

HB 1675 -- Twenty-First Century Missouri Scholars Program

Sponsor: Harris (23)

This bill establishes a new scholarship, the Twenty-first Century Missouri Scholars Program, to be administered by the Department of Higher Education. A student will be eligible for the program if he or she:

- (1) Is a Missouri resident;
- (2) Is enrolled in the seventh or eighth grade in a public or private school;
- (3) Is eligible for the free or reduced lunch program or is receiving foster care services;
- (4) Signs an agreement, along with his or her parent or guardian, to finish high school with a course of study that prepares him or her for admission to a community college or public higher education institution; to have a 2.4 grade point average upon graduation; and pledging not to drive while intoxicated, use drugs or tobacco, or become truant, delinquent, or a runaway; and
- (5) Applies in a timely manner for college admission and relevant financial aid.

The amount of the scholarship cannot exceed resident tuition and mandatory fees. A student may remain eligible for eight semesters of full-time or 16 semesters of part-time study. Participating colleges must create mentoring programs for scholarship recipients.