

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Senate Education Committee

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SENATE BILL 10

ESSENTIAL WORKER TUITION GRANTS

EXPLANATION OF CHANGES *(VERSION B TO VERSION G)*

Change #1:

On page 1, line 8 of version A, the word “undergraduate” is deleted to account for trade school students. Graduate school is still disallowed by subsection (a) paragraph (8).

Change #2:

Subsection (a) paragraph (2) is adjusted to allow any worker that was laid off to be eligible for a grant.

Version A:

(2) was employed as an essential worker in the state when the federal government declared a public health emergency on January 31, 2020, and

(A) maintains employment as an essential worker for the duration of the public health emergency; or

(B) was temporarily or permanently laid off;

Version G:

(2) was,

(A) employed as an essential worker in the state when the federal government declared a public health emergency on January 31, 2020; or

(B) temporarily or permanently laid off in the state as a direct consequence of the public health emergency declared by the federal government on January 31, 2020;

Change #3:

Inserts a paragraph (4) under subsection (b), which disqualifies a student from additional funding once they complete the curriculum, degree, or program for which they received a grant for the previous term.

Change #4:

A new subsection is added under section 1 (subsection (e) of version G), which directs the commission on Postsecondary Education to consult with HSS and use the Alaska Essential Services and Critical Workforce Infrastructure Order to define an “essential worker.” The definition of “essential worker” in version A (on page 3, lines 6-17) was deleted.

Change #5:

The words “or private” are deleted from the definitions of “half-time” and “full-time” student (page 3, lines 22 and 26 of version A), as only state-supported institutions are authorized by this bill (page 1, line 8).

Change #6:

Changes to a hard repeal date of December 31, 2025 (previously set to expire at the end of the federal declaration).