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AB-2248 Student financial aid: Cal Grant program. (2017-2018)

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Assembly Bill No. 2248

CHAPTER 758

An act to add Section 69432.95 to the Education Code, relating to student financial aid.

[Approved by Governor September 26, 2018. Filed with Secretary of State September 26, 2018.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2248, McCarty. Student financial aid: Cal Grant program.

Existing law, the Ortiz-Pacheco-Poochigian-Vasconcellos Cal Grant Program (Cal Grant Program), establishes the Cal Grant A and B Entitlement Awards, the California Community College Transfer Entitlement Awards, the Competitive Cal Grant A and B Awards, and the Cal Grant T Awards under the administration of the Student Aid Commission, and establishes eligibility requirements and maximum levels for awards under these programs for participating students attending qualifying institutions, as defined. Existing law, for the purposes of the Cal Grant Program, defines "full time" to mean 12 or more semester units or the equivalent and defines "part time" to mean 6 to 11 semester units or the equivalent.

This bill would require the commission, upon the initial awarding and the renewal of a Cal Grant award, as specified, to notify a Cal Grant award recipient in writing that, in order to graduate in 4 years, he or she must take 15 semester units or the equivalent quarter units, or 30 semester units per academic year or the equivalent quarter units, and that a Cal Grant award is limited to 4 academic years. The bill also would require a qualifying institution, as defined, to notify in writing a new student during orientation, a student receiving state financial aid, upon annual registration, and a student registering online for fewer than 15 units of the above specified provisions.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: yes

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 69432.95 is added to the Education Code, immediately preceding Section 69433, to read:

69432.95. (a) For purposes of this section, "qualifying institution" has the same meaning as in Section 69432.7.

(b) For the purposes of subdivision (c) "Cal Grant" means all Cal Grant awards except the Cal Grant C award.

(c) Upon the initial award and renewal of a Cal Grant award, the commission shall notify the award recipient in writing, which may include electronic mail, of both of the following:

(1) A Cal Grant award is limited to four academic years, except as provided in subdivision (c) of Section 69433.6.

(2) A student needs to take 15 units per semester or the equivalent quarter units, or 30 semester units or the equivalent quarter units per academic year, in order to graduate within four years.

(d) During the orientation of a new student, a qualifying institution shall notify the student in writing of the information described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subdivision (c).

(e) Upon annual registration by a student receiving state financial aid, the financial aid office of a qualifying institution shall notify that student in writing of the information described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subdivision (c).

(f) During online registration by a student for fewer than 15 semester units or the equivalent quarter units, the information contained in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subdivision (c) must be provided to the student with a box for the student to check acknowledging receipt of the provided information.

SEC. 2. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.