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HOUSE BILL 313

54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2019

INTRODUCED BY

Linda M. Trujillo

AN ACT

RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION; PROVIDING FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF
A FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE MODEL FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND
TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL INSTITUTES; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. A new section of the Community College Act is
enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM--MODEL.--

A. Santa Fe community college shall develop,
implement and evaluate a model for a "promise scholarship"
program that provides free tuition, fees and instructional
materials and mentoring and counseling for students in need of
financial assistance who attend a community college or
technical and vocational institute in New Mexico.

B. Full-time students eligible for a promise

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1 scholarship are those that:

2 (1) have been residents of the state for at
3 least one year;

4 (2) are in need of financial assistance; and

5 (3) are registered for at least twelve credit
6 hours in one of the college's associate degree programs during
7 a regular semester and at least six credit hours during the
8 summer semester.

9 C. The promise scholarship is a per-semester
10 scholarship, and the student must maintain a 2.5 grade point
11 average on a 4.0 point scale and register for at least twelve
12 credit hours per regular semester and at least six credit hours
13 per summer semester to continue to receive the scholarship.
14 The scholarship shall be coupled with academic counseling and
15 mentoring as needed by promise students.

16 D. Santa Fe community college shall develop promise
17 scholarship student qualifications, application procedures and
18 other processes to implement the model program. The model
19 shall be based on a maximum cohort of one hundred students who
20 receive promise scholarships.

21 E. The model shall include one- and two-year post-
22 graduation tracking data on promise scholarship students to
23 determine if promise scholarship students continued on to
24 receive a higher degree or are employed in their fields of
25 study.

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F. Santa Fe community college shall provide an initiation report and annual reports for the two years of implementation and a final report two years after the cohort's graduation from the community college on post-graduation success of the cohort."

SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.--Six hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$650,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the higher education department for expenditure in fiscal years 2020 and 2021 for Santa Fe community college to develop and implement a promise scholarship model that can be used statewide. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2021 shall revert to the general fund.