

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LEGISLATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE

HOUSE BILL 3144

H. 3144 -- Reps. White, Robinson, Thigpen and V. S. Moss: A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 59-150-365 SO AS TO ESTABLISH THE "SOUTH CAROLINA WORKFORCE INDUSTRY NEEDS SCHOLARSHIP (SC WINS)", TO PROVIDE THAT CERTAIN STUDENTS ATTENDING A TWO-YEAR TECHNICAL COLLEGE ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP, AND TO PROVIDE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Received by Ways and Means: January 12, 2021

Summary of Bill:

The South Carolina Workforce Industry Needs Scholarship provides a stipend equal to the cost of mandatory tuition and fees after applying for all other scholarships or grants, not to exceed \$2,500 each year, to students attending a two-year public technical college and majoring in a field identified by the Coordinating Council for Workforce Development (CCWD) as part of an industry sector with high demand or critical workforce needs. Scholarship recipients will receive a \$300 book allowance per school year.

Estimated Revenue Impact: Pending

Subcommittee Recommendation: Favorable report on 3/16/21

Other Notes/Comments:

The SCWINS scholarship has been funded through the lottery at \$17 million per year in both FY19-20 and FY20-21. It has already passed at the same amount in the Ways and Means Budget for FY21-22.

This language passed unanimously out of the House in 2019 by a vote of 105-0.

South Carolina General Assembly
124th Session, 2021-2022

H. 3144

STATUS INFORMATION

General Bill

Sponsors: Reps. White, Robinson, Thigpen and V.S. Moss

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Introduced in the House on January 12, 2021

Currently residing in the House Committee on **Ways and Means**

Summary: SC Workforce Industry Needs Scholarship (SC WINS)

HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Body</u>	<u>Action Description with journal page number</u>
12/9/2020	House	Prefiled
12/9/2020	House	Referred to Committee on Education and Public Works
1/12/2021	House	Introduced and read first time (House Journal-page 87)
1/12/2021	House	Referred to Committee on Ways and Means (House Journal-page 87)

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VERSIONS OF THIS BILL

[12/9/2020](#)

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A BILL

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 59-150-365 SO AS TO ESTABLISH THE “SOUTH CAROLINA WORKFORCE INDUSTRY NEEDS SCHOLARSHIP (SC WINS)”, TO PROVIDE THAT CERTAIN STUDENTS ATTENDING A TWO-YEAR TECHNICAL COLLEGE ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP, AND TO PROVIDE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Chapter 150, Title 59 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 59-150-365. (A)(1) A student who is attending a two-year public technical college, who is majoring in a critical workforce area program, as defined and recommended by the State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education (SBTCE) and ratified by the South Carolina Coordinating Council for Workforce Development, and who is receiving a Lottery Tuition Assistance Program Scholarship (LTAP) for the current school year, shall receive an additional South Carolina Workforce Industry Needs Scholarship (SC WINS). The SC WINS scholarship is equal to the cost of tuition and mandatory fees after applying all other scholarships or grants, not to exceed two thousand five hundred dollars each year for no more than three years of instruction, including the student’s freshman year, if the student is enrolled in an associate degree program, or no more than two years of instruction, including the student’s freshman year, if enrolled in a diploma or certificate program.

1 (2) During the student's freshman year, the student must be
2 enrolled in at least six credit hours of instruction each semester,
3 including at least three credit hours of instruction in one of the
4 critical workforce areas defined by the SBTCE. To receive the
5 additional SC WINS scholarship each school year, the student must
6 receive the underlying LTAP scholarship for that school year and
7 must be making acceptable progress each school year towards
8 receiving a degree in one of the majors pursuant to this section. For
9 purposes of meeting this required minimum level of instruction in
10 the student's major courses during a student's freshman year, dual
11 enrollment courses taken in high school in these critical workforce
12 area programs count toward the fulfillment of the minimum
13 requirement.

14 (B) The SBTCE shall promulgate regulations to define what
15 constitutes a critical workforce program area. Nothing herein
16 prevents a student from changing majors within the acceptable
17 disciplines. Additionally, the SBTCE annually shall communicate
18 with high school guidance counselors regarding the list of qualifying
19 majors. The critical workforce program list must be reviewed at
20 least every five years and adjusted based on workforce trends and
21 industry needs. Critical workforce program additions or deletions
22 must be ratified by the South Carolina Coordinating Council for
23 Workforce Development.

24 (C) If the additional SC WINS scholarship is lost, it may be
25 regained in the same manner the underlying LTAP scholarship is
26 regained.

27 (D) In order for a student to be eligible after attempting
28 twenty-four academic credit hours, the student must have earned a
29 grade point average of 2.0 or better on a 4.0 grading scale.

30 (E) A student may not be eligible to receive the SC WINS
31 scholarship for more than one certificate, diploma, or degree within
32 any five-year period unless the additional certificate, diploma, or
33 degree constitutes progress in the same field of study.

34 (F) A dual-enrollment student in high school, who is majoring
35 in one of the critical workforce areas at a technical college qualifies
36 for the SC WINS scholarship.

37 (G) Additionally, a three-hundred-dollar book allowance each
38 school year is applied to a SC WINS recipient's account for
39 expenses towards the cost of attendance including the cost of
40 textbooks.

41 (H) If a critical workforce area program is placed on suspension
42 during the SBTCE's annual program evaluation process, that
43 program no longer qualifies for SC WINS funds at that specific

1 college. Students must be advised on how to complete their program
2 by transferring to another technical college or serving as a transient
3 student at another technical college to complete specified courses.”

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5 SECTION 2. This act takes effect on July 1, 2021 and applies to
6 the 2021-2022 School Year.

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