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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 2/6/2020

SPONSOR Ingle LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE ENMU Greyhound Promise Scholarships SB 199

ANALYST Hawker

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY20	FY21		
	\$300.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates House Bill 277

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Eastern New Mexico University (ENMU)
Higher Education Department (HED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 199 appropriates \$300 thousand from the general fund to Eastern New Mexico University for greyhound promise scholarships to cover the cost of attendance for teacher education students. Recipients are to be reflective of ENMU's student body ethnic and racial make up, have a minimum ACT score of 17 or the equivalent SAT score, a minimum high school grade point average of 2.75, and commit to teach in one or more of New Mexico's public schools for four years.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

New Mexico is experiencing a teacher shortage. According to ENMU: teacher candidates may be eligible for Pell grants or New Mexico lottery scholarships, but may not have enough aid to cover their cost of attendance. Teacher candidates cannot work during their final practice-teaching semester, thereby making financial assistance even more critical toward the end of their educational program.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

ENMU did not respond to SB199, however, they did respond to HB277 which is a duplicate. ENMU's information is taken from HB277's FIR.

In fiscal year 2020 \$100 thousand was appropriated to the greyhound promise scholarship. The greyhound promise scholarship covers the cost of attendance for teacher education students who:

- Pursue their first undergraduate degree in one of ENMU's teacher education programs.
- If they are a first-year student, they must have a minimum ACT score of 20 and 2.75 high school GPA.
- If they are a continuing, former or returning student, they must have a minimum of 30 earned college hours with a 2.75 cumulative college GPA.
- If they are a transfer student, they must have a minimum of 2 earned college hours with 2.75 cumulative college GPA.
- Signs annual program completion and teacher service agreements.
- Meets ENMU's Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy requirements for bachelor's degree seekers.

Students may receive the greyhound promise scholarship for up to eight consecutive semesters or receipt of their degree so long as they:

- Complete at least 15 hours per semester with a cumulative GPA of 2.75 or higher.
- Meet the requirements to remain in ENMU's Teacher Education program.
- Sign annual program completion and teacher service agreements.

ENMU notes under this bill, scholarship recipients must commit to four years of teaching, regardless of how many years of scholarship support they received. This service requirement, which mirrors the federal TEACH grant, has the potential to discourage student applications.

ENMU submitted a request to HED for \$100 thousand for the greyhound promise scholarship program.

HED notes the greyhound promise scholarship program is similar to teacher preparation programs administered by HED: grow your own teachers scholarship, teacher affordability scholarship and teacher loan for service. All address teacher shortages in New Mexico. There is no conflict between these programs and the ENMU greyhound promise scholarship.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

Performance will be assessed by the successful identification of eligible scholarship candidates and the retention of teacher candidates in to the program to degree completion and into New Mexico schools.

DUPLICATION

SB199 is a duplicate of HB277.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

ENMU suggests aligning the teaching service requirement with the actual scholarship award, for example two years of scholarship support would require two years of teaching in a New Mexico public school.

Currently eligible greyhound scholarship promise recipients include freshmen, transfer students and continuing ENMU students pursuing teacher education degrees. These student groups could be included in the bill for greater clarity.

This bill does not address the remedy to the state if the service component is not met.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

ENMU notes the monitoring and collection of scholarship funds when students do not fulfill the service requirements needs to be addressed, suggesting the collection protocol be approved by HED.

AMENDMENTS

ENMU suggests the following amendment:

Page 1, line 21 add after “education”: freshmen and transfer and continuing ENMU students with a cumulative grade point average of 2.75 and a commitment to teach

VKH/sb