



OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Bill Analysis

Hannah K. Wann

H.B. 154

132nd General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. R. Smith and Manning

BILL SUMMARY

- Creates the Commercial Truck Driver Student Aid Program to provide a combination of a grant and a loan to eligible students enrolled in certified commercial truck driver's license schools.
 - Makes an appropriation.
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CONTENT AND OPERATION

Commercial Truck Driver Student Aid Program

The bill establishes the Commercial Truck Driver Student Aid Program through which qualified students may receive a combination of a grant and a loan from the state to pay for the costs of a certified commercial driver's license program.¹

Eligibility

In order to be eligible for a grant and a loan under the program, an individual must satisfy all of the following requirements:

- (1) Be an Ohio resident;
- (2) Have an expected family income (EFC) of \$2,190 or less;
- (3) Be enrolled in a certified commercial driver's license school;
- (4) Pass a drug test;

¹ R.C. 3333.125(B).

(5) Have three or fewer moving violations in two consecutive years; and

(6) Have not plead guilty to or been convicted of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol or a drug of abuse.²

If an individual is considered eligible for the program, but then either has more than three moving violations in two consecutive years or pleads guilty to or is convicted of operating a motor vehicle under the influence loses eligibility to participate in the program.³

The Chancellor must adopt rules establishing requirements for certification for a school. The Chancellor may not certify a commercial driver's license school that charges employers recruiting fees. The bill also specifies that a certified driver's license program offered by a for-profit career college or school ("proprietary school") already certified by the State Board of Career Colleges and Schools is considered a certified commercial driver's license school.⁴

Amount of awards to students

An award under the Commercial Truck Driver Student Aid Program consists of two parts. The first part is a grant that is equal to one-half of the remaining state cost of attendance after the student's federal Pell grant and EFC are applied to instructional and general charges for the student's enrollment in a certified commercial driver's license school. The second part is a loan in an amount equal to the grant.⁵ The bill requires the Chancellor to adopt rules establishing the terms and conditions for loans under the program.⁶

The bill specifies that the amount of a grant and a loan awarded under the program is in addition to what a student may receive under the Ohio College Opportunity Grant (OCOG). However, the bill directs the Chancellor to decrease the loan amount under the program by the amount a student receives under OCOG.⁷

² R.C. 3333.125(A).

³ R.C. 3333.125(A).

⁴ R.C. 3333.125(A)(2) and (F)(2).

⁵ R.C. 3333.125(D).

⁶ R.C. 3333.125(F)(1).

⁷ R.C. 3333.125(E).

The bill also specifies that, if the amount appropriated to support the program is inadequate to provide grants and loans to all eligible students who apply, the Chancellor must proportionately reduce the amount of each award (grant and loan) for that academic year.⁸

Finally, the bill establishes the Commercial Truck Driver Student Aid Fund in the state treasury to be used by the Chancellor to make grants and loans under the bill and for administrative expenses.⁹

Appropriation

The bill appropriates \$5 million in fiscal year 2018 to fund the Commercial Truck Driver Student Aid Program.¹⁰

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	03-22-17

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⁸ R.C. 3333.125(E).

⁹ R.C. 3333.125(B).

¹⁰ Sections 3 and 4.

