

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SAK  
ROS

L.D. 2099

Date: 3/12/26 Majority

(Filing No. H-843)

**EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
132ND LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1414, L.D. 2099, "An Act to Amend Certain Eligibility Requirements for Secondary Students Receiving State Subsidies for Postsecondary Courses"

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 2 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §4772, sub-§2, as amended by PL 2005, c. 519, Pt. XX, §1, is further amended to read:

2. **Academic standing.** Unless granted a waiver by the eligible institution, the student is maintaining a minimum secondary school grade point average of at least ~~3.0~~ 2.0 on a scale of 4.0, or the equivalent of a "B C" average, as determined by the school administrative unit.

This subsection is repealed July 31, 2028.'

Amend the bill in section 4 in subsection 6 in the last line (page 1, line 20 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "~~administration.~~" the following: 'or from a school official with knowledge of the student's academic performance'

Amend the bill in section 5 in subsection 7 by striking out all of paragraphs B, C and D (page 1, lines 25 to 29 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

'B. Is enrolled as a tuition student in a school administrative unit or a private school approved for tuition purposes pursuant to chapter 219; or

C. Is a student receiving home instruction as outlined in section 5001-A, subsection 3, paragraph A, subparagraph (4).'

Amend the bill by striking out all of section 7 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 7. 20-A MRSA §4772-A, as amended by PL 2005, c. 519, Pt. XX, §4, is further amended by enacting at the end a new paragraph to read:

This section is repealed July 31, 2028.'

Amend the bill in section 10 by inserting after subsection 4 the following:

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

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1 'This subsection is repealed July 31, 2028.'

2 Amend the bill in section 11 by inserting after subsection 5 the following:

3 'This subsection is repealed July 31, 2028.'

4 Amend the bill in section 13 in the indented paragraph in the first 3 lines (page 2, lines  
5 19 to 21 in L.D.) by striking out the following: "the department, in collaboration with  
6 eligible institutions, shall determine annually a process for the reimbursement of tuition up  
7 to a lifetime credit cap of 18 total credits per student" and inserting the following: 'the  
8 department shall reimburse each eligible institution the cost of in-state tuition up to the  
9 maximum rate, calculated as follows: 50% of the average in-state tuition rate for the highest  
10 and lowest in-state tuition rates established by the University of Maine System for eligible  
11 institutions within the system'

12 Amend the bill by inserting after section 14 the following:

13 **'Sec. 15. Department of Education report on secondary school students**  
14 **receiving state subsidies for postsecondary courses.** The Department of Education,  
15 referred to in this section as "the department," in collaboration with eligible institutions  
16 under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 208-A, shall provide a report  
17 regarding the effect of changes made by this Act to eligibility requirements for a secondary  
18 school student to receive a state subsidy for postsecondary courses and regarding the  
19 imposition of lifetime credit caps on secondary school students and career and technical  
20 education students in a designated early college career pathway. By February 1, 2028, the  
21 department shall submit the report, including any recommendations, to the joint standing  
22 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs, which  
23 may report out legislation related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 133rd  
24 Legislature.'

25 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section  
26 number to read consecutively.

27 **SUMMARY**

28 This amendment strikes from the bill the repeal of the academic standing requirement  
29 in determining student eligibility for secondary school students receiving a state subsidy  
30 for postsecondary courses and instead requires a student to maintain a minimum secondary  
31 school grade point average of at least 2.0, rather than 3.0 as in current law, on a scale of  
32 4.0 unless the student is granted a waiver by the relevant public postsecondary education  
33 institution in the State. The amendment repeals this provision July 31, 2028.

34 The bill amends current law regarding the required recommendation for such a state  
35 subsidy to provide that a student is required to receive a recommendation from the student's  
36 school to take a postsecondary course at such a public postsecondary education institution.  
37 The amendment clarifies that the student may also receive a recommendation from a school  
38 official with knowledge of the student's academic performance.

39 The amendment eliminates on July 31, 2028 the lifetime credit caps proposed in the  
40 bill for secondary school students and career and technical education students in a  
41 designated early college career pathway.

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1414, L.D. 2099

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The amendment also requires the Department of Education, in collaboration with the public postsecondary education institutions in the State, to provide a report regarding the effect of changes made by this legislation to eligibility requirements for a secondary school student to receive a state subsidy for postsecondary courses and regarding the imposition of lifetime credit caps on secondary school students and career and technical education students in a designated early college career pathway. By February 1, 2028, the department is required to submit a report, including any recommendations, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs, which may report out legislation related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 133rd Legislature.

**FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

(See attached)



# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 2099

LR 2615(02)

## An Act to Amend Certain Eligibility Requirements for Secondary Students Receiving State Subsidies for Postsecondary Courses

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment  
 Committee: Education and Cultural Affairs

A (H-843)

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

### Fiscal Note

Temporarily limits participation to keep pace with available funding in current biennium

#### Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill imposes a lifetime cap on the number of courses for which secondary students and career and technical education students enrolled in a designated early college career pathway may receive a state subsidy. The bill also restricts state subsidy for postsecondary courses to students who are Maine residents and meet public tuition criteria. The eligibility policy of the Department of Education (department) currently includes these provisions; the bill seeks to codify existing policy in statute. These provisions are intended to lower the number of postsecondary courses for which secondary and early college students may receive a state subsidy. There is no new funding provided in the bill because the amount of the state subsidy is included in the department's total cost of education. However, demand for these courses is likely to continue to outpace available funding, even with the restrictions imposed by this bill. Additionally, the bill repeals the lifetime credit cap on July 31, 2028, after which the reimbursement due to eligible institutions from the department is likely to exceed available resources, absent additional appropriations, statutory changes or other arrangements.

The bill also requires the department, in collaboration with eligible institutions, to provide an update to the Legislature by February 1, 2028 on eligibility requirements for a secondary student to receive a state subsidy for postsecondary courses and on lifetime credit caps for secondary students and career and technical education students. Any additional costs to the department to implement the requirements of this bill can be absorbed within existing resources.