



**149th GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL NOTE
REVISED**

BILL: HOUSE BILL NO. 326
SPONSOR: Representative K. Williams
DESCRIPTION: AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE DELAWARE ADVANCE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.

Assumptions:

1. Effective upon the signing of the Governor.
2. This Bill creates the Delaware Advance Scholarship program, which offers tuition grants to qualifying college bound Delaware students with intellectual disabilities. Grants would cover the cost of any remaining out of pocket tuition obligations at Delaware's higher education institutions that offer federally-approved comprehensive transition and postsecondary (CTP) programs.
3. Currently, the University of Delaware is the only higher education institution in Delaware with a qualifying CTP program. The University's program has a three year average enrollment of 14 students, of which, an average of 11 students would meet the qualifications for scholarship eligibility under this Bill. Qualifying students had an average program cost of \$23,338 during the 2017-2018 academic year.
4. Current students in the University's CTP program that are eligible under this Bill receive varying levels of financial support from the State's Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR), the Division of Developmental Disabilities Services (DDDS), and/or Federal Pell grants to help cover educational expenses. Over the past three years, DVR has contributed an average of 26.2%, DDDS 53.2%, and Pell Grant support an average of 5.5% of the eligible student's total annual program expenses. Out of pocket obligations averaged 15.1% of total program expenses for these students over the past three academic years (2015-2018).
5. Estimates for Fiscal Years 2019-2021 assume the Delaware Advance Scholarship program will provide funding to help cover CTP student tuition only expenses based on the three year averages of; qualified student enrollment; DVR; DDDS; and Pell Grant support funding. This estimate further assumes a 1% growth in CTP program education expenses.

Cost:

Fiscal Year 2019: \$39,200 (11 students X \$23,571 avg. cost X 15.1% avg. out of pocket expense)
Fiscal Year 2020: \$39,500 (11 students X \$23,807 avg. cost X 15.1% avg. out of pocket expense)
Fiscal Year 2021: \$39,900 (11 students X \$24,045 avg. cost X 15.1% avg. out of pocket expense)

Prepared by Art Jenkins
Office of the Controller General