

VSAC suggestions for amending S. 191  
02.07.2024(1)

S. 191

An act relating to New American Advancement Grant Applicants

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 16 V.S.A. § 2846 is amended to read:

§ 2846. ADVANCEMENT GRANTS

(a) The Corporation may establish an advancement grant program for residents pursuing nondegree education and training opportunities who do not meet the definition of student in subdivision 2822(3) of this title, and who may not meet the requirements of this subchapter.

(b) Advancement grants may be used at institutions that are not approved 19 postsecondary education institutions.

(c) The Corporation may adopt rules or establish policies, procedures, standards, and forms for advancement grants, including the requirements for applying for and using the grants and the eligibility requirements for the institutions where the grants may be used. Such rules shall be consistent with subsection (d) of this section.

(d) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, applicants who are persons described in section 2185(c) of this title\* refugees, asylees, asylum seekers, humanitarian parolees, or special immigrant visa holders shall not be ineligible for the advancement grant solely on account of the applicant's residency status under subdivision 2822(7) of this title. The Corporation shall establish policies, procedures, standards, or forms regarding required documentation for eligibility under this subsection.

Sec. 2. INCENTIVE AND ADVANCEMENT GRANT ELIGIBILITY; RESIDENCY

(a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, a person who qualifies for in-state tuition to the Community College of Vermont under 16 V.S.A. § 2185(c) shall not be ineligible for the Vermont incentive grant program under 16 V.S.A. §§ 2841–2844 solely on account of that person's residency status.

(b) This section is repealed on July 1, 2027.

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE This act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

\* 2185(c) For determination of residency for tuition to the Community College of Vermont, a person who resides in Vermont shall be considered a resident for in-state tuition purposes, beginning at the start of the next semester or academic period after arrival in Vermont, if that person:

(1) qualifies as a refugee pursuant to 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(42);

(2) is granted parole to enter the United States pursuant to 8 U.S.C. § 1182(d)(5); or

(3) is issued a special immigrant visa pursuant to the Afghan Allies Protection Act of 2009, as amended.

**Commented [TL1]:** 02.07.2024: The highlighted changes would clarify that this provision relates only to incentive grants and not to advancement grants (a limitation that was intended in S. 283 on 2022). The incentive grant piece is addressed in Section 1, above.

**Commented [TL2]:** This is the language of the Act 166 (2022, S. 283) section addressing residency for attendance at CCV. The reference to sections 2841-2846 covers both incentive grants and advancement grants.

**Commented [TL3]:** A three-year sunset will give VSAC time to see how the change is working and to compile useful data.