

Legislative Analysis



ELIGIBILITY FOR MICHIGAN COMPETITIVE SCHOLARSHIP

Phone: (517) 373-8080
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

House Bill 6172 as referred to second committee

Sponsor: Rep. Sarah Anthony

1st Committee: Education

2nd Committee: Ways and Means

Complete to 11-30-20

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

SUMMARY:

House Bill 6172 would amend the State Competitive Scholarships Act to allow scholastic achievement as an alternative to achieving the requisite score on a standardized test (currently the SAT) for purposes of scholarship eligibility.

Currently, eligible students must demonstrate financial need, possess a high school diploma or the equivalent, and achieve a qualifying SAT score of at least 1200. Students must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 to be eligible for renewal.¹

Under the bill, for the 2020-21 academic year, scholastic achievement could be used as an alternative to achieving a minimum 1200 score on the SAT for purposes of scholarship eligibility.

Additionally, the act currently requires eligible students to use the scholarship within 10 years. Under the bill, students enrolled in eligible postsecondary institutions during the 2020 spring term and the 2020-2021 academic year would have 11 years to use the scholarship after eligibility was determined.

MCL 390.973 and 390.974

FISCAL IMPACT:

The bill would have an indeterminate impact on the state but could result in increased costs to the Michigan Competitive Scholarship program. The number of eligible students for the program could increase due to the allowance of class grade point averages in replacement of a standardized test (currently the SAT). In addition, a student enrolled in a postsecondary institution for the 2020 spring semester or the 2020-21 academic year would be granted an extra year of scholarship eligibility, which could also result in increased cost to the state. However, the number of students that could benefit from either change cannot be determined at this time.

¹ <https://www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid/0,4636,7-372--481214--,00.html>

POSITIONS:

The following organizations indicated support for the bill (9-16-20):

Department of Treasury
Education Trust Midwest
Michigan Catholic Conference
Michigan College Access Network
Michigan League for Public Policy
Michigan Association of State Universities

Legislative Analyst: Jenny McInerney
Fiscal Analyst: Perry Zielak

■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.