

HB 1172 -- 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 a foster child or is eligible for the free or reduced lunch program;
- (4) Signs an agreement, along with his or her parents, to finish high school; to apply for college admission and financial aid; and pledging not to drive while intoxicated, use drugs or tobacco, run away, or become truant; and
- (5) Has a 3.0 grade point average upon graduation from high school.

The amount of the scholarship cannot exceed the resident tuition rate and mandatory fees established for public higher education institutions. Scholarships may be granted for up to eight semesters, and participating colleges must create mentoring programs for scholarship recipients.