



SENATE BILL 212: Bennett College Accredit./Private Need-Based.

2021-2022 General Assembly

Committee: Senate Education/Higher Education. **If Date:** March 31, 2021
favorable, re-refer to Rules and Operations of
the Senate

Introduced by: Sens. Robinson, Davis

Prepared by: Drupti Chauhan

Analysis of: First Edition

Committee Counsel

OVERVIEW: Senate Bill 212 would allow students who attend private institutions of higher education in the State to qualify for the need-based scholarships as long as the institution they attend is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) or was accredited by SACSCOC on January 1, 2021 and also, beginning January 1, 2021, was a member of the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools.

[As introduced, this bill was identical to H288, as introduced by Reps. Harrison, Hardister, Quick, Clemmons, which is currently in House Education - Universities.]

CURRENT LAW: In order to receive a need-based scholarship to attend a private institution of higher education in the State, a student must meet certain criteria including being admitted, enrolled, and classified as a undergraduate student in a degree program at an eligible private postsecondary institution. An eligible private postsecondary educational institution is one of the following:

- A nonprofit postsecondary educational institution with a main permanent campus located in this State that is not owned or operated by the State of North Carolina and does the following:
 - Is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools under the standards of the College Delegate Assembly of the Association or by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges through its Commission on Institutions of Higher Education.
 - Awards postsecondary degrees.
- A postsecondary institution owned or operated by a hospital authority or a school of nursing affiliated with a nonprofit postsecondary educational institution.

BILL ANALYSIS: Senate Bill 212 would allow a student who attends a private institution of higher education to qualify for the need-based scholarship as long as the institution they attend is accredited by SACSCOC or was accredited by SACSCOC on January 1, 2021 and also, beginning January 1, 2021, was a member of the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The bill would be effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with scholarships awarded for the 2021-2022 academic year.

Jeffrey Hudson
Director



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Legislative Analysis
Division
919-733-2578