SENATE FILE NO. SF0043

Hathaway scholarship eligibility.

Sponsored by: Joint Education Interim Committee

A BILL

for

AN ACT relating to higher education; modifying portions of the Hathaway scholarship program; providing that a prescribed career-technical aptitude test score may be used to satisfy a Hathaway scholarship eligibility requirement; amending success curriculum provisions to qualify for Hathaway honor or performance scholarships; specifying applicability; and providing for an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:

Section 1. W.S. 21-16-1301(a)(xix), 21-16-1303(b)(iii)(C), 21-16-1304(a)(i)(intro), (ii)(intro) and (iii)(intro), 21-16-1305(a)(i)(intro), 21-16-1307(b)(intro), by creating a new paragraph (vii) and (g) and 21-16-1308(b)(iii)(C), (c)(ii) and (vii) are amended to read:
21-16-1301. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(xix) "WORKKEYS SCORE Career-technical aptitude assessment" means qualifying scores on the WORKKEYS job skills assessment test—an assessment measuring fundamental workplace skills. In the event the WORKKEYS job skills current career-technical aptitude assessment test is superseded, becomes too expensive to administer or goes out of general use, the department shall specify by rule and regulation a replacement career-technical aptitude assessment test to be used;

21-16-1303. Hathaway scholarship program; eligibility requirements.

(b) Under the Hathaway scholarship program, subject to availability of funds as determined by the legislature, the state shall provide a scholarship pursuant to W.S. 21-16-1304 and 21-16-1305 to any student who has been accepted by and
enrolls in an eligible institution to pursue a degree or certificate, and who meets the following qualifications:

(iii) The student has:

(C) The minimum high school cumulative grade point average and minimum score, as determined through an equi-percentile linking method, on a college entrance examination administered throughout the United States and relied upon by institutions of higher education to determine acceptance of students for attendance or minimum cumulative workkeys career-technical aptitude assessment score specified under this article for the type of scholarship to be awarded.

21-16-1304. Hathaway opportunity, performance and honor scholarships.

(a) Any student who meets the criteria under W.S. 21-16-1303 is eligible to receive a scholarship to pursue a degree or certificate as follows:

(i) With a minimum cumulative high school GPA of 2.50 and a score equal to or greater than the 2015-2016
national percentile rank of forty-three (43) on a college entrance examination administered throughout the United States and relied upon by institutions of higher education to determine acceptance of students for attendance, or a career-technical aptitude assessment score that is determined by the department to be equivalent to the minimum national percentile rank on a college entrance examination as required under this paragraph, a Hathaway opportunity scholarship for:

(ii) With a minimum cumulative high school GPA of 3.0 and a score equal to or greater than the 2015-2016 national percentile rank of fifty-six (56) on a college entrance examination administered throughout the United States and relied upon by institutions of higher education to determine acceptance of students for attendance, or a career-technical aptitude assessment score that is determined by the department to be equivalent to the minimum national percentile rank on a college entrance examination as required under this paragraph, a Hathaway performance scholarship for:

(iii) With a minimum cumulative high school GPA of 3.5 and a score equal to or greater than the 2015-2016 national percentile rank of seventy-nine (79) on an
examination administered throughout the United States and relied upon by institutions of higher education to determine acceptance of students for attendance, or a career-technical aptitude assessment score that is determined by the department to be equivalent to the minimum national percentile rank on a college entrance examination as required under this paragraph, a Hathaway honor scholarship for:

21-16-1305. Hathaway provisional opportunity scholarships.

(a) Any student who meets the criteria under W.S. 21-16-1303 is eligible to receive a Hathaway provisional opportunity scholarship to pursue a certificate or degree as follows:

(i) With a minimum cumulative high school GPA of 2.50 and either a score equal to or greater than the 2015-2016 national percentile rank of thirty (30) on a college entrance examination administered throughout the United States and relied upon by institutions of higher education to determine acceptance of students for attendance or a cumulative score of at least twelve (12) points on applied math, reading for
information and locating information on WORKKEYS tests career-technical aptitude assessments, a scholarship for:

21-16-1307. Success curriculum; test standards.

(b) The success curriculum required to qualify for honor or performance scholarship eligibility under this article for students graduating from high school in the 2018-2019 2019-2020 school year and each school year thereafter shall be as follows:

(vii) Elective pathway - three (3) years of any one (1) of the following:

(A) Fine and performing arts - instruction in fine and performing arts, all three (3) of which shall be taken in grades nine (9) through twelve (12);

(B) Career-vocational education - instruction in career-vocational education, all three (3) of which shall be taken in grades nine (9) through twelve (12) and shall be sequenced in the same program area; or
(C) Foreign language – instruction in foreign language, all three (3) of which shall be taken in grades nine (9) through twelve (12) and provided that at least two (2) of the years shall be sequenced in the same foreign language. Instruction in the native language of the Eastern Shoshone or the Northern Arapaho Indian tribes, or instruction in American sign language may be taken in fulfillment of this subparagraph.

(g) In each odd-numbered year, the department, in consultation with the University of Wyoming, Wyoming community colleges and the community college commission, shall report to the governor and the joint education interim committee of the legislature on recommendations for modifications to the success curriculum requirements, minimum cumulative GPA and minimum national percentile rank scores or minimum cumulative WORKKEYS—career-technical aptitude assessment scores contained in this article and recommendations for the adoption of statewide student assessment standards and scores to augment qualifying national percentile rankings or WORKKEYS—career-technical aptitude assessment scores, all to ensure that the Hathaway scholarship program is designed to provide the desired
incentives for students to pursue a rigorous curriculum and strive to achieve academic success. The report shall also include any additional resources which school districts, particularly those school districts granted exemptions for students under paragraph (f)(ii) of this section, may require to provide the success curriculum. The cumulative GPA requirements for performance under the success curriculum shall not be restricted to those courses comprising the success curriculum, but shall be applied comprehensively to all courses included within each scholarship student's high school curriculum.

21-16-1308. Administration; rules and regulations.

(b) The department shall, in consultation with University of Wyoming and community college admissions officers, the Wyoming community college commission and financial aid officers and school districts, promulgate rules and regulations necessary to implement this article, including:

(iii) Criteria and procedures under which students in a home-based educational program can qualify for
scholarships under this article. A student in a home-based educational program:

(C) Who is otherwise eligible and who achieves the requisite minimum national percentile rank score or requisite cumulative WORKKEYS—career-technical aptitude assessment score shall be eligible for the scholarships provided under this article at the same level and to the same extent as students graduating from eligible high schools.

(c) The department shall establish annual reporting procedures for purposes of policy analysis and program evaluation and providing accurate data to the legislature and governor relative to the program's impact on the state and on students. In developing the annual reporting procedure the department shall consult with the University of Wyoming and community college financial aid officers and registrars or their designees. It is the intention of the legislature that the reporting system and the requirements thereof shall be applicable to all recipients of scholarships under this article. Compliance with this section shall be made a condition of receiving a scholarship under this article. For any student attending more than one (1) eligible institution,
the home institution shall be responsible for data reporting for that student, and any other eligible institution shall cooperate as necessary with the home institution to fulfill that duty. The reporting system shall include the following information:

(ii) Scholarships by students as they progress from semester to semester or other equivalent periods of time as may be applicable once enrolled at an eligible institution. The data shall be reported by institution attended, by the instructional program, and by scholarship category and shall include the percent of students losing scholarship eligibility due to not earning the minimum number of credit hours, the percent of students losing scholarship eligibility due to not having the required cumulative grade point average, the percent of students losing scholarship eligibility for failing to make satisfactory academic progress and the percentage of students losing scholarship eligibility for failing to enroll. The same information shall also be reported by categories showing those students qualifying through WORKKEYS—career-technical aptitude assessment scores and scores on high school equivalency certification, and by the
group of students who attended a home-based educational program and did not graduate from an eligible high school;

(vii) Statistical studies on the relationship between the courses taken and grades earned by a high school student and the student's score associated with the 2015-2016 national percentile rankings, on an examination administered throughout the United States and relied upon by institutions of higher education to determine acceptance of students for attendance or score on the WORKKEYS test career-technical aptitude assessment. Relative to public high schools, such statistical studies shall use student course and grade data that is otherwise available from the schools and such studies shall be conducted at no additional cost to the governing authority of any public high school;

Section 2. W.S. 21-16-1307(b)(v) and (vi) is repealed.

Section 3.

(a) The amendments to Hathaway scholarship eligibility under sections 1 and 2 of this act shall apply to high school
graduates graduating in school year 2019-2020 and continuing each school year thereafter.

(b) The success curriculum required to qualify for honor or performance scholarship eligibility under W.S. 21-16-1301 et seq. for students graduating from high school in the 2018-2019 school year shall be the success curriculum as provided in W.S. 21-16-1307(b) prior to its amendment by this act.

Section 4. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.