153rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL NOTE

BILL:	**SENATE BILL NO. 90**
SPONSOR:	**Senator Paradee**
DESCRIPTION:	**AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 14 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE DELAWARE STATE INSPIRE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.**

Assumptions:

1. This Act becomes effective upon signature by the Governor.

2. This Act expands eligibility for the Delaware State University Inspire Scholarship program. Currently, the Inspire scholarship provides undergraduate tuition assistance for up to 8 semesters at Delaware State University. Under this Act, students who complete a bachelor's degree in less than 8 continuous semesters may use the remaining Inspire Scholarship eligible semesters towards graduate studies at Delaware State University.

3. This Act would create a new graduate-student component under the Inspire Scholarship program and would result in an increase in annual Inspire Scholarship expenditures.

4. According to Delaware State University, tuition costs for graduate education vary by program and are calculated per credit hour.
    a. According to data provided by Delaware State University, there were 1,148 Inspire Scholarship recipients in the 2023-2024 school year. The University estimates that the number of students who are eligible for the Inspire Scholarship who earned substantial college credits before attending the University and are continuing their studies in graduate programs at the University is estimated to be 7-10 students each year.
    b. It is assumed that these students would have between 1-4 semesters of graduate program Inspire Scholarship eligibility under this Act, depending on the number of semesters used to complete their undergraduate degree.
    c. It is assumed that the average graduate student will have a courseload of 9 credit hours per semester.
    d. The average cost per credit hour ranges from $455 - $550.

Cost:

Fiscal Year 2026: $57,330 - $99,000
Fiscal Year 2027: $81,900 - $148,500
Fiscal Year 2028: $81,900 - $148,500

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Office of the Controller General