

HB 1604 -- Higher Education Scholarships for Foster Children

Sponsor: Bringer

This bill establishes a tuition and fee waiver program beginning with the 2009 fall term for incoming Missouri resident college freshmen who have been in foster or residential care at certain times. To be eligible, applicants must have graduated from high school or passed the general educational development (GED) test within the last three years. The student must apply for admission to and be accepted at a state institution of higher education within the time frame specified by the bill, apply for financial aid, request a determination of eligibility from the Coordinating Board for Higher Education, and complete at least 100 hours of community service or public internship within the 12-month period beginning September 1 during the year of the tuition and fee waiver. Waivers will be awarded annually, subject to appropriations, for up to four years of undergraduate study and may only be used after other sources of financial aid intended for tuition and fees are exhausted.