



This Bill Analysis reflects the contents of the bill as it was presented in committee.

# SENATE BILL 293: Military Dependents/Need-Based Private School.

2019-2020 General Assembly

<b>Committee:</b>	Senate Education/Higher Education. If favorable, re-refer to Appropriations/Base Budget. If favorable, re-refer to Rules and Operations of the Senate	<b>Date:</b>	March 27, 2019
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Sens. D. Davis, Tillman, Brown	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Samantha Yarborough Staff Attorney
<b>Analysis of:</b>	First Edition		

**OVERVIEW:** Senate Bill 293 would make nonresident dependents of active duty service members and veterans eligible for need-based scholarships for students attending private institutions of higher education.

**CURRENT LAW:** Article 34 of Chapter 116 of the General Statutes creates a need-based scholarship (Scholarship) for students attending private institutions of higher education administered by the State Education Assistance Authority (Authority). G.S. 116-281 sets the eligibility requirements to receive a Scholarship. In order to be eligible, a student must be seeking a degree, diploma, or certificate at an eligible private postsecondary institution (Institution) and meet all of the following: (i) have an expected family contribution that does not exceed an amount as set annually by the Authority; (ii) meet all other eligibility requirements for the federal Pell Grant, and (iii) meet enrollment standards by being admitted, enrolled, and classified as an undergraduate student in a matriculated status at an Institution.

The student must also meet one of the following criteria outlined in G.S. 116-281(3):

- Qualify as a legal resident of North Carolina and as a resident for tuition purposes.
- Be a veteran whose abode is in North Carolina and provides the Institution a letter of intent to establish residency in North Carolina.
- Be an active duty member of the Armed Forces provided the member of the Armed Forces is abiding in this State incident to active military duty in this State.

To continue to be eligible for a Scholarship, the student must maintain satisfactory academic progress in a course of study in accordance with the standards and practices used by the Institution for federal Title IV programs.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** Senate Bill 293 would expand the eligibility criteria in G.S. 116-281(3). In addition to (i) qualifying as a resident for tuition purposes, (ii) being a veteran whose abode is in North Carolina, and (iii) being an active duty member of the Armed Forces abiding in the State, a student could be any of the following to meet the requirement of G.S. 116-281(3):

- The dependent relative of a veteran who is abiding in North Carolina while sharing an abode with the veteran, if the dependent relative provides the Institution a letter of intent to establish residency in North Carolina.
- The dependent relative of an active duty member of the Armed forces who is abiding in North Carolina incident to active military duty while sharing an abode with the active duty member.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This act would become effective July 1, 2019, and apply beginning with the award of scholarships for the 2020-2021 academic year.

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