

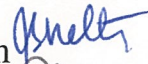



I Mina'trentai Singko Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
BILL STATUS

BILL NO.	SPONSOR	TITLE	DATE INTRODUCED	DATE REFERRED	CMTE REFERRED	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	FISCAL NOTES	NOTES
253-35 (COR)	Amanda L. Shelton Joe S. San Agustin Telena Cruz Nelson Tina Rose Muña Barnes	AN ACT TO AMEND §28202 OF CHAPTER 28 TITLE 17 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, BENEFITS FOR MERIT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS, RELATIVE TO GRANDFATHERING EXISTING MERIT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS FROM THE CHANGES IN BENEFITS MADE IN PUBLIC LAW 34-151 AND EXPANDING THE APPLICABILITY OF THE MERIT SCHOLARSHIP TO ENCOMPASS THE TOTAL COST OF ATTENDANCE TO ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF OUR MERIT SCHOLARS.	11/25/19 1:40 p.m.						

I MINA'TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2019 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No. 253-35 (LOR)

Introduced by:

Amanda L. Shelton 
Joe S. San Agustin 
Telena Cruz Nelson 
Tina Rose Muña Barnes 

**AN ACT TO AMEND §28202 OF CHAPTER 28 TITLE 17
GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, BENEFITS FOR MERIT
SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS, RELATIVE TO
GRANDFATHERING EXISTING MERIT
SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS FROM THE CHANGES IN
BENEFITS MADE IN PUBLIC LAW 34-151 AND
EXPANDING THE APPLICABILITY OF THE MERIT
SCHOLARSHIP TO ENCOMPASS THE TOTAL COST
OF ATTENDANCE TO ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF OUR
MERIT SCHOLARS.**

2019 NOV 25 PM 1:40 

1 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:**

2 **Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent.** *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds
3 that Public Law 34-151 was passed by *I Liheslatura* on December 17, 2018. This
4 law changed the Merit Scholarship benefit in law so that the Pell Grant awarded to
5 a student would apply first before the merit scholarship would pay the remaining
6 tuition and fees to scholarship recipients to the University of Guam. However, merit
7 scholarship students were not informed of the bill, public hearing, and subsequent
8 passage of the bill and change in their benefits until August 2019.

9 This change will significantly alter the financial situations for many merit
10 scholarship students who had signed a contract with certain financial aid formulation

1 in mind and planned and counted on a stable amount of benefit from their
2 scholarship. Their financial aid award was able to cover a variety of expenses that
3 surpassed that which the merit scholarship could provide. In addition to tuition and
4 fees, their financial aid award also covered books and supplies, room and board, and
5 transportation. With their financial aid award applying first, students may be unable
6 to pay for rent or transportation expenses incurred as they travel to and from the
7 university. Living situations aside, this also affects their graduate and doctoral
8 pursuits. Furthermore, to change the award distributed while maintaining the years
9 of service required without their consent is a clear violation of their contract.

10 Many students worked hard in high school in order to obtain this scholarship
11 with this benefit in mind. It is therefore the intention of *I Liheslatura* to have the
12 merit scholarship encompass the total cost of attendance to ensure that students on
13 the current benefit schedule may graduate with their expected benefit level.

14 **Section 2. Benefits.** §28202 of Chapter 28 Title 17 Guam Code Annotated
15 is hereby amended to read:

16 **“§28202. Benefits.**

17 Students entitled to awards pursuant to this Article shall receive the
18 following benefits:

19 (a) Tuition and Fees at the University of Guam. Tuition and fees for
20 each academic year will be paid by the Student Financial Assistance Fund
21 for a period of not more than four (4) years in an undergraduate program at
22 the University of Guam, except that new merit award recipients who sign the
23 contract beginning in the *Fanuchânan* Semester of 2020 and are eligible to
24 receive the Federal Pell Grant under 20 U.S.C. § 1070a of the Higher
25 Education Act of 1965, as amended, shall have their merit award applied
26 first to their tuition and fees for each academic year. Afterwards, their Pell
27 Grant will be applied first to their tuition and fees charges. Expenditure from

1 the Student Financial Assistance Fund shall be equal to the remaining
2 balance of a recipient's total cost of attendance as outlined in that student's
3 FAFSA after subtracting the recipient's Federal Pell Grant award for the
4 academic year.

5 (b) Stipend. Award recipients are entitled to a monthly stipend to be
6 disbursed in nine (9) monthly installments during the academic year, as
7 follows:

8 (1) First Year and Second Year Students: Three Hundred
9 Dollars (\$300.00) per month.

10 (2) Third Year and Fourth Year Students: Five Hundred Dollars
11 (\$500.00) per month.

12 (c) Allowance for Textbooks and School Supplies. Each student
13 receiving an award under this Article beginning with students who sign the
14 contact the *Fanuchanan* Semester of 2020 shall be entitled to an additional
15 Three Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$350.00) per semester for textbooks and
16 school supplies.

17 (d) Optional Inter-Session Allowed.

18 (1) Summer Semester. Each student shall be entitled to tuition
19 for full time enrollment, fees, and textbooks.

20 (2) Between Fall and Spring Semesters. Each student shall be
21 entitled for tuition for full time enrollment, fees, and textbooks.

22 Students attending inter-session between Fall and Spring Semesters
23 shall not be entitled to an additional stipend.