold one (1) or more public hearing(s) regarding the merits of the application.

(G) In the event the CBHE requires a hearing, the CBHE shall so advise the institution within a reasonable amount of time. The advice to the institution shall state the time and place of the hearing and the issues of concern to the CBHE. The institution shall publish conspicuous notices of such hearing in its buildings and on its grounds, in areas accessible to staff, faculty, and students, and the notices shall set forth the fact that the hearing is to be held; its date, time, location, and purpose; the telephone number and mailing address of the commissioner of higher education at the department, and advice that comments concerning the issues identified by the CBHE may be communicated to the commissioner of higher education.

(H) The decision to certify, recertify, decertify, or reject initial certification of an institution as an approved institution shall rest solely within the discretion of the CBHE.

AUTHORITY: sections 173.236, 173.250, 173.254, 173.262, and 173.1103, RSMo 2016, and sections 173.234 and 173.260, RSMo Supp. 2018. Emergency rule filed Aug. 28, 2007, effective Sept. 7, 2007, expired March 4, 2008. Original rule filed Oct. 12, 2007, effective March 30, 2008. Amended: Filed Dec. 15, 2008, effective June 30, 2009. Amended: Filed June 15, 2016, effective Nov. 30, 2016. Amended: Filed Jan. 29, 2019, effective July 30, 2019.*

**Original authority: 173.234, RSMo 2008, 2009, 2016, 2018; 173.236, RSMo 1991; 173.250, RSMo 1986, amended 1988, 1990, 1990, 1991, 2007, 2010; 173.254, RSMo 1998; 173.260, RSMo 1987, amended 1998, 2018; 173.262, RSMo 1988, amended 1992; and 176.1103, RSMo 2007.*

6 CSR 10-2.150 Access Missouri Financial Assistance Program

PURPOSE: This rule sets forth the policies of the Coordinating Board for Higher Education regarding student eligibility and application procedures for student financial assistance under the Access Missouri Financial Assistance program.

(1) Definitions.

(A) Academic year shall be from July 1 of any year through June 30 of the following year.

(B) Access Missouri shall mean the Access Missouri Financial Assistance Program set forth in sections 173.1101–173.1107, RSMo.

(C) Access Missouri award means an amount of money paid by the state of Missouri to a qualified applicant under the Access Missouri program.

(D) Applicant means a student who has filed a complete and accurate application to receive an Access Missouri award as prescribed by the CBHE and who qualifies to receive such award under section 173.1104, RSMo.

(E) Approved institution means any institution located in the state of Missouri that meets the requirements set forth in subdivisions 173.1102.1(2), (3), or (4), RSMo, that has been approved under 6 CSR 10-2.140, and that has been approved to participate in the federal student financial assistance programs created in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended.

(F) Award year shall be from July 1 of any year through June 30 of the following year, excluding summer terms.

(G) CBHE means the Coordinating Board for Higher Education created by section 173.005, RSMo.

(H) Consortium agreement means a written agreement between two (2) or more approved institutions that allows students to take courses at a school other than the home school and have those courses count toward the degree or certificate at the home school and that complies with United States Department of Education requirements for federal student financial assistance.

(I) Department means the Department of Higher Education created by section 173.005, RSMo.

(J) EFC means Expected Family Contribution, the amount of money a student and family should pay toward the cost of postsecondary education as calculated annually by the United States Department of Education as a result of an official federal need analysis based on the student's federal need-based aid application form.

(K) Expenses mean any educational-related expenses including, but not limited to, tuition, fees, and room and board.

(L) Full-time student means a student who is enrolled in at least twelve (12) semester hours, eight (8) quarter hours, or the equivalent in another measurement system, but not less than the respective number sufficient to secure the certificate or degree toward which the student is working in no more than the number of semesters, or their equivalent, normally required by the institution for the program in which the student is enrolled. Provided, however, that an otherwise eligible student having a disability as defined by Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. 12101-12213) who, because of the student's disability, is unable to satisfy the statutory minimum requirements for full-time status under Title IV student aid programs shall be considered by the approved institution to be a full-time student and shall be considered to be making satisfactory academic progress, as defined in subsection (1)(Q) of this rule, while carrying a minimum of six (6) credit hours or their equivalent at the approved institution.

(M) Initial recipient means a student who qualifies under

section 173.1104, RSMo, has filed an accurate and complete application by the deadline established by the CBHE for the Access Missouri program, and has not received an Access Missouri award in any prior academic year.

(N) Increment group shall mean a group organized by EFC in five hundred dollar ($500) increments into which all eligible applicants are placed.

(O) Renewal recipient means a student who received an Access Missouri award, who meets the requirements set forth in section 173.1104, RSMo, and who has filed an accurate and complete application by the deadline established by the CBHE for the Access Missouri program.

(P) Residency, for the purpose of this rule, shall be determined by reference to the standards set forth in the determination of student residency rule, 6 CSR 10-3.010.

(Q) Satisfactory academic progress shall be a cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of at least two and one-half (2.5) on a four-point (4.0) scale, or the equivalent on another scale, and, with the exception of grade point average, as otherwise determined by the approved institution's policies as applied to other students at the approved institution receiving assistance under Title IV financial aid programs included in the Higher Education Act of 1965. The calculation of CGPA shall be based on the approved institution's policies as applied to other students in similar circumstances.

(2) Responsibilities of Institutions of Postsecondary Education. Institutions participating in the Access Missouri program must meet the requirements set forth in 6 CSR 10-2.140 Institutional Eligibility for Student Participation.

(3) Basic Eligibility Policy.

(A) To qualify for an Access Missouri award, an initial or renewal recipient, at the time of application and throughout the period during which the recipient receives the award, must meet the requirements set forth in section 173.1104, RSMo.

(B) Initial or renewal recipients attending an approved virtual institution that fails to meet all of the requirements in subdivision 173.1102.1(4), RSMo are not eligible for assistance under sections 173.1104 and 173.1105, RSMo.

(4) Application and Evaluation Policy.

(A) The department shall annually prescribe the time and method for filing applications for financial assistance under the Access Missouri program. It shall make announcement of its action in these respects.

(B) Students shall apply annually for financial assistance under the Access Missouri program by completing and submitting the federal need-based aid application form as prescribed by the United States Department of Education.

(C) The department will evaluate each student's application for an Access Missouri award according to the student's EFC as calculated based on information provided in the student's federal need-based aid application form completed and submitted as prescribed by the United States Department of Education.

(D) Annual award amounts for renewal recipients may be increased or decreased based on a change in the financial condition of the applicant, the financial condition of the applicant's spouse or parents, or availability of funds for distribution during that award year.

(E) Exceptions to the department's procedures applicable to the Access Missouri program and reconsideration of applicants' need will take place only in unusual circumstances, such as death or disability of a wage earner, illness, or other economic reversal, and will be considered on an individual basis only upon written request, submitted to the Missouri Department of Higher Education, Access Missouri Program, PO Box 1469, Jefferson City, MO 65102-1469.

(5) Award Policy.

(A) Access Missouri awards shall be allotted for one (1) award year.

(B) A renewal recipient may continue to receive a grant under the Access Missouri program so long as the applicant:

1. Maintains satisfactory academic progress;

2. Otherwise meets the criteria of the Access Missouri program; and

3. Has not exceeded –

A. Five (5) semesters at two- (2-) year institutions; or

B. A total of ten (10) semesters or fifteen (15) quarters at a four- (4-) year institution or any combination of institutions.

(C) Initial and renewal recipients who meet the eligibility requirements set forth in sections 173.1101 through 173.1107, RSMo, and this rule shall be eligible for an Access Missouri award, with minimum and maximum annual award amounts as referenced in section 173.1105, RSMo, subject to the availability of funds appropriated by the legislature.

(D) A student with an EFC of twelve thousand dollars ($12,000) or less shall receive at least the minimum annual award amount for the institution in which the student is enrolled, subject to the availability of funds appropriated by the legislature. Maximum annual award amounts for recipients with an EFC above seven thousand dollars ($7,000) shall be reduced by ten percent (10%) of the maximum EFC for the student's increment group.

(E) Any award amount shall be reduced by the amount of a student's payment from the A+ schools program or any successor program to it.

(F) Maximum annual award amounts will be reduced as provided in section 173.1105, RSMo, across all institutional groups in order to ensure the total funds awarded through the Access Missouri program do not exceed the funds appropriated. If sufficient funds are appropriated, the department shall increase the number of recipients by raising the EFC cutoff once the statutory maximum awards have been met.

(G) A student who has been denied an Access Missouri award for lack of satisfactory academic progress may not receive another Access Missouri award until the enrollment period after the applicable standard has once again been met.

(H) No Access Missouri awards will be granted to a student after –

1. A baccalaureate degree has been granted to the student;

2. The hours, or the equivalent to the hours, required for a baccalaureate degree have been completed by a student; or

3. The student has completed one hundred fifty (150) semester hours or the equivalent, or two hundred twenty-five (225) quarter hours or the equivalent of coursework.

(I) Access Missouri awards will be made for use during the normal academic year, but no funds for Access Missouri awards will be granted for use for summer school.

(J) No Access Missouri award will be made retroactive to a previous academic year. An Access Missouri award will be made retroactive to a previous semester only upon the sole discretion of the department.

(K) Access Missouri awards will be issued only after certification of full-time attendance of the student by the institution. For a student enrolled as part of a consortium agreement, the student must be considered to be enrolled full-time at the home institution to be certified.

(L) Only one-half the annual Access Missouri award will be issued in a semester of that award year.

(M) The applicant's award will be sent to the approved institution to be delivered to the student's account. The institution shall retain the portion of the award that the student owes for expenses and promptly give the applicant any remaining funds.

(N) An applicant's failure to provide required information by the established deadlines may result in loss of the Access Missouri award.

(O) The CBHE has the discretion to withhold payments of any Access Missouri awards after initiating an inquiry into the eligibility or the continued eligibility of a student or into the approved status of an institution.

(P) A student may transfer the Access Missouri award from one (1) approved public or private institution to another without losing eligibility for assistance, but the CBHE shall make any necessary adjustments in the amount of the award.

(6) Information Sharing Policy. All information on an individual's Access Missouri application will be shared with the financial aid office of the institution to which the individual has applied, or is attending, to permit verification of data submitted. Information may be shared with federal financial aid offices if necessary to verify data furnished by the state or federal governments as provided for in the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. sections 552, 552a.

AUTHORITY: section 173.1103, RSMo 2016. Emergency rule filed Aug. 28, 2007, effective Sept. 7, 2007, expired March 4, 2008. Original rule filed Oct. 12, 2007, effective March 30, 2008. Amended: Filed Dec. 15, 2008, effective June 30, 2009. Amended: Filed Dec. 10, 2010, effective June 30, 2011. Amended: Filed June 15, 2016, effective Nov. 30, 2016. Amended: Filed Jan. 29, 2019, effective July 30, 2019.*

**Original authority: 173.1103, RSMo 2007.*

6 CSR 10-2.160 War Veteran's Survivors Grant Program

PURPOSE: The War Veteran's Survivors Grant, established by section 173.234, RSMo, authorizes the Coordinating Board for Higher Education to provide grants for tuition assistance, room and board, and books for eligible undergraduate students who meet the criteria established in statute. This administrative rule sets forth eligibility requirements for War Veteran's Survivors Grant award recipients and the responsibilities that approved postsecondary institutions must fulfill for participation in the program.

(1) Definitions.

(A) Academic year shall be from July 1 of any year through June 30 of the following year.

(B) Applicant means a survivor who has filed an accurate and complete application to receive a War Veteran's Survivors Grant award, who has been certified as eligible by the Missouri Veteran's Commission, and who otherwise qualifies to receive such award under section 173.254, RSMo.

(C) Award shall be an amount of money paid by Missouri to a qualified applicant for tuition assistance, room and board, and books pursuant to the provisions of this rule and section 173.234, RSMo.

(D) Award year shall be from July 1 of any year through June 30 of the following year, excluding summer terms.

(E) Books are any books or related supplementary materials required for any course for which tuition was paid in whole or in part by an award under this section.

(F) Consortium agreement means a written agreement between two (2) or more approved institutions that allows students to take courses at a school other than the home school and have those courses count toward the degree or certificate at the home school and that complies with United States Department of Education requirements for federal student financial assistance.

(G) Coordinating board, CBHE, or board is the Coordinating Board for Higher Education created by section 173.005, RSMo.

(H) Department means the Department of Higher Education created by section 173.005, RSMo.

(I) Grant shall be the War Veteran's Survivors Grant established in section 173.234, RSMo.

(J) Initial recipient means any applicant who meets the criteria set forth in section 173.234, RSMo, and in this regulation; has filed an accurate and complete application by the deadline established by the CBHE for the War Veteran's Survivors Grant program; and has not received a War Veteran's Survivors Grant award in any prior academic year.

(K) Institution of postsecondary education or approved institution shall be any Missouri public institution of postsecondary education as defined in subdivision 173.1102.1(3), RSMo.

(L) Renewal recipient means any applicant who has received a War Veteran's Survivors Grant award; who meets the requirements set forth in section 173.234, RSMo, and in this regulation; and who has filed an accurate and complete application by the deadline established by the department for the War Veteran's Survivors Grant program.

(M) Satisfactory academic progress means meeting the requirements established by the approved institution in which the student is enrolled for students at the approved institution to receive assistance under Title IV financial aid programs included in the Higher Education Act of 1965, with the exception of grade point average.

(N) Survivor shall be any child up to twenty-five (25) years of age or spouse of a war veteran as defined in section 173.234.1(5), RSMo.

(O) Tuition is any tuition or incidental fee, or both, charged by an institution of postsecondary education for attendance at the institution by a student as a resident of this state.

(P) Tuition assistance is the component of the award related to the actual tuition paid by the student up to the amount charged to a Missouri resident at the University of Missouri–Columbia.

(2) Responsibilities of Institutions of Postsecondary Education.

(A) Institutions participating in the War Veteran's Survivors Grant program must meet the requirements set forth in 6 CSR 10-2.140 Institutional Eligibility for Student Participation.

(B) Institutions must retain highlighted book receipts documenting each eligible student's book costs and provide a copy of the receipts to the department upon request.

(3) Eligibility Policy. To qualify for an award, an initial or renewal recipient, at the time of application and throughout the period during which the recipient receives the award, must –

(A) Meet the requirements set forth in section 173.234, RSMo, and this regulation;

(B) Meet the requirements set forth in section 173.1110, RSMo; and

(C) Be enrolled or accepted for enrollment at least half-time in an approved institution where half-time enrollment is determined by the standards of the institution.

(4) Application and Evaluation.

(A) The department shall annually prescribe the time and method for filing applications for an award under the War Veteran's Survivors Grant program. It shall make announcement of its action in these respects.

(B) Students shall apply annually for an award under the War Veteran's Survivors Grant program by completing and submitting the application form as prescribed by the department.

(C) The department will evaluate each application for a War Veteran's Survivors Grant award according to the certification provided by the Missouri Veteran's Commission and according to the extent to which each applicant meets the requirements set forth in this regulation and section 173.234, RSMo.

(5) Award Policy.

(A) War Veteran's Survivors Grant awards shall be allotted for one (1) award year. Award amounts will be calculated and issued for each semester of that award year.

(B) Within the limits of amounts appropriated therefore, a renewal recipient may continue to receive an award so long as the recipient:

1. Maintains a cumulative grade point average of at least two and one-half (2.5) on a four-point (4.0) scale, or its equivalent;

2. Maintains satisfactory academic progress; and

3. Otherwise meets the criteria of the War Veteran's Survivors Grant program.

(C) Provided that sufficient funds are appropriated, initial and renewal recipients who meet the eligibility requirements set forth in section 173.234, RSMo, and this rule shall be eligible for a War Veteran's Survivors Grant award amounting to the sum of the following:

1. The actual tuition charged for the number of hours in which the initial or renewal recipient is enrolled or accepted for enrollment at the approved institution. The amount of the tuition assistance shall not exceed the amount of tuition charged a Missouri resident enrolled in the same number of hours at the University of Missouri–Columbia. For programs measured in clock hours rather than credit hours, the institution shall use the conversion formula of fifteen (15) classroom hours equal one (1) credit hour;

2. An allowance of up to two thousand dollars ($2,000) per semester for room and board, as determined by the department; and

3. The actual cost of the survivor's books at the approved institution where the initial or renewal recipient is enrolled or accepted for enrollment as documented with actual receipts for books purchased, not to exceed five hundred dollars ($500) per semester.

(D) Within the amounts appropriated for awards, the coordinating board shall provide awards for up to twenty-five (25) applicants annually to attend approved institutions.

(E) Eligible renewal recipients shall have award priority. If funds are not available to make awards to all applicants who would otherwise meet the requirements to be renewal recipients, the department will make awards according to priority based on the earliest complete and accurate applications received by the department.

(F) Applicants who qualify as initial recipients under the provisions of this rule shall receive awards if sufficient funds are appropriated and subject to the priorities described above.

(G) If funds are not available to make awards to all applicants who would otherwise meet the requirements to be initial recipients, the department will make awards according to priority based on the earliest complete and accurate applications received by the department.

(H) Eligible applicants who do not receive an award due to insufficient grant funds shall be put on a waiting list. If the waiting list of eligible applicants exceeds fifty (50), the CBHE may petition the general assembly to expand the quota. If the quota is not expanded, then the eligibility status of these eligible applicants will be extended to the following academic year and the applicant will be considered for an award in accordance with the criteria in subsections (5)(D)–(G) of this rule.

(I) Award notifications will be sent to the eligible applicants by the department once the applications have been approved and the award amounts have been determined. Notification of award eligibility will also be sent to the student financial aid office at the approved institution where the student plans to enroll or has enrolled.

(J) An applicant who has been denied a War Veteran's Survivors Grant award for lack of satisfactory academic progress or failure to maintain the grade point average requirement in paragraphs (5)(B)1.–2. of this rule may not receive another War Veteran's Survivors Grant award until the enrollment period after the applicable standard has once again been met.

(K) No War Veteran's Survivors Grant award will be granted to an applicant after completion of the first baccalaureate degree, regardless of age.

(L) War Veteran's Survivors Grant awards will be made for use during the academic year, but no funds for War Veteran's Survivors Grant awards will be granted for use for summer school.

(M) No War Veteran's Survivors Grant award will be made retroactive to a previous academic year. A War Veteran's Survivors Grant award will be made retroactive to a previous semester only upon the sole discretion of the department.

(N) War Veteran's Survivors Grant awards will be issued only after certification of attendance of the student by the institution.

(O) In order to receive an award for attendance at more than one (1) institution during a single semester, applicants must be enrolled in a consortium agreement. Awards based on consortium agreements will be issued to the home school.

(P) The applicant's award will be sent to the approved institution to be delivered to the student's account. The institution shall retain the portion of the award that the student owes for expenses and promptly give the applicant any remaining funds.

(Q) An applicant's failure to provide an accurate and complete application or any additional information by any deadline may result in loss of the War Veteran's Survivors Grant award.

(R) The CBHE may withhold payment of any War Veteran's Survivors Grant award after initiating an inquiry into the initial or continued eligibility of a student or into the approved status of an institution.

(S) A student may transfer the War Veteran's Survivors Grant award from one (1) approved public institution of postsecondary education to another without losing eligibility for assistance, but the CBHE shall make any necessary adjustments in the amount of the award.

(6) Information Sharing Policy. All information on an individual's War Veteran's Survivors Grant application will be

shared with the financial aid office of the institution to which the individual has applied or that the individual is attending to permit verification of data submitted. Information may be shared with federal financial aid officers if necessary to verify data furnished by the state or federal governments as provided for in the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. sections 552, 552a.

AUTHORITY: section 173.234, RSMo Supp. 2018. Original rule filed Dec. 15, 2008, effective June 30, 2009. Amended: Filed June 15, 2016, effective Nov. 30, 2016. Amended: Filed Jan. 29, 2019, effective July 30, 2019.*

**Original authority: 173.234, RSMo 2008, amended 2009, 2016, 2018.*

6 CSR 10-2.170 Kids' Chance Scholarship Program

PURPOSE: The Kids' Chance Scholarship Program, established by section 173.254, RSMo, authorizes the Department of Higher Education to provide scholarships for the children of workers who were seriously injured or died in work-related accidents or of occupational diseases covered by workers' compensation and compensable pursuant to Chapter 287, RSMo, to attend a college, university, or accredited vocational institution of their choice. This administrative rule sets forth eligibility requirements for Kids' Chance Scholarship award recipients and the responsibilities that approved postsecondary institutions must fulfill for the administration of the program.

(1) Definitions.

(A) Academic year shall be from July 1 of any year through June 30 of the following year.

(B) Applicant means an eligible child, as defined in this rule, who applies for a Kids' Chance scholarship.

(C) Award year shall be from July 1 of any year through June 30 of the following year, excluding summer terms.

(D) Consortium agreement means a written agreement between two (2) or more approved institutions that allows students to take courses at a school other than the home school and have those courses count toward the degree or certificate at the home school and that complies with United States Department of Education requirements for federal student financial assistance.

(E) Coordinating board, CBHE, or board is the Coordinating Board for Higher Education created by section 173.005, RSMo.

(F) Department means the Department of Higher Education created by section 173.005, RSMo.

(G) EFC means Expected Family Contribution, the amount of money a student and family should pay toward the cost of postsecondary education as calculated annually by the United States Department of Education as a result of an official federal need analysis based on the student's federal need-based aid application form.

(H) Eligible child is a natural child, adopted child, or stepchild who meets the requirements set forth in section 173.254, RSMo, and this regulation.

(I) Initial recipient means any applicant who has filed an accurate and complete application by the deadline established by the CBHE for the Kids' Chance program and has not received a Kids' Chance award in any prior academic year.

(J) Institution of postsecondary education or approved institution means any institution located in the state of Missouri that meets the requirements set forth in subdivisions 173.1102.1(2) or (3), RSMo, and that has been approved under 6 CSR 10-2.140.

(K) Kids' Chance or scholarship program shall mean the Kids' Chance Scholarship Program set forth in sections 173.254 through 173.258, RSMo.

(L) Kids' Chance Inc. of Missouri means the registered Missouri nonprofit corporation established to provide scholarships for tuition, education materials, living expenses, and other related incidental expenses for education to children of employees who have been seriously injured or killed in work-related accidents which have been either judicially determined to be, or accepted as, compensable under the Missouri Workers' Compensation Law, or any corresponding provisions of any future Missouri law.

(M) Missouri citizen, for the purpose of this rule, shall be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident who meets the standards set forth in the determination of student residency rule, 6 CSR 10-3.010.

(N) Renewal recipient means any applicant who has received a Kids' Chance award and who has filed an accurate and complete application by the deadline established by the department for the Kids' Chance program.

(O) Satisfactory academic progress means meeting the requirements established by the approved institution in which the student is enrolled for students at the approved institution to receive assistance under Title IV financial aid programs included in the Higher Education Act of 1965, with the exception of grade point average.

(P) Scholarship assistance, award, or funds shall be an amount of money paid by Missouri to a qualified applicant pursuant to the provisions of this rule.

(Q) Serious injury shall be an injury that led to a paid settlement or judicial award that can be identified by the injured party's inclusion on the Dependent Outreach List provided by the Missouri Division of Worker's Compensation.

(2) Responsibilities of Institutions of Postsecondary Education. Institutions participating in the Kids' Chance program must meet the requirements set forth in 6 CSR 10-2.140 Institutional Eligibility for Student Participation.

(3) Eligibility Policy. To qualify for an award, an initial or renewal recipient, at the time of application and throughout the period during which the recipient receives the award, must:

(A) Meet the requirements set forth in section 173.254, RSMo, and this regulation;

(B) Be a Missouri citizen as defined in subsection (1)(M) of this rule;

(C) Be enrolled or accepted for enrollment at least half-time in an approved institution, where half-time enrollment is determined by the standards of the institution;

(D) Establish financial need by having an EFC that is less than or equal to the maximum EFC used to determine eligibility for the Access Missouri Student Financial Assistance Program;

(E) Not be enrolled or intend to use the award to enroll in a course of study leading to a degree in theology or divinity; and

(F) Complete an application for scholarship assistance according to the provisions of this rule.

(4) Application and Evaluation.

(A) The department shall annually prescribe the time and method for filing applications for an award under the Kids' Chance program. It shall make announcement of its action in these respects.

(B) Students shall apply annually for an award under the Kids' Chance program by completing and submitting the

application form as prescribed by the department.

(C) The department will evaluate each application for a Kids' Chance award based on the information provided by Kids' Chance Inc. of Missouri and according to the extent to which each applicant meets the requirements set forth in this regulation and section 173.254, RSMo.

(5) Award Policy.

(A) Kids' Chance awards shall be allotted for one (1) award year, but an applicant shall be eligible for renewed assistance until the applicant has reached the age of twenty-two (22) years, except the applicant may receive such scholarship assistance through the completion of the semester or similar grading period in which the eligible child reaches twenty-two (22) years of age.

(B) Award amounts will be calculated and issued for each semester of that award year.

(C) Within the limits of amounts appropriated therefore, a renewal recipient may continue to receive an award so long as the recipient:

1. Maintains a cumulative grade point average of at least two and one-half (2.5) on a four-point (4.0) scale, or its equivalent;

2. Maintains satisfactory academic progress; and

3. Otherwise meets the criteria of the Kids' Chance program.

(D) Provided that sufficient funds are appropriated, initial and renewal recipients who meet the eligibility requirements set forth in section 173.254, RSMo, and this rule shall be eligible for a Kids' Chance award, with the maximum scholarship award amount for each semester being the least of:

1. The actual tuition as defined in section 173.260, RSMo, charged at the approved institution where the individual is enrolled or accepted for enrollment for the number of credit hours in which the individual is enrolled; or

2. The amount of tuition charged a Missouri resident at the University of Missouri for attendance based on the same number of credit hours in which the individual is enrolled.

(E) The applicant's scholarship award shall be reduced when necessary pursuant to section 173.093, RSMo.

(F) Eligible renewal recipients shall have award priority. If funds are not available to make awards to all applicants who would otherwise meet the requirements to be renewal recipients, the department will make awards first according to priority based on the students with the lowest EFCs and then on the earliest complete and accurate applications received by the department.

(G) Applicants who qualify as initial recipients under the provisions of this rule shall receive awards if sufficient funds are appropriated and subject to the priorities described above.

(H) If funds are not available to make awards to all applicants who would otherwise meet the requirements to be initial recipients, the department will make awards first according to priority based on the students with the lowest EFCs and then on the earliest complete and accurate applications received by the department.

(I) Award notifications will be sent to the eligible applicants by the department once the applications have been approved. Notification of award eligibility will also be sent to the student financial aid office at the approved institution where the student plans to enroll or has enrolled.

(J) An applicant who has been denied a Kids' Chance award for lack of satisfactory academic progress or failure to maintain the grade point average requirement in paragraphs (5)(C)1.–2. of this rule may not receive another Kids' Chance award until the enrollment period after the applicable standard has once again been met.

(K) Kids' Chance awards will be made for use during the academic year, but no funds for Kids' Chance awards will be granted for use for summer school.

(L) No Kids' Chance award will be made retroactive to a previous academic year. A Kids' Chance award will be made retroactive to a previous semester only upon the sole discretion of the department.

(M) Kids' Chance awards will be issued only after certification of at least half-time attendance of the student by the institution. For students enrolled as part of a consortium agreement, the student must be considered to be enrolled at least half-time at the home institution to be certified.

(N) The applicant's award will be sent to the approved institution to be delivered to the student's account. The institution shall retain the portion of the award that the student owes for expenses and promptly give the applicant any remaining funds.

(O) An applicant's failure to provide an accurate and complete application or any additional information by any deadline may result in loss of the Kids' Chance award.

(P) The CBHE may withhold payment of any Kids' Chance award after initiating an inquiry into the initial or continued eligibility of a student or into the approved status of an institution.

(Q) A student may transfer the Kids' Chance award from one (1) approved institution in Missouri to another without losing eligibility for assistance, but the CBHE shall make any necessary adjustments in the amount of the award.

(6) Information Sharing Policy. All information on an individual's Kids' Chance application will be shared with the financial aid office of the institution to which the individual has applied or that the individual is attending to permit verification of data submitted. Information may be shared with federal financial aid officers if necessary to verify data furnished by the state or federal governments as provided for in the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. sections 552, 552a.

AUTHORITY: section 173.254, RSMo 2016. Original rule filed Dec. 15, 2008, effective June 30, 2009. Amended: Filed June 15, 2016, effective Nov. 30, 2016. Amended: Filed Jan. 29, 2019, effective July 30, 2019.*

**Original authority: 173.254, RSMo 1998.*

6 CSR 10-2.180 Minority and Underrepresented Environmental Literacy Program

PURPOSE: This rule sets forth the policies of the Coordinating Board for Higher Education regarding student eligibility and application procedures for student financial assistance under the Minority and Underrepresented Environmental Literacy Program.

(1) Definitions.

(A) Academic year shall be from July 1 of any year through June 30 of the following year.

(B) Advisory committee shall be the Minority Environmental Literacy Advisory Committee created under section 173.240, RSMo.

(C) Applicant means a student who has filed a complete and accurate application to receive a Minority and Underrepresented Environmental Literacy Program award as

prescribed by the department and who qualifies to receive such award under section 173.240, RSMo.

(D) Approved institution means any institution located in the state of Missouri that meets the requirements set forth in subdivisions 173.1102.1(2) or (3), RSMo, that has been approved under 6 CSR 10-2.140.

(E) Award year shall be from July 1 of any year through June 30 of the following year, excluding summer terms.

(F) Completed secondary coursework or completion of secondary coursework shall be graduation from high school or the virtual public school established in section 161.670, RSMo, receipt of a general education development (GED) diploma, completion of a program of study through homeschooling, or any other program of academic instruction that satisfies the compulsory attendance requirement under section 167.031, RSMo.

(G) Consortium agreement means a written agreement between two (2) or more approved institutions that allows students to take courses at a school other than the home school and have those courses count toward the degree or certificate at the home school and that complies with United States Department of Education requirements for federal student financial assistance.

(H) Department means the Department of Higher Education created by section 173.005, RSMo.

(I) Expenses mean any educational-related expenses including, but not limited to, tuition, fees, and room and board.

(J) Full-time student means a student who is enrolled in at least twelve (12) semester hours, eight (8) quarter hours, or the equivalent in another measurement system, but not less than the respective number sufficient to secure the certificate or degree toward which the student is working in no more than the number of semesters, or their equivalent, normally required by the institution for the program in which the student is enrolled. Provided, however, that an otherwise eligible student having a disability as defined by Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. 12101–12213) who, because of the student's disability, is unable to satisfy the statutory minimum requirements for full-time status under Title IV student aid programs shall be considered by the approved institution to be a full-time student and shall be considered to be making satisfactory academic progress, as defined in subsection (1)(O) of this rule, while carrying a minimum of six (6) credit hours or their equivalent at the approved institution.

(K) Initial recipient means a student who qualifies under section 173.240, RSMo, has filed an accurate and complete application by the deadline established by the department for the Minority and Underrepresented Environmental Literacy Program, has been selected to receive an award by the advisory committee, and has not received a Minority and Underrepresented Environmental Literacy Program award in any prior academic year.

(L) Program shall mean the Minority and Underrepresented Environmental Literacy Program created under section 173.240, RSMo.

(M) Renewal recipient means a student who received a Minority and Underrepresented Environmental Literacy Program award in any prior academic year, who meets the requirements set forth in section 173.240, RSMo, and who has filed an accurate and complete application by the deadline established by the department for the Minority and Underrepresented Environmental Literacy Program, and has been selected to receive an award by the advisory committee.

(N) Residency, for the purpose of this rule, shall be determined by reference to the standards set forth in the determination of student residency rule, 6 CSR 10-3.010.

(O) Satisfactory academic progress shall be a cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of at least two and one-half (2.5) on a four-point (4.0) scale, or the equivalent on another scale, and, with the exception of grade point average, as otherwise determined by the approved institution's policies as applied to other students at the approved institution receiving assistance under Title IV financial aid programs included in the Higher Education Act of 1965. The calculation of CGPA shall be based on the approved institution's policies as applied to other students in similar circumstances.

(P) Severely underrepresented minority ethnic group means African Americans, Hispanic or Latino Americans, Native Americans and Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders as referenced in the 2011 publication of *Expanding Underrepresented Minority Participation: America's Science and Technology at the Crossroads*, authored by the Committee on Underrepresented Groups and the Expansion of the Science and Engineering Workforce Pipeline; Committee on Science, Engineering, and Public Policy; Policy and Global Affairs; National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, and Institute of Medicine.

(2) Responsibilities of Institutions of Postsecondary Education. Institutions participating in the program must meet the institutional responsibilities set forth in 6 CSR 10-2.140(5).

(3) Responsibilities of Advisory Committee. The advisory committee shall meet at least annually to select initial and renewal recipients.

(4) Basic Eligibility Policy. To qualify for a Minority and Underrepresented Environmental Literacy Program award, an initial or a renewal recipient, at the time of application and throughout the period during which the recipient receives the award, must meet the following requirements:

(A) Comply with section 173.1110, RSMo;

(B) Be a Missouri resident;

(C) Have completed secondary coursework;

(D) Have maintained a cumulative grade point average of at least three (3.0) on a four-point (4.0) scale in high school or, if currently enrolled in college, have maintained a cumulative grade point average of at least two and one-half (2.5) on a four point (4.0) scale; and

(E) Be enrolled full-time in one (1) of the areas of study indicated in subsection 6. of 173.240, RSMo.

(5) Application and Evaluation Policy.

(A) The department shall annually prescribe the time and method for filing applications for financial assistance under the Minority and Underrepresented Environ-mental Literacy Program. It shall make announcement of its action in these respects.

(B) Students shall apply annually for financial assistance under the Minority and Underrepresented Environmental Literacy Program by completing and submitting the application prescribed by the department by the deadline established by the department.

(C) The department will verify each student's application for a Minority and Underrepresented Environmental Literacy Program award meets the eligibility criteria established in this rule.

(D) The department will provide applications for all eligible students to the advisory committee for review and selection of recipients.

(6) Award Policy.

(A) Minority and Underrepresented Environmental Literacy Program awards shall be allotted and issued for one (1) award year, unless otherwise specified on the application.

(B) A renewal recipient may continue to receive an award under the Minority and Underrepresented Environmental Literacy Program so long as the applicant –

1. Maintains satisfactory academic progress;

2. Otherwise meets the criteria of the Minority and Underrepresented Environmental Literacy Program; and

3. Continues to be selected as a recipient by the advisory committee. The selection process will include consideration of information evidencing the applicant's continued pursuit of an environmentally-related career path, including, but not limited to, volunteer activities, job shadowing, or summer employment in an environmentally-related field.

(C) The department shall establish the amount of the award annually and shall make announcement of its action in this respect.

(D) The department shall make awards in the rank order established by the advisory committee until all available funding has been expended to the nearest whole award amount for the time frame specified on the application.

(E) Renewal students shall have priority when establishing the rank order for awards.

(F) After renewal students, initial students who are members of a severely underrepresented minority ethnic group shall receive priority over members of other minority ethnic groups or students who are otherwise underrepresented in environmental fields when establishing the rank order for awards.

(G) Students who remain unfunded after awards have been made may be considered for an award in accordance with their rank order if funding becomes available.

(H) A student who has been denied a Minority and Underrepresented Environ-mental Literacy Program award for lack of satisfactory academic progress may not receive another Minority and Underrepresented Environmental Literacy Program award until the enrollment period after the applicable standard has once again been met.

(I) Minority and Underrepresented Environmental Literacy Program awards will be made for use during the normal academic year, but no funds for Minority and Underrepresented Environmental Literacy Program awards will be granted for use for summer terms.

(J) No Minority and Underrepresented Environmental Literacy Program award will be made retroactive to a previous academic year. A Minority and Underrepresented Environmental Literacy Program award will be made retroactive to a previous semester only upon the sole discretion of the department.

(K) Minority and Underrepresented Environmental Literacy Program awards will be issued only after certification of full-time attendance of the student by the institution. For a student enrolled as part of a consortium agreement, the student must be considered to be enrolled full-time under the provisions of the consortium agreement to be certified.

(L) Only one-half (½) the annual Minority and Underrepresented Environmental Literacy Program award will be issued in a semester of that award year.

(M) The applicant's award will be sent to the approved institution to be delivered to the student's account. The institution shall retain the portion of the award that the student owes for expenses and promptly give the applicant any remaining funds.

(N) An applicant's failure to provide information requested by the department by the established deadlines may prevent the applicant from being considered for a Minority and Underrepresented Environmental Literacy Program award.

(O) The department has the discretion to withhold payments of any Minority and Underrepresented Environmental Literacy Program awards after initiating an inquiry into the eligibility or the continued eligibility of a student or into the approved status of an institution.

(P) A student may transfer the Minority and Underrepresented Environmental Literacy Program award from one (1) approved public or private institution to another without losing eligibility for assistance. The student must notify the department of the transfer.

(7) Information Sharing Policy. All information on an individual's Minority and Underrepresented Environmental Literacy Program application will be shared with the financial aid office of the institution to which the individual has applied, or is attending, to permit verification of data submitted. Information may be shared with federal financial aid offices if necessary to verify data furnished by the state or federal governments as provided for in the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. sections 552, 552a.

AUTHORITY: section 173.240, RSMo 2016. Original rule filed Feb. 17, 2011, effective Oct. 30, 2011. Amended: Filed June 15, 2016, effective Nov. 30, 2016. Amended: Filed Jan. 29, 2019, effective July 30, 2019.*

**Original authority: 173.240, RSMo 2010.*

6 CSR 10-2.190 A+ Scholarship Program

PURPOSE: This rule sets forth the policies of the Coordinating Board for Higher Education regarding institutional and student eligibility for student financial assistance under the A+ Scholarship program.

(1) Definitions.

(A) Academic year shall be twenty-four (24) semester or trimester credit hours, thirty-six (36) quarter credit hours, or nine hundred (900) clock hours, and at least thirty (30) weeks of instructional time for a credit hour program or at least twenty-six (26) weeks of instructional time for a clock hour program.

(B) A+ designated high school shall mean a high school that the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has determined meets the requirements established in section 160.545, RSMo, and has been approved by the Board of Education for participation in the A+ Program.

(C) A+ Scholarship shall mean the tuition reimbursement program set forth in subsections 7. through 9. of section 160.545, RSMo.

(D) A+ tuition reimbursement shall mean an amount of money paid by the state of Missouri to a qualified student under the A+ Scholarship for costs related to tuition, general fees, and up to fifty percent (50%) of book costs, subject to state appropriations, after federal sources of funding have been applied.

(E) Award year shall be from July 1 of any year through June 30 of the following year.

(F) CBHE shall mean the Coordinating Board for Higher Education created by section 173.005.2, RSMo.

(G) Department shall mean the Department of Higher Education created by section 173.005.1, RSMo.

(H) Eligible program shall mean a program offered by a participating A+ institution that leads to a certificate or degree, and that meets federal Title IV financial aid requirements as provided in 34 CFR 668.8 or that is a prerequisite for a program meeting that federal regulation.

(I) Federal sources of funding shall mean grant funds made available directly to students by the federal government and shall not include any funds that must be repaid, campus-based aid, or work-study funds.

(J) Full-time student shall mean a student who, regardless of the course delivery method, is enrolled in an eligible program in at least twelve (12) semester hours, eight (8) quarter hours, twenty-four (24) clock hours per week, or the equivalent in another measurement system for the fall and spring terms or at least six (6) semester hours, twenty-four (24) clock hours per week, or the equivalent in another measurement system for the summer term. If the institution in which the student is enrolled defines full-time as greater than any of these hourly thresholds for the program in which the student is enrolled, the institutional definition of full-time supersedes this definition. Provided, however, that an otherwise eligible student having a disability as defined by Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. 12101–12213) who, because of the student's disability, is unable to satisfy the statutory minimum requirements for full-time status under federal student financial aid programs included in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 shall be considered to be enrolled full-time while carrying a minimum of six (6) credit hours or their equivalent at the approved institution.

(K) Good-faith effort to secure all federal sources of funding that could be applied to tuition reimbursement shall mean, by the deadline established by the department, being eligible to receive federal Title IV student financial aid and having completed the federal need-based aid application form as prescribed by the United States Department of Education (USDE), commonly known as the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), except –

1. For students whose parents refuse to provide financial information, the application form must, at a minimum, include the dependent student's financial information; or

2. For students attending institutions that do not participate in the federal Title IV student financial aid programs and are therefore ineligible for federal Title IV student financial aid, completion of the predictor tool for federal Title IV student financial aid eligibility approved by the USDE, commonly known as the FAFSA4caster, is acceptable; or

3. For students in other circumstances the department may determine completion of the predictor tool for federal Title IV student financial aid eligibility approved by the USDE, commonly known as the FAFSA4caster, is acceptable.

(L) Initial recipient shall mean a student who qualifies under subsection 7. of section 160.545, RSMo, and this rule, and who has made a good-faith effort to secure all federal sources of funding that could be applied to tuition reimbursement, and has not received A+ tuition reimbursement in any prior award year.

(M) Participating institution shall mean a Missouri public community college, a public vocational or technical school, or a two- (2-) year private vocational or technical school meeting the requirements set forth in subsection 9. of section 160.545, RSMo, that has entered into a participation agreement for the A+ Scholarship program with the department.

(N) Partnership shall mean a written agreement between two (2) or more institutions, at least one (1) of which must be an A+ participating institution, providing for the processing and delivery of A+ tuition reimbursement.

(O) Positive net disbursement shall mean the sum of all disbursements for a term less the sum of all funds returned for that term resulting in a difference that is greater than zero (0).

(P) Renewal recipient shall mean a student who received A+ tuition reimbursement, or whose A+ award was reduced to zero upon application of federal sources of funding, in a prior award year, qualifies under subsection 7. of section 160.545, RSMo, and who has made a good faith effort to secure all federal sources of funding that could be applied to tuition reimbursement.

(Q) Repeat coursework shall be any coursework for which the student has been assigned a grade under the institution's standard grading policy, excluding coursework for which the student was placed in an incomplete or withdrawn status, in a previous term.

(R) Tuition and fees shall mean any charges to students classified as tuition and any institutional fees charged to all students, excluding program-specific fees.

(S) USDE shall mean the United States Department of Education.

(2) Responsibilities of Participating Institutions.

(A) Only institutions who have entered into a participation agreement with the department may receive reimbursement under the A+ Scholarship program.

(B) Participating institutions shall meet the following requirements:

1. Before requesting reimbursement for an initial recipient, verify the following:

A. The student has met the eligibility requirements listed in section (3) of this rule through collection of a high school transcript bearing the official A+ seal;

B. The student has met the cumulative grade point average (CGPA), satisfactory academic progress, and completion requirements referenced in paragraphs (3)(A)13.–14.;

C. The student is enrolled as a full-time student in an eligible program, except as provided in subsection (1)(J) of this rule; and

D. The student has made a good-faith effort to secure all federal sources of funding that could be applied to tuition reimbursement, except as provided in subsection (1)(K) of this rule;

2. Before requesting reimbursement for a renewal recipient, verify the following:

A. The student is enrolled as a full-time student in an eligible program, except as provided in subsection (1)(J) of this rule;

B. The student has met the cumulative grade point average (CGPA), satisfactory academic progress, and completion requirements referenced in paragraphs (3)(B)2.–3. of this rule; and

C. The student has made a good-faith effort to secure all federal sources of funding that could be applied to tuition, except as provided in subsection (1)(K) of this rule;

3. Comply with the institutional responsibilities required in section 6 CSR 10-2.140(5), with the exception of paragraph 6 CSR 10-2.140(5)(A)5.; and

4. Verify federal sources of funding are applied correctly to tuition, general fees, and up to fifty percent (50%) of book costs as specified in subsection (4)(N) of this rule.

(C) Partnerships must comply with the following:

1. Reimbursement will only be made to A+ participating institutions;

2. Reimbursement will only be made for coursework required for an eligible program and actually delivered by a

participating institution;

3. Reimbursement may be requested by only one (1) participating institution as specified in the agreement and must be at a tuition rate consistent with the rate charged to other students enrolled in the course;

4. When a partnership includes only one (1) A+ participating institution, the student must be considered to be enrolled full time at the participating institution;

5. When two (2) or more A+ participating institutions are involved in a partnership, students must be enrolled in sufficient hours at a combination of the participating institutions to be considered to be enrolled full time as defined in this rule; and

6. Institutions entering into partnerships must provide to the department any requested documentation pertaining to the processing and delivery of A+ tuition reimbursements.

(3) Eligibility Policy.

(A) To qualify for A+ tuition reimbursement, an initial recipient must meet the following criteria:

1. Attend an A+ designated high school or high schools for at least two (2) years prior to graduation and graduate from an A+ designated high school. Enrollment during the two (2) years in which the student was in attendance at one (1) or more A+ designated high schools must total a minimum of eighty percent (80%) of the instructional days required by the high school from which the student graduates. Interruptions in enrollment cumulatively totaling no more than twenty percent (20%) of instructional days in the two (2) years in which the student was in attendance at one (1) or more A+ designated high schools may occur consecutively or intermittently;

2. Make a good faith effort to first secure all available federal sources of funding that could be applied to the A+ Scholarship reimbursement;

3. Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident;

4. Enter into a written agreement with the A+ designated high school prior to high school graduation;

5. Graduate from an A+ designated high school with an overall grade point average of at least two and one-half (2.5) on a four-point (4.0) scale, or the equivalent on another scale;

6. Have at least a ninety-five percent (95%) attendance record overall for grades nine through twelve (9–12);

7. Have performed fifty (50) hours of unpaid tutoring or mentoring, of which up to twenty-five percent (25%) may include job shadowing, prior to high school graduation, except –

A. When there are circumstances beyond a student's control, the high school may extend the time period for completing this requirement on a case-by-case basis, not to exceed six (6) months beyond high school graduation;

8. Beginning with the high school senior class of 2015, meet one (1) of the following indicators of college preparedness, unless the A+ school district has met all of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's (DESE) requirements for waiver of the Algebra I end-of-course exam for the recipient:

A. Have achieved a score of proficient or advanced on the official Algebra I end-of-course exam, or a higher level DESE approved end-of-course exam in the field of mathematics; or

B. Meet other criteria established by the CBHE. The CBHE will develop these criteria in consultation with participating A+ institutions and A+ designated high schools and may revise these criteria annually;

9. Have maintained a record of good citizenship and avoidance of the unlawful use of drugs and/or alcohol while in grades nine through twelve (9–12). Student participation in the Constitution Project of Missouri may be included in a student's record of good citizenship in accordance with the A+ designated high school's policy;

10. Be admitted as a regular student, enroll in an eligible program, and attend on a full-time basis a participating institution, except that students in the following circumstances may be enrolled less than full time:

A. The student is enrolled in all of the available hours applicable to the student's program of study in a given term;

B. The student is participating in a required internship; or

C. The student is enrolled in prerequisite courses that do not require full-time enrollment;

11. Not be enrolled or intend to use the award to enroll in a course of study leading to a degree in theology or divinity;

12. Not have a criminal record preventing receipt of federal Title IV student financial aid;

13. Meet the institution's definition of satisfactory academic progress as determined by the participating institution's policies as applied to other students at the participating institution receiving assistance under federal Title IV student financial aid programs, with the exception of cumulative grade point average (CGPA). The student must achieve a minimum CGPA of two (2.0) on a four-point (4.0) scale, or the equivalent on another scale, at the end of the fall semester for semester-based programs, or at the end of the initial payment period for non-semester based programs. The calculation of CGPA shall be based on the participating institution's policies as applied to other students in similar circumstances; and

14. For students that receive a positive net disbursement in a given term, maintain eligibility by meeting the following course completion standards. A course is considered complete if the student earns a standard grade for the course, including a failing grade but excluding a grade at withdrawal prior to completion:

A. Complete a minimum of twelve (12) semester credit hours in the fall or spring semester, six (6) credit hours in the summer term, or the equivalent, for students enrolled full-time in an eligible credit hour program. Students unable to satisfy the statutory minimum requirements for full-time status under the federal Title IV student financial aid programs as a result of a disability as defined by Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act must complete a minimum of six (6) credit hours, or the equivalent, in any term;

B. Complete a minimum of ninety percent (90%) of the clock hours required for the federal payment period, for students enrolled full-time in an eligible clock hour program; or

C. Complete all of the hours in which the student is enrolled in a given term, for students enrolled less than full-time in accordance with subparagraphs (3)(A)10.A.–C. of this rule.

(B) To qualify for tuition reimbursement under the A+ Scholarship program, a renewal recipient must meet the following criteria:

1. Be admitted as a regular student, enroll in an eligible program, and attend on a full-time basis a participating institution, except that students in the following circumstances may be enrolled less than full time:

A. The student is enrolled in all of the available hours applicable to the student's program of study in a given term;

B. The student is participating in a required internship; or

C. The student is enrolled in prerequisite courses that do not require full-time enrollment;

2. Meet the institution's definition of satisfactory academic progress as determined by the participating institution's policies as applied to other students at the participating institution receiving assistance under federal Title IV student financial aid programs, with the exception of cumulative grade point average (CGPA). The student must achieve a minimum CGPA of two and one-half (2.5) on a four-point (4.0) scale, or the equivalent on another scale. The calculation of CGPA shall be based on the participating institution's policies as applied to other students in similar circumstances. The renewal recipient must have met these satisfactory academic progress and CGPA requirements through the term immediately before the term in which reimbursement is sought;

3. For students that receive a positive net disbursement in a given term, maintain eligibility by meeting the following course completion standards. A course is considered complete if the student earns a standard grade for the course, including a failing grade but excluding a grade at withdrawal prior to completion:

A. Complete a minimum of twelve (12) semester credit hours in the fall or spring semester, six (6) credit hours in the summer term, or the equivalent, for students enrolled full-time in a credit hour program. Students unable to satisfy the statutory minimum requirements for full-time status under the federal Title IV student financial aid programs as a result of a disability as defined by Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act must complete a minimum of six (6) credit hours, or the equivalent, in any term;

B. Complete a minimum of ninety percent (90%) of the clock hours required for the federal payment period, for students enrolled full-time in a clock hour program; or

C. Complete all of the hours in which the student is enrolled in a given term, for students enrolled less than full-time in accordance with subparagraphs (3)(A)10.A.–C. of this rule; and

4. Make a good-faith effort to secure all federal sources of funding that could be applied to tuition before the award is disbursed, but no later than the deadline established by the CBHE.

(C) The department will review written appeals of its eligibility policy in the following circumstances:

1. The student failed to make a good-faith effort to secure all federal sources of funding that could be applied to tuition; or

2. The student failed to meet the grade point average requirement as a result of a documented medical reason.

(4) Award Policy.

(A) A+ tuition reimbursement for institutions with credit-hour programs shall occur each semester within one (1) award year.

(B) A+ tuition reimbursement for institutions with clock-hour programs shall be made in installments determined by the department annually.

(C) Student eligibility for the A+ Scholarship expires at the earliest of the following, except a student who is eligible at the beginning of a term may receive A+ tuition reimbursement for the full term in which the expiration criterion is met:

1. Forty-eight (48) months after high school graduation as documented on the high school transcript;

2. Receipt of an associate's degree; or

3. Completion of one hundred five percent (105%) of the hours required for the eligible program in which the student is currently enrolled.

A. For a student seeking a first certificate or degree, calculation of the one hundred five percent (105%) shall include:

(I) All known hours completed at any participating A+ institution, including those earned as part of coursework designated as remedial or developmental or included in an ineligible program; and

(II) All hours accepted in transfer by an A+ participating institution from an institution that is ineligible for A+ participation.

B. For a student seeking a first certificate or degree, calculation of the one hundred five percent (105%) shall not include:

(I) Postsecondary hours earned for work performed before high school graduation. Such hours shall include, but not be limited to, those earned through dual credit, dual enrollment, technical education articulation, Advanced Placement, or international baccalaureate programs; and

(II) Hours earned at a postsecondary institution that is ineligible for A+ participation that are not accepted in transfer by an A+ participating institution.

C. For a student who has received a postsecondary certificate and enrolls in an eligible program leading to a related, higher-level certificate or degree, calculation of the one hundred five percent (105%) shall include:

(I) All hours that are applied toward the related, higher-level program; and

(II) All known hours completed after receipt of the most recent certificate at any participating A+ institution, including those earned as part of coursework designated as remedial or developmental or included in an ineligible program; and

(III) All hours completed after receipt of the most recent credential that are accepted in transfer from an institution that is ineligible for A+ participation.

D. For a student who has received a postsecondary certificate and enrolls in a program leading to a related, higher-level certificate or degree, calculation of the one hundred five percent (105%) shall not include:

(I) Postsecondary hours earned for work performed before high school graduation. Such hours shall include, but not be limited to, those earned through dual credit, dual enrollment, technical education articulation, Advanced Placement, or international baccalaureate programs; and

(II) All hours that are not applied toward the related, higher-level program; and

(III) All hours completed at an institution that is ineligible for A+ participation after receipt of the most recent certificate that are not accepted in transfer by an A+ participating institution.

(D) If an initial recipient is unable to enroll or a renewal recipient ceases attendance for the purpose of providing active duty service in any branch of the armed forces of the United States, the eligibility of the student under paragraph (4)(C)1. of this rule that remains will be deferred for the period of the service as documented on the student's DD214 form. The student must return to full-time status, or qualify for an exception to the full-time status requirement, within twelve (12) months of the end of military service and provide verification to the department that the military service was satisfactorily completed to retain eligibility. Calculation of the twelve (12) months will begin on the first of the month following the student's discharge from service. The recipient's eligibility under paragraph (4)(C)1. of this rule that remains will be calculated from the first day of the month following the student's return to full-time status or other qualifying enrollment.

(E) For a student concurrently seeking more than one (1) certificate or degree in more than one (1) eligible program, reimbursement will be made to, and the calculation of the one hundred five percent (105%) eligibility limit will be made by, the institution providing the highest outcome, unless the student provides written notification specifying otherwise to all institutions in which the student is enrolled.

(F) Reimbursement will be as specified for the following categories of coursework required for an eligible program:

1. Completed coursework for which a grade is assigned under the institution's standard grading policy, including remedial coursework and coursework assigned a grade of Incomplete, and that is required by the institution for the completion of a certificate or degree will be reimbursed;

2. Coursework from which the student officially or unofficially withdrew will be reimbursed, provided the withdrawal results in failure to meet the requirements defined in paragraph (3)(A)14. or (3)(B)3. of this rule;

3. Coursework for which a standard grade was not assigned, including, but not limited to, the following is not eligible for reimbursement:

A. Coursework from which the student officially or unofficially withdrew, provided the student continues to meet the requirements defined in paragraph (3)(A)14. or (3)(B)3. of this rule; or

B. Coursework from which the student was terminated;

4. Institutions can use any of the following options to adjust a student's award amount to exclude coursework that is not eligible for reimbursement:

A. Deduct the amount reimbursed for such coursework from subsequent reimbursement requests;

B. Omit such coursework from the current reimbursement request; or

C. Return the amount reimbursed for such coursework in accordance with subsection 6 CSR 10-2.140(5)(C);

5. Repeat coursework will not be reimbursed; and

6. Coursework in an eligible program that is part of a higher level certificate or a degree that is taken after receipt of a certificate will be reimbursed provided that the certificate or degree is in a field related to the original certificate received.

(G) For a student that fully establishes eligibility by meeting the criteria established for that student's graduating high school class in accordance with subparagraph (3)(A)8.B. of this rule, reimbursement may be made for the term in which the student meets the criteria provided the student has established such eligibility prior to the institution's submission of the reimbursement request to the department.

(H) The amount of the A+ tuition reimbursement must be calculated based on the remaining costs of actual tuition and fees after any federal sources of funding have been applied and any deductions have been made for reimbursement of coursework for which a standard grade was not assigned, including coursework from which the student officially or unofficially withdrew or was terminated.

(I) The amount of an A+ tuition reimbursement must be reduced by the amount of any federal sources of funding received by, or on behalf of, an initial or renewal recipient and, when applicable, any adjustments required in paragraph (4)(F)3. of this rule.

(J) The amount of the A+ tuition reimbursement is subject to legislative appropriation.

(K) If the appropriated funds exceed the amount necessary to fund tuition and fees, up to fifty percent (50%) of book costs may be reimbursed.

(L) If insufficient funds are available to pay all eligible students the full amount of tuition and fees calculated in subsection (4)(H) of this rule, the department may take any of the following measures to address the shortfall in order to ensure the A+ tuition reimbursement does not exceed the appropriation:

1. Reduce the number of hours eligible for reimbursement; or

2. If projections indicate that the measure cited above is inadequate to address the funding shortfall, the department shall, as soon as may practicably be accomplished, make available for public comment a plan containing at least two (2) options to ensure that total A+ tuition reimbursements do not exceed the appropriation. Such plan shall be distributed to all participating institutions and the department shall accept public comments on the plan for no less than thirty (30) days before publication in a CBHE board book. No plan for accommodating the additional shortfall shall be approved before it has been on the agenda of a regularly scheduled CBHE meeting and an opportunity for public comment at the CBHE meeting has been provided.

(M) The hourly tuition rate used to calculate the A+ tuition reimbursement shall not exceed the published standard per credit hour tuition rate charged by State Technical College of Missouri.

1. Institutions with high need programs that have tuition charges above this limit may apply to the department for a waiver of this requirement on a program-by-program basis.

2. The federal credit hour to clock hour conversion calculation will be applied to institutions with clock hour programs.

(N) Financial aid must be applied to tuition and general fees in the following order:

1. First, all available federal sources of funding; and

2. Second, A+ tuition reimbursement.

(O) Award amounts may be increased or decreased at the department's discretion based on availability of funds for distribution during the award year.

(P) A student who has been denied A+ tuition reimbursement for lack of satisfactory academic progress may not receive another A+ tuition reimbursement until the enrollment period after the applicable standard has once again been met.

(Q) A student who has been denied A+ tuition reimbursement for failing to meet the requirements defined in paragraph (3)(A)14. or (3)(B)3. of this rule may not receive another A+ tuition reimbursement until the enrollment period after the student successfully completes the remaining number of credit or clock hours required for the term in which the student lost eligibility.

(R) No A+ tuition reimbursement will be made retroactive to a previous award year. An A+ tuition reimbursement will be made retroactive to a previous semester or payment period only upon the sole discretion of the department.

(S) A+ tuition reimbursement will be made only after institutional certification of the student's eligibility and the amount of the A+ tuition reimbursement.

(T) The applicant's award will be sent to the approved institution to be delivered to the student's account. The institution shall retain the portion of the award that the student owes for expenses and promptly give the applicant any remaining funds.

(U) An eligible student's failure to provide required information by the established deadlines may result in loss of the A+ Scholarship for the period covered by the deadline.

(V) The CBHE has the discretion to withhold payments of any A+ tuition reimbursements after initiating an inquiry into the eligibility or continued eligibility of a student or into the

participation status of an institution.

(W) An eligible student may transfer the A+ Scholarship from one (1) participating institution to another without losing eligibility for assistance, but the department shall make any necessary adjustments in the amount of the award.

(5) Information Sharing Policy. All information on an individual's A+ Scholarship application will be shared with the financial aid office of the institution to which the individual has applied, or is attending, to permit verification of data submitted. Information may be shared with federal financial aid offices, if necessary, to verify data furnished by state or federal governments as provided for in the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. sections 552, 552a.

AUTHORITY: section 160.545, RSMo Supp. 2019 and Executive Order 10-16, dated January 29, 2010. Original rule filed Feb. 17, 2011, effective Oct. 30, 2011. Amended: Filed Dec. 13, 2012, effective June 30, 2013. Amended: Filed Sept. 15, 2014, effective March 30, 2015. Amended: Filed Feb. 16, 2016, effective July 30, 2016. Amended: Filed Sept. 14, 2016, effective March 30, 2017. Amended: Filed Jan. 29, 2019, effective July 30, 2019. Amended: Filed Nov. 22, 2019, effective May 30, 2020. ***

**Original authority: 160.545, RSMo 1993, amended 2002, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018.*

***Pursuant to Executive Order 21-09, 6 CSR 10-2.190, paragraph (3)(A)7. and subparagraph (3)(A)8.A. was suspended from April 19, 2021 through December 31, 2021.*

6 CSR 10-2.195 Dual Credit/Dual Enrollment Scholarship Program

PURPOSE: This rule sets forth the policies of the Coordinating Board for Higher Education regarding institutional and student eligibility for student financial assistance under the Dual Credit/Dual Enrollment Scholarship program.

PUBLISHER'S NOTE: The secretary of state has determined that publication of the entire text of the material that is incorporated by reference as a portion of this rule would be unduly cumbersome or expensive. This material as incorporated by reference in this rule shall be maintained by the agency at its headquarters and shall be made available to the public for inspection and copying at no more than the actual cost of reproduction. This note applies only to the reference material. The entire text of the rule is printed here.

(1) Definitions.

(A) Dual Credit/Dual Enrollment Scholarship shall mean the scholarship program set forth in section 173.2505, RSMo.

(B) Approved dual credit provider shall mean a board-approved accredited Missouri higher education institution that provides dual credit courses as referenced in section 173.2500, RSMo.

(C) Approved dual enrollment provider shall mean any institution as defined in section 173.1102, RSMo.

(D) Award year shall be from July 1 of any year through June 30 of the following year.

(E) CBHE shall mean the Coordinating Board for Higher Education created by section 173.005.2, RSMo.

(F) Department shall mean the Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development created by section 173.005.1, RSMo.

(G) Dual credit courses shall mean college-level coursework delivered by a postsecondary educational institution and taught in a Missouri high school by instructors with appropriate academic credentials to Missouri high school students earning high school and college credit simultaneously.

(H) Dual enrollment courses shall mean postsecondary courses of instruction delivered by an approved dual-enrollment provider in which a secondary school student is concurrently enrolled in a Missouri high school and the approved dual-enrollment provider.

(I) Eligible coursework shall mean dual-credit or dual-enrollment coursework provided by an approved dual-credit or dual-enrollment provider.

(J) Missouri residency, for the purpose of this rule, shall be determined by reference to the standards set forth in the determination of student residency rule, 6 CSR 10-3.010.

(K) Recipient shall mean a student whose eligibility has been verified by an approved institution in accordance with subsection (2)(A) of this rule and has been paid an award.

(L) Repeat coursework shall be any coursework for which the recipient has been assigned a grade under the institution's standard grading policy, excluding coursework for which the recipient was placed in an incomplete or withdrawn status, in a previous term.

(M) Student shall mean a student who is applying for, or has applied for, a Dual Credit/Dual Enrollment Scholarship award.

(N) Tuition and fees shall mean any charges to students classified as tuition and any institutional fees charged to all dual-credit or dual-enrollment students, excluding course-specific fees.

(2) Responsibilities of Approved Institutions.

(A) Before requesting payment for a student, verify the following:

1. The student is enrolled in eligible coursework;
2. The amount of the payment request, including the number of hours in which the student is enrolled and the credit-hour rate for those hours;
3. The student is a U.S. citizen or permanent resident; and
4. The student is a Missouri resident.

(B) Comply with the institutional responsibilities required in section 6 CSR 10-2.140(5), with the exception of paragraph 6 CSR 10-2.140(5)(A)5.

(C) Verify all other sources of non-loan funding are applied correctly to tuition and general fees, as specified in subsection (5)(D) of this rule.

(3) Eligibility Policy.

(A) To qualify for an award, a student must meet the following criteria:

1. Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident;
2. Be a Missouri resident;
3. Be enrolled in eligible coursework;
4. Have an unweighted cumulative high school grade-point average of at least two and one-half (2.5) on a four-point (4.0) scale or the equivalent and have otherwise met the high school's requirements for taking dual-credit or dual-enrollment coursework; and
5. Meet one or more of the following indicators of economic need:

A. Be individually eligible to be enrolled in a federal free or reduced-price lunch program, based on income levels established by the United States Department of Agriculture;

B. Reside in a foster home;

C. Be a ward of the state;

D. Be homeless as defined by Subtitle VII-B of the federal

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act;

E. Receive through the immediate family low-income public assistance, including but not limited to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC); or

F. Live in federally subsidized public housing.

(4) Application and Evaluation.

(A) Students must submit a completed application by the following deadlines to be considered for this scholarship:

1. The priority deadline for the fall semester (August through December) shall be October 1 and for the spring semester (January through May) shall be February 1 of the current academic year. If the deadline falls on a non-business day, the deadline shall extend to the next business day;

2. The final deadline shall be December 1 for the fall semester and April 1 for the spring semester. If the deadline falls on a non-business day, the deadline shall extend to the next business day; and

3. Students filing after the priority deadline has passed and on or before the final deadline shall be considered for payment if funds are available.

(B) The department will evaluate each application to determine student eligibility.

(5) Award Policy.

(A) Payment shall occur each semester within one (1) award year.

(B) Award amounts shall be equal to the tuition and fees paid by the student to enroll in eligible coursework.

(C) Repeat high school dual-credit or dual-enrollment coursework will not be paid.

(D) The payment amount must be calculated based on the remaining costs of actual tuition and fees after all other non-loan aid has been applied.

(E) Payment is subject to legislative appropriation.

(F) If funds are insufficient to pay all eligible students, the department will rank eligible students by earliest application received date, and will make awards according to rank order until all available funds for the semester are expended.

(G) Payment will be made for dual-credit or dual-enrollment coursework taken in the fall and spring semesters, but no payments will be made for such coursework taken in summer school.

(H) No payment will be made retroactive to a previous award year.

(I) Payment will be made only after institutional certification of the student's eligibility and award amount.

(J) The recipient's award will be sent to the approved institution to be delivered to the student's account.

(K) A student's failure to provide required information by the established deadlines may result in loss of the Dual Credit/Dual Enrollment Scholarship for the period covered by the deadline.

(L) The CBHE has the discretion to withhold payments of any awards after initiating an inquiry into the eligibility or continued eligibility of a student or recipient.

(M) A recipient may receive an award from more than one (1) approved institution in a semester or award year.

(6) Information Sharing Policy. All information on an individual's Dual Credit/Dual Enrollment Scholarship application may be shared with the financial aid office of the approved institution providing the individual's dual-credit or dual-enrollment coursework to permit verification of data submitted. The department may share an individual's information with federal financial aid offices, if necessary, to verify data furnished by state or federal governments as provided for in the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. sections 552 and 552a.

AUTHORITY: sections 173.2500 and 173.2505, RSMo Supp. 2022. Original rule filed Aug. 27, 2021, effective March 30, 2022. Rescinded and readopted: Filed Feb. 9, 2023, effective Aug. 30, 2023.*

**Original authority: 173.2500, RSMo 2016, amended 2022, and 173.2505, RSMo 2016, amended 2022.*

6 CSR 10-2.200 Minority Teaching Scholarship Program

PURPOSE: This rule sets forth the policies of the Coordinating Board for Higher Education regarding student eligibility and application procedures for student financial assistance under the Minority Teaching Scholarship program.

(1) Definitions.

(A) Academic year shall be from July 1 of any year through June 30 of the following year.

(B) Applicant means a student who has filed a complete and accurate application to receive a Minority Teaching Scholarship award as prescribed by the Coordinating Board for Higher Education (CBHE) and who qualifies to receive such award under section 161.415, RSMo.

(C) Approved institution means any institution that offers a teacher education program approved by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education or a Coordinating Board for Higher Education-approved Associate of Arts in Teaching program.

(D) Award year shall be from July 1 of any year through June 30 of the following year, excluding summer terms.

(E) CBHE means the Coordinating Board for Higher Education.

(F) Department means the Department of Higher Education created by section 173.005, RSMo.

(G) EFC means expected family contribution, the measure of how much the student and the student's family can be expected to contribute to the cost of the student's education for the year, as calculated annually by the United States Department of Education as a result of an official federal need analysis based on the student's federal need-based aid application form.

(H) Expenses mean any educational-related expenses including, but not limited to, tuition, fees, and room and board.

(I) Full-time student means an undergraduate student who is enrolled in at least twelve (12) semester hours, eight (8) quarter hours, or the equivalent in another measurement system, or a graduate student who is enrolled in at least nine (9) semester hours or the equivalent in another measurement system, but in either case not less than the respective number sufficient to secure the degree toward which the student is working in no more than the number of semesters, or their equivalent, normally required by the institution for the program in which the student is enrolled. Provided, however, that an otherwise eligible student having a disability as defined by Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. 12101–12213) who, because of the student's disability, is unable to satisfy the statutory minimum requirements of full-time status under Title IV student aid programs shall be considered by the approved institution to be a full-time student and shall be considered to be making satisfactory academic progress, as defined in subsection (1)(P) of this rule, while carrying a minimum of six

(6) credit hours or their equivalent at the approved institution.

(J) Gainful employment means any substantial gainful activity that exists in the national economy and is not limited to the recipient's original occupation.

(K) Initial recipient means a student who qualifies under section 161.415, RSMo, has filed an accurate and complete application by the deadline established by the department for the Minority Teaching Scholarship program, and has not received a Minority Teaching Scholarship award in any prior academic year.

(L) Minority teaching shall mean the Minority Teaching Scholarship program set forth in sections 161.415–161.424, RSMo.

(M) Minority teaching award shall mean an amount of money paid by the state of Missouri to a qualified applicant under the Minority Teaching Scholarship program.

(N) Renewal recipient means a student who received a Minority Teaching Scholarship award, who meets the requirements set forth in 161.415, RSMo, and who has filed an accurate and complete application by the deadline established by the department for the Minority Teaching Scholarship program.

(O) Residency, for the purpose of this rule, shall be determined by reference to the standards set forth in the determination of student residency rule, 6 CSR 10-3.010.

(P) Satisfactory academic progress shall be a cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of at least two and one-half (2.5) on a four-point (4.0) scale, or the equivalent on another scale, and, with the exception of grade point average, as otherwise determined by the approved institution's policies as applied to other students at the approved institution receiving assistance under Title IV financial aid programs included in the Higher Education Act of 1965. The calculation of CGPA shall be based on the approved institution's policies as applied to other students in similar circumstances.

(Q) Standardized test shall mean an accepted standardized test of academic ability including, but not limited to, the SAT, ACT, or SCAT.

(R) Temporary total disability shall mean a disability resulting from an injury or illness that renders a recipient unable to be engaged in gainful employment for a period of less than twelve (12) months from the date of such injury or illness.

(S) Total and permanent disability shall mean disability resulting from an injury or illness that renders a recipient unable to be engaged in gainful employment or attend an educational institution for a period of at least twelve (12) months from the date of such injury or illness and that is expected to continue for a long or indefinite period of time or to result in death.

(2) Responsibilities of Institutions of Postsecondary Education.

(A) Only institutions who have entered into a participation agreement with the department may receive disbursements under the Minority Teaching Scholarship program.

(B) Participating institutions shall meet the following requirements:

1. Meet the requirements set forth in subsection 161.415.3, RSMo, and 6 CSR 10-2.140 Institutional Eligibility for Student Participation;

2. Provide non-state matching funds of one thousand dollars ($1,000) per scholarship recipient to match one (1) dollar for every two (2) state dollars on terms no more restrictive than those established by the department with regard to the state award and notify the department of the maximum number of awards the institution will match;

3. Report annually to the department the number of scholarship recipients that will be matched. The department shall annually prescribe the time and method for filing this report;

4. Obtain the recipient's notarized signature on the promissory note and return the promissory note to the department prior to disbursement of any state scholarship funds; and

5. Annually report to the department the enrollment status of all scholarship recipients until they graduate or withdraw from the institution. The department shall annually prescribe the time and method for filing this report.

(C) Institutions should report to the department the name of any enrolled recipient who ceases study leading to teacher certification within thirty (30) days of making this determination.

(3) Basic Eligibility Policy.

(A) Meet the requirements in section 173.1110, RSMo.

(B) Initial or renewal recipients, at the time of application and through the period the award is received, must meet the requirements set forth in section 161.415, RSMo.

(C) Initial recipients must have a high school rank at or above the seventy-fifth percentile at the time of graduation or as calculated at the end of the student's sixth semester.

(4) Application and Evaluation Policy.

(A) The department shall annually prescribe the time and method for filing applications for financial assistance under the Minority Teaching Scholarship program. It shall make announcement of its action in these respects.

(B) Students shall apply annually for financial assistance under the Minority Teaching Scholarship program by completing and submitting the application prescribed by the department and by completing and submitting the federal need-based aid application form prescribed by the United States Department of Education.

(C) At the time of application, applicants must –

1. Indicate their first, second, and third school choices;

2. Commit to complete a teacher education program designed to qualify the applicant for a Missouri teaching certificate within five (5) years from the date of first receiving funds under the Minority Teaching Scholarship program; and

3. Teach on a full-time basis for a period of five (5) years in a Missouri public elementary or secondary school after receiving a teaching certificate if the applicant is an undergraduate student. Graduate students must commit to teach math or science on a full-time basis for a period of five (5) years in a Missouri public elementary or secondary school after receiving a teaching certificate.

(D) The department will evaluate each student's application for a minority teaching award and rank selected recipients based on the following criteria:

1. Participation in school or community activities;

2. Demonstrated leadership abilities;

3. Demonstrated academic success, including high school grade point average, high school class rank, and standardized test score; and

4. Financial need, as established by the student's EFC as calculated by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, if appropriations are not sufficient to fund all selected recipients, except the department may consider appeals to establish financial need using the EFC as calculated by the predictor tool for federal Title IV student financial aid eligibility approved by the USDE, commonly known as the FAFSA4caster, in exceptional

circumstances.

(E) Selected recipients will be matched in rank order with their first institutional choice until all openings at an institution are filled. If all openings are filled at the selected recipient's first institutional choice, the selected recipient will be matched at the second or third choice, respectively.

(F) Applicants will be notified of their eligibility status once recipients have been selected and awards have been determined. Notification of eligibility will also be sent to the student financial aid office at the approved institution where the student plans to enroll or has enrolled.

(5) Award Policy.

(A) Minority teaching awards shall be allotted for one (1) academic year.

(B) A renewal recipient may continue to receive a minority teaching award for a maximum of three (3) additional years, for a total of four (4) years, so long as the applicant meets the following criteria. Awards received as an undergraduate student are included in the four- (4-) year total for graduate students.

1. Maintains satisfactory academic progress; and

2. Otherwise meets the criteria of the Minority Teaching Scholarship program.

(C) Initial and renewal recipients who meet the eligibility requirements set forth in section 161.415, RSMo, and this rule shall be eligible for a minority teaching award of three thousand dollars ($3,000) per academic year, comprised of a two thousand dollar ($2,000)-state award that will convert to a loan if the recipient fails to meet the program's obligations, and a one thousand dollar ($1,000)-institutional award.

(D) A recipient who has been denied a minority teaching award for lack of satisfactory academic progress may not receive another minority teaching award until the enrollment period after the applicable standard has once again been met.

(E) Minority teaching awards will be made for use during the normal academic year, but no funds for minority teaching awards will be granted for use for summer school.

(F) No minority teaching awards will be made retroactive to a previous academic year. A minority teaching award will be made retroactive to a previous semester only upon the sole discretion of the department.

(G) Minority teaching awards will only be made after certification of full-time attendance of the student by the institution and receipt of the signed and notarized promissory note by the department. For a student eligible as part of a consortium agreement, the student must be considered to be enrolled full-time for purposes of federal student aid.

(H) Only one-half (1/2) of the annual minority teaching award will be issued in a semester of that award year.

(I) The applicant's award will be sent to the approved institution to be delivered to the student's account. The institution shall retain the portion of the award that the student owes for expenses and promptly give the applicant any remaining funds.

(J) An applicant's failure to provide required information by the established deadlines may result in loss of the minority teaching award.

(K) The CBHE has the discretion to withhold payments of any minority teaching awards after initiating an inquiry into the eligibility of a recipient or into the approved status of an institution.

(L) A student may transfer from one (1) approved institution to another without losing eligibility for assistance under the Minority Teaching Scholarship program, as long as the institution to which the student is transferring is able to match the student's state award. The student must notify the department immediately of the transfer.

(6) Scholarship Forgiveness and Deferment Policy.

(A) For each year, up to five (5) years, the recipient teaches in a Missouri public elementary or secondary school, one-fifth (1/5) of the amount of the state scholarship received shall be applied against the total amount of the state scholarship and shall not be subject to repayment.

(B) The employer shall annually provide certification to the department the recipient holds a qualifying teaching position.

(C) Recipients shall defer repayment if their qualified employment is interrupted for one (1) of the following reasons:

1. Enrollment in full-time graduate study as certified at least annually by the institution in which the recipient is enrolled;

2. Request and receipt of medical leave as certified by the recipient's employer for a medical need certified by the recipient's physician;

3. Service in any branch of the armed forces of the United States;

4. Teaching in areas defined as critical need by the State Board of Education; or

5. A temporary total disability resulting from an injury or illness that renders the recipient unable to teach in any subject area for which the recipient is certified. The recipient's physician must certify the nature of the disability, the date the disability began, and the expected duration of the recovery period, not to exceed twelve (12) months.

(D) The deferment of repayment shall begin on the date the recipient ceases to teach. The recipient must notify the department at the beginning and end of the interruption in employment and provide any requested supporting documentation. The recipient must also return to a qualified teaching position following the interruption.

(E) Recipients must promptly report to the department any change of mailing address.

(7) Repayment Policy.

(A) Recipients must notify the department within thirty (30) days of a change in enrollment status or employment that would trigger repayment.

(B) Recipients must promptly report to the department any change of mailing address.

(C) The scholarship shall convert to a loan and the recipient shall repay the scholarship funds received from the state with interest at a rate of nine and one-half percent (9.5%) charged on the unpaid balance of the amount received if the recipient –

1. Ceases study leading to teacher certification for any reason including, but not limited to, the following. Interest shall accrue from the date the recipient ceased study leading to teacher certification until the outstanding balance of principal and interest has been paid in full.

A. Change of career goal as evidenced by the nature of the postsecondary courses selected;

B. Withdrawal from approved postsecondary institutions;

C. Dismissal, suspension, or expulsion from a participating postsecondary institution for any reason; or

D. Less than full-time enrollment in a program leading to certification to teach in a Missouri public elementary or secondary school, except less than full-time enrollment during summer terms shall not trigger repayment;

2. Fails to receive a teaching certificate within six (6)

months of graduation from an approved institution. Interest shall accrue from the date of graduation until the outstanding balance of principal and interest has been paid in full;

3. Fails to be hired for or accept a full-time teaching position in a Missouri public elementary or secondary school within ten (10) months of receiving certification to teach in such a school. Interest shall accrue from the date teacher certification was issued until the outstanding balance of principal and interest has been paid in full; or

4. Fails to teach in a Missouri public elementary or secondary school on a full-time basis for a period of five (5) consecutive years after receipt of a degree, except as provided in subsection (6)(C) of this rule. Interest shall accrue from the date the recipient ceases to teach until the outstanding balance of principal and interest has been paid in full.

(D) The department shall mail a repayment schedule to the recipient.

1. The repayment schedule shall be based on a ten- (10-) year repayment plan.

2. The payment amount will vary depending on the total amount received plus accrued interest. Under no circumstances shall the minimum monthly payment be less than fifty dollars ($50) or the minimum annual payment be less than six hundred dollars ($600).

3. The recipient shall make the first payment no later than the last day of the month in which the repayment schedule is dated.

(E) Payments shall be applied first to accrued interest with any remaining amount applied to principal.

(F) Recipients shall not be subject to penalty for early repayment.

(G) Recipients may defer principal and interest payments for a period approved by the department for the following reasons:

1. Enrollment in full-time study as certified at least annually by the institution in which the recipient is enrolled. The deferment shall be initiated on the date the recipient begins full-time enrollment;

2. Medical need as certified by the recipient's physician;

3. Service in any branch of the armed forces of the United States; or

4. A temporary total disability. The recipient's physician must certify the nature of the disability, the date the disability began, and the expected duration of the recovery period.

(H) The recipients must notify the department at the beginning and end of the deferment period and submit to the department any requested supporting documentation.

(I) Interest will not accrue during a deferment period.

(J) Payments made during a deferment period will be applied first to any interest accrued prior to the deferment period and then to principal.

(K) A recipient's account will be in a default status when the recipient has failed to make three (3) consecutive, scheduled payments.

1. Upon default, principal and interest are due in full within one (1) year of default.

2. The department will notify the recipient of the default status by certified mail sent to the recipient's last known mailing address.

3. The recipient shall have thirty (30) days from the date of the certified notice to make satisfactory repayment arrangements.

(L) A recipient may remove the account from default status by making three (3) consecutive, on-time payments that are at least the minimum amount provided on the repayment schedule.

(M) All loans in repayment, deferment, or default status will be monitored. All available legal remedies may be pursued to ensure full repayment of loans.

(N) In the event a recipient becomes totally and permanently disabled as certified by a physician, the requirements of the recipient to make any further payment of principal and interest will be cancelled immediately upon approval of the request for cancellation. The recipient must apply to the department for loan cancellation and provide any requested supporting documentation.

(8) Information Sharing Policy. All information on an individual's minority teaching application will be shared with the financial aid office of the institution to which the individual has applied, or is attending, to permit verification of data submitted. Information may be shared with federal financial aid offices if necessary to verify data furnished by the state or federal governments as provided for in the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. sections 552, 552a.

AUTHORITY: section 161.415, RSMo Supp. 2013. Original rule filed June 15, 2011, effective Dec. 30, 2011. Amended: Filed June 15, 2016, effective Nov. 30, 2016.*

**Original authority: 161.415, RSMo 1990, amended 1996, 2010.*

6 CSR 10-2.210 Fast Track Workforce Incentive Grant

PURPOSE: This rule sets forth the policies of the Coordinating Board for Higher Education regarding student and institutional participation in the Fast Track Workforce Incentive Grant.

PUBLISHER'S NOTE: The secretary of state has determined that publication of the entire text of the material that is incorporated by reference as a portion of this rule would be unduly cumbersome or expensive. This material as incorporated by reference in this rule shall be maintained by the agency at its headquarters and shall be made available to the public for inspection and copying at no more than the actual cost of reproduction. This note applies only to the reference material. The entire text of the rule is printed here.

(1) Definitions.

(A) Academic year shall be twenty-four (24) semester or trimester credit hours, thirty-six (36) quarter credit hours, or nine hundred (900) clock hours, and at least thirty (30) weeks of instructional time for a credit-hour program or at least twenty-six (26) weeks of instructional time for a clock-hour program.

(B) Active apprentice status shall mean formal participation in an apprenticeship that meets any related requirements as defined by the organization providing the apprenticeship or the United States Department of Labor.

(C) At least half-time student shall mean a student who, regardless of the course delivery method, is enrolled in an eligible program at an approved institution in at least six (6) semester hours, four (4) quarter hours, twelve (12) scheduled clock hours per week, or the equivalent in another measurement system for the fall and spring terms or at least three (3) semester hours, two (2) quarter hours, twelve (12) scheduled clock hours per week, or the equivalent in another measurement system for the summer term. Any student enrolled in a program consisting of less than three hundred (300) clock hours and that is identified by the approved institution as non-credit, and any eligible apprentice participating in an eligible apprenticeship,

shall be considered as meeting this definition.

(D) Applicant means a student or apprentice who filed a complete and accurate application to receive a Fast Track Workforce Incentive Grant award as prescribed by the Coordinating Board for Higher Education (CBHE) and who qualifies to receive such award under section 173.2553, RSMo, and this rule.

(E) Approved institution means any institution located in the state of Missouri that meets the requirements set forth in sections 173.1102(2), (3), or (4), RSMo, that is approved under 6 CSR 10-2.140, and that is approved to participate in the federal student financial assistance programs created in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended.

(F) Award year shall be from July 1 of any year through June 30 of the following year.

(G) Board shall mean the CBHE created by section 173.005, RSMo.

(H) Credit hour shall mean an amount of student work defined by an institution, as approved by the institution's accrediting agency or state approval agency that is consistent with commonly accepted practice in postsecondary education and that meets the requirements in 34 CFR 600.2.

(I) Clock hour shall mean a period of time that meets the requirements in 34 CFR 600.2.

(J) Department shall mean the Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development created by section 173.005, RSMo.

(K) Eligible apprentice shall mean an individual who meets the eligibility requirements in section (3) of this rule and is participating in an eligible apprenticeship.

(L) Eligible apprenticeship shall mean a United States Department of Labor-approved apprenticeship, as defined under 29 CFR 29, conducted within the state of Missouri that prepares a participant to enter employment in an area of occupational shortage as determined by the board.

(M) Eligible program shall mean a program of instruction that results in the award of a certificate, undergraduate degree, or other industry-recognized credential and that is designated by the board as preparing students to enter an area of occupational shortage as determined by the board.

(N) Eligible student shall mean an individual who meets the eligibility requirements in section (3) of this rule and is enrolled or plans to enroll at least half-time as a student in an eligible undergraduate program of study offered by an approved institution or eligible training provider.

(O) Eligible training provider shall mean a training organization or an apprenticeship employer located in Missouri and listed in the state of Missouri's Eligible Training Provider System maintained by the Office of Workforce Development in the department.

(P) Expenses mean any direct or indirect charges including but not limited to tuition, fees, books, supplies, and room and board, for educational-related expenses up to the cost of attendance.

(Q) Full-time employment shall mean full-time employment as defined by the employer or thirty (30) hours within a fixed and regularly recurring seven- (7-) day period, whichever is greater.

(R) Governmental sources of funding shall mean federal, state, and any other governmental grant or scholarship aid excluding federal work-study and aid classified as a loan and any other aid that can be converted to a loan.

(S) Income shall mean the amount identified as the federal family Adjusted Gross Income on the most recent Missouri 1040 tax return, the most recent federal 1040 tax return for active duty members of the military or their spouses, or other tax documentation the department determines is acceptable to document the federal family Adjusted Gross Income.

(T) Initial recipient shall mean a student who is an eligible student, or eligible apprentice as defined in section 173.2553.2(3), RSMo, and has not received a Fast Track award in any prior award year.

(U) Instructional hour shall mean an amount of student or apprentice classroom work that does not meet the federal credit or clock hour definitions in 34 CFR 600.2 and that is defined by an institution.

(V) Participating provider shall mean an approved institution or eligible training provider that has a complete Fast Track participation agreement on file with the department.

(W) Payment period means a subset of the academic year or award year for which a recipient can receive a Fast Track grant. For federal Title IV-eligible programs, Fast Track payment periods shall meet federal payment period standards. For non-Title IV-eligible programs, Fast Track payment periods shall be –

1. For credit programs greater than an academic year in length where the remainder of the final year of the program is greater than one-half (1/2) of an academic year, each full academic year shall consist of two (2) payment periods, each equaling one-half (1/2) of the credit or clock hours in the academic year. The remainder of the credit or clock hours in the program shall be divided equally into two (2) payment periods. If the division of the remainder of credit or clock hours in the program is unequal, the first of the two (2) payment periods shall be the larger;

2. For credit programs greater than an academic year, where the remainder of the final year of the program is less than one-half (1/2) of an academic year, each full academic year shall consist of two (2) payment periods, each equaling one-half (1/2) of the credit or clock hours in the academic year. The remainder of the credit or clock hours in the program shall be included in a single, final payment period;

3. For non-credit programs one (1) academic year in length, there shall be two (2) payment periods, each equaling one-half (1/2) of the credit or clock hours in the program. If the division of the credit or clock hours in the program is unequal, the first of the two (2) payment periods shall be larger;

4. For non-credit programs that are four hundred and fifty (450) clock hours or twelve (12) credit hours in length and less than one (1) academic year in length, there shall be two (2) payment periods, each equaling one-half (1/2) of the credit or clock hours in the program. If the division of the credit or clock hours in the program is unequal, the first of the two (2) payment periods shall be larger;

5. For non-credit programs less than four hundred fifty (450) clock hours or twelve (12) credit hours in length, there shall be a single payment period equaling all of the credit or clock hours in the program; and

6. For apprenticeship programs, awards for related educational costs will be provided based on documentation from the apprenticeship provider.

(X) Private two- (2-) year institution shall mean any non-public institution offering no program above the associate degree level.

(Y) Provider shall mean an approved institution or eligible training provider.

(Z) Qualifying employment shall mean full-time employment of a Missouri resident at a workplace located within the state of Missouri, or self-employment while a Missouri resident with at least fifty (50) percent of an individual's annual income coming

from self-employment, either of which result in required returns of income in accordance with section 143.481, RSMo.

(AA) Recipient shall mean an eligible initial or renewal student or an eligible initial or renewal apprentice who received a Fast Track grant.

(BB) Related educational costs shall mean direct costs incurred by an individual as part of an eligible apprenticeship program, including but not limited to tools, books, and uniforms.

(CC) Renewal recipient shall mean a student who is an eligible student or eligible apprentice as defined in section 173.2553.2(3), RSMo, and received a Fast Track award in a prior award year.

(DD) Residency, for the purpose of this rule, shall be determined by reference to the standards set forth in 6 CSR 10-3.010, Determination of Student Residency.

(EE) Satisfactory academic progress shall be a cumulative grade-point average (CGPA) of at least two and one-half (2.5) on a four-point (4.0) scale, or the equivalent on another scale, and, with the exception of grade-point average, as otherwise determined by the approved institution's policies as applied to other students at the approved institution receiving assistance under Title IV financial aid programs included in the Higher Education Act of 1965. The calculation of CGPA shall be based on the approved institution's policies as applied to other students in similar circumstances. Students enrolled in programs that use a pass/fail grading system are not subject to the CGPA requirement but must still meet the institution's academic progress policy cited above. For programs for which a CGPA is not calculated or progress monitored, institutional polices relating to performance and/or completion shall be considered to meet this definition.

(FF) Training hour shall mean an amount of student or apprentice on-the-job training or other training that does not meet the definition of a credit hour, clock hour, or instructional hour.

(GG) Tuition and fees shall mean any charges to students classified as tuition, any institutional fees charged to all students, and program-specific fees charged to all students in that program, excluding any course-specific fees.

(2) Responsibilities of Providers.

(A) Before requesting disbursement for an initial or renewal recipient, verify –

1. The recipient has met the eligibility requirements listed in section (3) of this rule; and

2. Governmental sources of funding are applied correctly to tuition and fees as specified in subsection (5)(F) of this rule.

(B) Before requesting disbursement for a renewal student, approved institutions and eligible training providers must verify the student meets the definition of satisfactory academic progress.

(C) Verify each applicant's eligibility by transmitting the applicant's payment request to the department by 5 p.m. of the final business day of the second week of June. The verification must occur not more than ten (10) business days before the provider transmits the applicant's payment request to the department. Funds must be delivered not more than ten (10) business days after this verification or eligibility must be reconfirmed by the provider before delivery.

(D) Before the provider delivers the Fast Track grant funds to an applicant, the provider must require the applicant to provide affirmative proof that the applicant is a United States (U.S.) citizen or permanent resident of the U.S. in accordance with sections 173.2553.2(3)(a) and 173.2553.2(6)(b), RSMo. Applicants who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents of the U.S. need only provide this proof before the first time they receive an award and shall not be required to provide it before they receive subsequent awards. Applicants who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents of the U.S. must present affirmative proof annually.

(E) When the provider receives the funds for the Fast Track awards made by the CBHE, the provider must –

1. Deliver the Fast Track grant funds to the award recipient in the amount determined by the CBHE using the provider's standard award delivery procedures. The recipient's award is sent to the provider to deliver to the recipient's account. The provider shall retain the portion of the Fast Track award that the recipient owes to that provider for expenses, and promptly give the recipient any remaining funds;

2. Return the recipient's award to the CBHE within thirty (30) days of learning the recipient is no longer eligible to receive an award, if this is determined prior to the delivery of funds to the recipient; and

3. Be responsible for the repayment of any funds sent to it by the CBHE within thirty (30) days of learning any of the following:

A. The provider delivered funds to an ineligible applicant if the award was based on erroneous, improper, or misleading information provided by the provider to the CBHE; or

B. The provider delivered the funds to a person other than the one to whom the CBHE has directed the funds be delivered; or

C. The award amount for the recipient exceeded the maximum amount for which the recipient was eligible.

(F) The CBHE may refuse to make Fast Track awards to applicants receiving training from providers that fail to make timely refunds to the CBHE as provided in this section.

(G) Approved institutions must comply with 6 CSR 10-2.140 Institutional Eligibility for Student Participation.

(3) Eligibility Policy.

(A) To qualify for a Fast Track award, an initial recipient, at the time of application and throughout the period during which the recipient receives the award, must meet the requirements set forth in sections 173.2553.2(3) and (6), RSMo.

(B) To qualify for a Fast Track award, a renewal student must –

1. Continue to meet the initial eligibility requirements; and

2. Meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy as defined in this rule, except that, at the discretion of the participating institution, the CGPA requirement of the Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy may be waived for one (1) term.

(C) To qualify for a Fast Track award, a renewal apprentice must –

1. Continue to meet the initial eligibility requirements; and

2. Maintain active apprentice status.

(4) Application and Evaluation Policy.

(A) Students and apprentices shall apply annually for financial assistance under the Fast Track Workforce Incentive Grant program by completing and submitting the Fast Track application and all required documentation, including but not limited to income documentation.

(B) The department may require the student and the student's spouse to execute forms of consent authorizing the director of revenue to compare financial information submitted by the applicant with the Missouri individual income tax returns of

the applicant and the applicant's spouse for the taxable year immediately preceding the year for which application is made, and to report any discrepancies to the department.

(5) Award Policy.

(A) Fast Track awards for eligible students shall be made by payment period. With the exception of the first payment period of an award year, the current payment period must be completed before funds can be requested for the next payment period.

(B) Fast Track awards for eligible apprentices shall be made in one (1) or more lump sum requests for costs incurred in each award year.

1. Subject to department approval, subsequent requests in an award year may, in special circumstances, include costs previously covered, such as replacements for stolen or damaged items.

2. The apprenticeship provider must submit documentation supporting the reason for and amount of the subsequent request.

(C) To receive an award, an initial or renewal recipient must submit all required documentation to the department.

(D) Eligibility for the Fast Track Workforce Incentive Grant expires at the earliest of the following, except a student or apprentice who is eligible at the beginning of a payment period may receive the Fast Track award for the full payment period in which the expiration criterion is met:

1. Receipt of the grant for four (4) full-time semesters. For purposes of Fast Track eligibility, four (4) semesters means sixty (60) semester credit hours, ninety (90) quarter credit hours, or one thousand eight hundred (1,800) clock hours for an eligible student, or up to forty-eight (48) months for an eligible apprentice. An eligible student's remaining eligibility will be calculated as a percent by dividing the number of hours for which a recipient receives a Fast Track payment by the respective maximum number of hours in that measurement system. Once that calculation results in a percentage of one hundred (100) or more, the individual's eligibility has expired;

2. Receipt of a bachelor's degree; or

3. For an eligible student, reaching two hundred percent (200%) of the academic time, measured in the time typically required to complete the program of study in which the student is currently enrolled as included in an official publication of the institution.

(E) For eligible students, for each payment period, the amount of the Fast Track award must be calculated based on the remaining costs of actual tuition and fees after any other governmental sources of funding are applied. When the calculation results in a zero (0) award the amount of the award shall be the lesser of the remaining cost of attendance as calculated by the institution after all non-loan student aid has been applied or five hundred dollars ($500). The five hundred dollar ($500) award, when applicable, will be made regardless of whether the student is enrolled full- or part-time.

(F) For eligible apprentices, the award is equal to the related educational costs incurred in the award year for which the apprentice applied after all other governmental sources of funding are applied and may include costs for testing incurred between the beginning and ending dates of an eligible apprenticeship, regardless of when the testing occurs.

(G) Apprenticeship providers must maintain documentation supporting the amount of each related educational charge and provide that documentation to the department upon request.

(H) Fast Track awards shall not include costs for continuing education units.

(I) For eligible apprentices, awards for the award year in which the apprenticeship ends may be requested within thirty (30) days of the apprenticeship end date if the request is to be made no later than two (2) weeks before the June 30 end of the state fiscal year.

(J) The timing of application and payments that cross over award years shall be dependent on the beginning and ending dates of the payment period or apprenticeship.

1. For payment periods or apprenticeships that begin on or after June 15 of one award year and end on or after July 1 of the following award year, the eligible student or eligible apprentice must apply for, and the provider must request, the funds in that upcoming award year.

2. For payment periods or apprenticeships that begin before June 15 of one award year and end on or after July 1 of the following award year, the eligible student or eligible apprentice may apply for, and the provider must request, the funds in either the current or upcoming award year, provided that an application and request made in the current award year occurs no less than two (2) weeks before June 30.

3. For payment periods or apprenticeships that begin after July 1 and end on or before June 30, the eligible student or eligible apprentice must apply for, and the provider must request, funds in that award year, provided that the request occurs no less than two (2) weeks before June 30.

(K) If insufficient funds are available to pay all eligible applicants, renewal applicants shall be given priority until all funds are expended. If funds are insufficient to pay all renewal applicants or to pay all initial applicants after all renewal applicants are paid, individuals with the earliest Fast Track application submission date shall be given priority.

(L) Financial aid must be applied to tuition and general fees for eligible students or related educational costs for eligible apprentices in the following order:

1. All other available governmental sources of funding; and

2. The Fast Track award.

(M) To be eligible for a Fast Track award, the student or apprentice must apply for and accept all governmental sources of funding for which he or she is eligible at the institution in which he or she is enrolled or at the eligible training provider from which he or she is receiving training.

(N) Recipients shall remain eligible for an award when pursuing a subsequent credential or eligible apprenticeship. Recipients shall only receive an award for one (1) Fast Track eligible program or eligible apprenticeship at a time.

(O) A student who is denied a Fast Track award for lack of satisfactory academic progress may not receive another Fast Track award until the enrollment period after the applicable standard has once again been met.

(P) No Fast Track award will be made retroactive to a previous award year. A Fast Track award will be made retroactive to a previous payment period within the current award year only upon the sole discretion of the department.

(Q) A Fast Track award will be made only after certification of the student's eligibility and award components by an approved institution or eligible training provider.

(R) Failure of an eligible student or eligible apprentice to provide required information by an established deadline may result in loss of the Fast Track Workforce Incentive Grant for the period covered by the deadline.

(S) Renewal recipients enrolled or participating in programs that have not been renewed as eligible programs by the board shall continue to be eligible for the Fast Track Workforce Incentive Grant until they have completed the program or

apprenticeship.

(T) An eligible student may transfer the Fast Track Workforce Incentive Grant from one (1) participating institution or eligible training provider to another, and an eligible apprentice may transfer the Fast Track Workforce Incentive Grant from one (1) eligible training provider to another, without losing eligibility for assistance, but the department shall make any necessary adjustments in the amount of the award.

(6) Information Sharing Policy.

(A) All information on an individual's Fast Track application will be shared with the financial aid office of the institution to which the individual has applied or is attending, to permit verification of data submitted. Information may be shared with federal financial aid offices if necessary to verify data furnished by the state or federal governments as provided for in the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. sections 552 and 552a.

(7) The definitions of credit hour, clock hour, and instructional hour as stated in 34 CFR 600.2 are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein as published by the U.S. Government Publishing Office, 732 North Capitol Street NW, Washington, DC 20401-0001, and available at https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-34/subtitle-B/chapter-VI/part-600/subpart-A/section-600.2, on February 9, 2023. This rule does not incorporate any subsequent amendments or additions.

AUTHORITY: sections 173.2553, RSMo Supp. 2022. Original rule filed Dec. 23, 2019, effective June 30, 2020. Rescinded and readopted: Filed Feb. 9, 2023, effective Aug. 30, 2023.*

**Original authority: 173.2553, RSMo 2019.*

6 CSR 10-2.220 Public Safety Recruitment and Retention Scholarship

PURPOSE: This rule sets forth the policies of the Coordinating Board for Higher Education regarding institutional and student eligibility for student financial assistance under the Public Safety Recruitment and Retention Scholarship program.

(1) Definitions.

(A) Academic year shall be from July 1 of any year through June 30 of the following year.

(B) Applicant means a student who has filed a complete and accurate application by December 15 to receive a Public Safety Recruitment and Retention Scholarship as prescribed by the department.

(C) Application deadline shall be December 15 for applicants intending to enroll in the upcoming academic year.

(D) Department shall mean the Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development.

(E) Governmental sources of funding shall mean federal, state, and any other governmental grant or scholarship aid excluding federal work-study and aid classified as a loan and any other aid that can be converted to a loan.

(F) Initial recipient shall mean any applicant who qualifies under section 173.2655, RSMo, has filed an accurate and complete application by the deadline of December 15, and has not received a Public Safety Recruitment and Retention Scholarship in any prior academic year.

(G) Institution of higher education shall mean a public community college, state college, or state university located in Missouri as defined in section 173.1102, RSMo; or an approved private institution, as such term is defined in section 173.1102, RSMo, that chooses to accept any tuition award money pursuant to section 173.2655.7(2), RSMo; or an emergency medical services training entity accredited or certified by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services pursuant to the provisions of section 190.131, RSMo.

(H) Legal dependent shall mean a biological child, stepchild, or adopted child consistent with how such term is defined by the United States Department of Education for purposes of the Free Application for Student Financial Aid.

(I) Line of duty shall mean any action that public safety personnel is authorized or obligated by law, rule, or regulation to perform, related to or as a condition of employment or service.

(J) Open seat shall mean a vacant position in a class, course, or program that is available for enrollment, and which may become available when a student drops out or transfers, or when a class, course, or program has unused capacity, allowing new students to register or enroll.

(K) Public safety personnel shall mean any police officer, firefighter, paramedic, telecommunicator first responder, emergency medical technician, or advanced emergency medical technician who is trained and authorized by law or rule to render emergency medical assistance or treatment as further defined below.

1. Advanced emergency medical technician, as such term is defined in section 190.100, RSMo.

2. Emergency medical technician, as such term is defined in section 190.100, RSMo.

3. Firefighter, any officer or employee of a fire department who is employed for the purpose of fighting fires, excluding volunteer firefighters and anyone employed in a clerical or other capacity not involving fire-fighting duties.

4. Paramedic, as such term is defined in section 190.100, RSMo.

5. Police officer, any person who, by virtue of office or public employment, is vested by law with the power and duty to make arrests for violation of the laws of the state of Missouri or ordinances of any municipality thereof, while acting within the scope of his or her authority as an employee of a public law enforcement agency, as such term is defined in section 590.1040, RSMo.

6. Telecommunicator first responder, as such term is defined in section 650.320, RSMo.

(L) Renewal recipient shall mean any applicant who received a Public Safety Recruitment and Retention Scholarship, meets the requirements set forth in section 173.2655, RSMo, meets the institution's requirements for satisfactory academic progress, and has filed an accurate and complete application by the deadline of December 15.

(M) Satisfactory academic progress shall mean meeting the requirements established by the approved institution in which the student is enrolled for students at the approved institution to receive assistance under Title IV financial aid programs included in the Higher Education Act of 1965. For institutions that do not administer federal student aid, students must be completing coursework on a time frame that will result in graduation within the expected time frame.

(N) Tuition shall mean the charges and cost of tuition as set by the governing body of an institution of higher education, including fees such as course fees, activity fees, technology fees, and mandatory fees charged by such institution to all full-time students as a condition of enrollment, but excluding the costs of room, board, books, and any other educational materials, equipment, or supplies.

(2) Responsibilities of Education Providers.

(A) Institutions and training providers participating in the program must meet the institutional responsibilities set forth in 6 CSR 10-2.140(5).

(B) Before requesting disbursement for an initial or renewal recipient, the enrolling institution must verify –

1. The recipient has met the eligibility requirements listed in section (3) of this rule;

2. The amount of the reimbursement request, including the number of hours in which the eligible student is enrolled and the credit hour rate for those hours;

3. The eligible student is a U.S. citizen, permanent resident, or lawfully present in accordance with section 173.1110, RSMo;

4. The recipient is enrolled in an eligible program, as defined in section 173.2655, RSMo, and as outlined by the Coordinating Board for Higher Education; and

5. Governmental sources of non-loan aid are applied correctly to tuition and fees.

(3) Eligibility Policy.

(A) To qualify for a Public Safety Recruitment and Retention Scholarship, an initial and renewal recipient, at the time of application and throughout the period during which the recipient receives the award, must meet the requirements set forth in section 173.2655, RSMo.

(4) Application and Evaluation Policy.

(A) Applicants must submit a completed application by December 15 annually to be considered for the upcoming academic year, which begins on July 1 of the following calendar year for the Public Safety Recruitment and Retention Scholarship.

(B) In addition to the application, the public safety personnel must submit the following annually to be considered for the scholarship:

1. Verification of the professional license or certificate;

2. Certificate of verification signed by the individual's supervisor or employer verifying that such individual is currently employed full-time as public safety personnel and trained and authorized by law or rule to render emergency medical assistance or treatment;

3. Proof of Missouri residence, as outlined by the Department of Revenue to determine Missouri residence for a drivers license, which may include but is not limited to utility bills, federal/state/local government documents, financial documents, insurance policies/medical documents, educational/professional licensing documents; and

4. Initial recipients must provide documentation showing proof of service as public safety personnel for at least six (6) years from all eligible employers; this can include full-time employment, but excludes volunteer service.

(C) In addition to the application, the legal dependent(s) of public safety personnel must submit the following annually to be considered for the scholarship:

1. Verification of the professional license or certificate of the parent, who is a public safety personnel and claims the applicant as a dependent on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, as defined by the United States Department of Education;

2. Certificate of verification signed by the supervisor or employer of the parent verifying that such individual is currently employed full-time as public safety personnel and trained and authorized by law or rule to render emergency medical assistance or treatment;

3. Proof of Missouri Residence;

4. Initial recipients must provide documentation showing proof of service of the parent as public safety personnel for at least ten (10) years from all eligible employers, which can include full-time employment, but excludes volunteer service; and

5. Loan documentation is required for legal dependents of public safety personnel because the scholarship can potentially convert to a loan requiring repayment if the dependents fail to meet the residency requirements as outlined in subsection (6)(B) of this rule. Such documents are required for the processing of the award, which include –

A. Application disclosure, which includes information about potential repayment and estimated interest rates; must be completed at the time of application, or the application is considered incomplete;

B. Approval disclosure, in which students can accept, deny, or reduce the award amount; must be completed and returned to the department within ten (10) business days, or the award will not be disbursed; and

C. Promissory note, or agreement that the student agrees to repay the award if the scholarship converts to a loan; must be completed and returned to the department within ten (10) business days, or the award will not be disbursed.

(D) A dependent may still qualify for the scholarship following the death of a public safety personnel in the line of duty if, in lieu of the documentation required in subsection (4)(C), the dependent submits a statement attesting that –

1. At the time of death, the public safety personnel satisfied the requirements of subsection (4)(C); and

2. The public safety personnel died in the line of duty, which means any action of an employee directly connected to their employment as public safety personnel who is authorized or obligated by law, rule, regulation, or condition of employment or service to perform such function.

(E) The department shall notify applicants by no later than March 1 annually of the applicant's eligibility or ineligibility for the tuition award in the upcoming academic year, and state whether the application has been approved or denied. If the applicant is determined not to be eligible for the tuition award, the notice shall include the reason or reasons for such determination. If the application is denied, the notice shall include the reason or reasons for the denial.

(5) Award Policy.

(A) The Public Safety Recruitment and Retention Scholarship will be allotted for one (1) award year.

(B) Subject to appropriation, the scholarship awards will be based on prioritization, which the department will determine by March 1 for the upcoming academic year. The awards shall be made in the following order of priority:

1. Priority class one shall include public safety personnel in the following order:

A. Public safety personnel in departments located wholly or partially in counties or cities not within a county with the highest crime rate per capita, as determined by the most recent uniform crime reporting statistics from the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and

B. Public safety personnel with the most years of service; and

C. Renewal applicants will be prioritized over initial students;

2. Priority class two shall include dependents of public safety personnel, in the following order:

A. Dependents of public safety personnel in departments located wholly or partially in counties or cities not within a

county with the highest crime rate per capita, as determined by the most recent uniform crime reporting statistics from the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and

B. Dependents of public safety personnel with the most years of service; and

C. Renewal applicants will be prioritized over initial students; and

3. In the event of a tie, the available funds shall be distributed on a pro rata basis considering the total tuition and fee cost of each individual that is tied.

(C) Student eligibility for the Public Safety Recruitment and Retention Scholarship expires at the earliest of the following, except a student who is eligible at the beginning of an enrollment or payment period may receive the award for the full enrollment or payment period in which the expiration criterion is met:

1. Receipt of a bachelor's degree;

2. Receipt of the grant for five (5) consecutive award years; or

3. Achievement of one hundred twenty (120) credit hours.

(D) The applicant's award will be sent to the approved institution to be delivered to the student's account.

(E) No Public Safety Recruitment and Retention Scholarship award will be made retroactive to a previous academic year. An award may be made retroactive to a previous semester only upon the sole discretion of the department.

(F) A student may transfer the Public Safety Recruitment and Retention Scholarship award from one (1) approved institution of higher education to another without losing eligibility for assistance, but the department shall make any necessary adjustments in the amount of the award.

(G) An initial or renewal applicant's failure to provide an accurate and complete application or any additional information by the deadline established in statute or by the department may result in the loss of the Public Safety Recruitment and Retention Scholarship for the period covered by the deadline.

(6) Grant Maintenance.

(A) The five- (5-) year residency requirement begins once the legal dependent applies for and receives the tuition award for the first time and continues until the tuition award recipient's –

1. Completion of the five- (5-) year tuition award eligibility period;

2. Completion of a baccalaureate degree at an institution of higher education;

3. Completion of an associate degree at a public community college and notification to the department that such recipient does not intend to pursue a baccalaureate degree or additional associate degree using tuition awards pursuant to the Public Safety Recruitment and Retention Act; or

4. Notification to the department that such recipient does not plan to use additional tuition awards pursuant to the Public Safety Recruitment and Retention Act.

(B) The grant shall remain a grant and repayment will not be required if the dependent(s) of public safety personnel –

1. Graduates from an approved institution with a bachelor's degree;

2. Resides in the state of Missouri for a period of five (5) years following the use of the award, and files state income taxes in Missouri;

3. Completes an associate degree at a Missouri public community college and notifies the department that the dependent does not intend to pursue additional education using the tuition awards under this program; or

4. Notifies the department that the dependent does not plan to use additional tuition awards under this program.

(C) The recipient shall annually provide certification to the department that the recipient meets the residency requirements by providing a copy of their Missouri state tax return.

(D) The recipient may apply to the department for a waiver of the conversion of the scholarship to a loan due to the total and permanent disability or death of the recipient or if such recipient or recipient's spouse is providing service to any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States and is transferred out of state and is no longer able to maintain Missouri residency as a result of such service. The disability must be certified as permanent and total by the recipient's physician. In the event of the death of the recipient, the executor or other custodian of the deceased recipient's estate may submit an application.

(E) Recipients may defer conversion of the scholarship to a loan if their qualified employment is interrupted for one (1) of the following reasons:

1. Service by a recipient or a recipient's spouse in any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States; or

2. A temporary disability resulting from an injury or illness that renders the recipient unable to be employed. The recipient's physician must certify the nature of the disability, the date the disability began, and the expected duration of the recovery period, not to exceed twelve (12) months.

(F) The deferment shall begin on the date the recipient ceases to be a Missouri resident. The length of the deferment will be at the department's discretion based on individual circumstances. The recipient must notify the department at the beginning and end of the deferment period and provide any requested supporting documentation. The recipient must also return to Missouri residency following the interruption.

(G) Recipients must promptly report to the department any change of mailing address during the required residency period, including any period of deferment. If the scholarship converts to a loan, recipients must continue to promptly report any change of mailing address to the department until the loan is repaid in full or discharged.

(7) Loan Conversion/Repayment Policy.

(A) If the recipient fails to satisfy any of the criteria for the award to remain a scholarship, the total aggregate scholarship awarded shall convert to a loan and the recipient shall repay the total grant funds received from the state with interest.

(B) Recipients must notify the department within thirty (30) days of a change in enrollment status that would trigger repayment.

(C) Interest shall be charged on the unpaid balance of the amount received from the date the recipient ceases to reside in Missouri until the amount received is paid back to the state. The interest rate shall be adjusted annually and shall be equal to one (1) percentage point over the prevailing United States prime rate in effect on January first of such year.

(D) The department shall mail a repayment schedule to the recipient.

(E) The payment amount will vary depending on the total amount received plus accrued interest. Under no circumstances shall the minimum monthly payment be less than fifty dollars ($50) or the minimum annual payment be less than six hundred dollars ($600).

(F) The repayment schedule shall be based on a ten- (10-) year repayment plan unless the minimum monthly payment amount results in a shorter repayment period.

(G) The recipient shall make the first payment no later than

the last day of the month in which the repayment schedule is dated. Subsequent payment dates will be specified on the repayment schedule. Payments are delinquent if not received by the department within ten (10) business days of the payment due date.

(H) Payments shall be applied first to accrued interest with any remaining amount applied to principal.

(I) Recipients shall not be subject to penalty for early repayment.

(J) Recipients may defer principal and interest payments for a period approved by the department for the following reasons:

1. Experiencing economic hardship as determined by the department;

2. Medical condition limiting the recipient's ability to continue repayment including, but not limited to, illness, disability, or pregnancy, as certified by the recipient's physician; or

3. Service by a recipient or a recipient's spouse in any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States.

(K) The recipient must notify the department at the beginning and end of the deferment period and submit to the department any requested supporting documentation.

(L) Interest will not accrue during a deferment period.

(M) Payments made during a deferment period will be applied first to any interest accrued prior to the deferment period and then to principal.

(N) In the event a recipient becomes totally and permanently disabled as certified by a physician or dies, the requirements of the recipient to make any further payment of principal and interest will be discharged immediately upon department approval of the request for discharge. The recipient must apply to the department for loan discharge and provide any requested supporting documentation. In the event of the death of the recipient, the executor or other custodian of the deceased recipient's estate may submit an application.

(8) Default.

(A) A recipient's account will be in a default status when the recipient has failed to make three (3) consecutive scheduled payments.

(B) The department will notify the recipient of the default status by certified mail sent to the recipient's last known mailing address.

(C) Upon default, principal and interest are due in full immediately, unless –

1. The recipient makes satisfactory repayment arrangements within thirty (30) days from the date of the certified notice; and

2. The recipient makes three (3) consecutive on-time payments that are at least the minimum amount provided on the repayment schedule, resulting in the removal of default status.

(D) All loans in repayment, deferment, or default status will be monitored. All available legal remedies may be pursued to ensure full repayment of loans. The borrower may be responsible for reasonable collection costs, including but not limited to attorney fees, court costs, and other fees.

(9) Information Sharing Policy.

(A) All information on an individual's Public Safety Recruitment and Retention Scholarship application will be shared with the financial aid office of the institution to which the individual has applied or is attending, to permit verification of data submitted. Information may be shared with federal financial aid offices if necessary to verify data furnished by the state or federal governments.

AUTHORITY: sections 173.2655–173.2660, RSMo Supp. 2025. Original rule filed Dec. 2, 2025, effective July 30, 2026.*

Original authority: 173.2655-173.2660, see **Revised Statutes of Missouri, 2016 and Supp. 2025.*