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# OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research  
and Drafting

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Office

H.B. 569  
134<sup>th</sup> General Assembly

## Final Analysis

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**Primary Sponsors:** Reps. Holmes and White

**Effective date:** April 6, 2023

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### SUMMARY

- Authorizes institutions of higher education to establish Ohio Hidden Hero Scholarship Programs.

### DETAILED ANALYSIS

#### Ohio Hidden Hero Scholarship Programs

The act authorizes all of the following institutions to establish an Ohio Hidden Hero Scholarship Program:

1. State institutions of higher education;
2. Private nonprofit colleges or universities; and
3. Private for-profit career colleges.<sup>1</sup>

Under the program, an institution must accept applications to participate from any enrolled individual who is an “eligible caregiver.” An “eligible caregiver” is an individual enrolled as a family caregiver under the federal Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers who provides care to a veteran who has a 100% service-connected disability.<sup>2</sup>

The act authorizes an institution to approve one or more applications in each academic year. For each approved participant, the act requires the institution to:<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> R.C. 3333.421(B). See also R.C. 3345.19, not in the act.

<sup>2</sup> R.C. 3333.421(A)(1). Also see 38 United States Code 1720G, not in the act.

<sup>3</sup> R.C. 3333.421(B)(1) to (4).

1. Waive any tuition and fees remaining for each academic year after all other financial aid for which the participant qualifies has been applied to the participant's account, as determined by the institution;
2. Provide the participant with a stipend, in an amount determined by the institution, to purchase textbooks each academic year;
3. Provide assistance to the participant to ensure the participant's college credits earned at the institution may be transferred to another institution of higher education; and
4. Provide the participant with an opportunity to earn any college credits for which the participant qualifies based on the participant's caregiver experience, as determined by the institution.

Finally, the act requires the Chancellor of Higher Education to establish guidelines and procedures for Ohio Hidden Hero programs, including an application form and deadline. As part of the application, an applicant must provide a letter of eligibility from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The Chancellor also must establish a website regarding Ohio Hidden Hero programs by July 5, 2023, which must include a list of participating institutions of higher education.<sup>4</sup>

## HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	02-15-22
Reported, H. Higher Education & Career Readiness	05-18-22
Passed House (95-0)	05-25-22
Reported, S. Workforce & Higher Education	12-14-22
Passed Senate (32-0)	12-14-22

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<sup>4</sup> R.C. 3333.421(C).