

I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN  
2011 (FIRST) REGULAR SESSION

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WLL

Bill No. 192 -31 (COV)

Introduced by:

Chris M. Dueñas 

AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 34102 TO CHAPTER 34 OF TITLE 17, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING A SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR ECONOMICALLY-DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS; PROVIDING FUNDING SOURCES FOR THE PROGRAM; AND, CITING THIS ACT AS THE “*GROWING GUAM’S WORK FORCE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.*”

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

2 Section 1. Legislative Intent. The Guam Community College offers a wide variety of  
3 technical, vocational and other occupational training and education-related courses aimed at  
4 developing educated and skilled workers for Guam. The “*Growing Guam’s Work Force Scholarship*  
5 *Program*” seeks to provide economically-disadvantaged students with the ability to experience post  
6 secondary education in the hopes that the students assisted will seek other financial means to remain  
7 in school and complete a certificate program. The emphasis of offering an enticement to experience  
8 higher education could be the difference between a person who needs to immediately work to  
9 support his family, and who cannot afford the costs to attend the Guam Community College, and a  
10 person who can be of greater benefit to his family with both an exposure to higher education and,  
11 perhaps, the job skills to become highly employable.

12 Section 2. A new § 34102 is added to Chapter 34 of Title 17, Guam Code Annotated  
13 to read:

14 “§ 34102. Growing Guam’s Work Force Scholarship Program, created. (a) There is  
15 hereby created the “*Growing Guam’s Work Force Scholarship Program.*” Awards granted under  
16 this Article shall be granted for AY2012-2013 and thereafter.

17 (b) Administration of Program. The Guam Community College Board of Trustees shall  
18 administer this program pursuant to § 34102 of this Chapter.

1           (c)     **Rules and Regulations.** All rules and regulations adopted *prior* to the enactment of  
2 this Article *shall* remain effective *unless* they are *amended or repealed* by the Board in a manner  
3 consistent with § 34102 of this Chapter.

4           (d)     **Selection Committee.** The President of Guam Community College *shall* annually  
5 establish an Evaluation and Selection Committee (the Committee).

6           The Committee *shall* conduct interviews for the purpose of selecting scholarship recipients  
7 under the programs listed within this Chapter. The passing of the oral interviews and the meeting of  
8 established Guam Community College entrance and academic requirements *shall* constitute the  
9 primary criteria for selection of scholarship recipients. The Board may prescribe additional  
10 qualifications for admission to the scholarship programs.

11           Applications for the *Growing Guam's Work Force Scholarship Program* *shall* be received by  
12 April 30 of every year and applicants *shall* be interviewed at a time and place designated by the  
13 Committee *prior* to June 30. Awards *shall* be granted *prior* to July 30 in a written notice to the  
14 selected applicant, and the applicant's school administrator, if applicable.

15           (e)     **Academic Advisor and Program Contract.** Each program scholarship recipient  
16 *shall* have an academic advisor who, with the student, *shall* develop a complete academic plan that  
17 would result in the granting of the applicable degree within the prescribed period of time. This plan  
18 *shall* be examined by the appropriate College official, as determined by the Board, and upon  
19 approval, *shall* constitute a contract between the student and the College.

20           (f)     **Scholarships.** The *Growing Guam's Work Force Scholarship Program* *shall* consist  
21 of students who have declared their intention to attend the Guam Community College. Scholarships  
22 may be awarded to eligible students who meet the following criteria:

23           (a)     *bona fide* residents of Guam;

24           (b)     citizens *or* permanent resident aliens of the United States;

25           (c)     seniors *or* graduates of an accredited high school with a cumulative grade point  
26 average of *not less than* 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, *or* its equivalent;

27           (d)     official acceptance to Guam Community College in accordance with its admissions  
28 policies;

29           (e)     must be in financial need, which shall be determined by regulations authorized  
30 by § 34102 of this Chapter. In addition, the applicant must complete a 'Free Application for  
31 Federal Student Aid' ('FAFSA') form as documentary evidence of need;

1           **(g) Same: Benefits.** (a) Students entitled to scholarships pursuant to § 34102 of this  
2 Chapter *shall* receive the following benefit: a scholarship in the amount of Five Thousand Dollars  
3 (\$5,000.00), issued in two (2) equal installments of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2500.00)  
4 each, with each installment payable at the beginning of the semester.

5           **(h). Reporting Requirements.** A report *shall* be submitted to the Speaker of *I*  
6 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* no later than three (3) weeks after the start of each semester which, at the  
7 very least, *shall* contain the following information: the total number of recipients for that semester,  
8 sorted by new and continuing recipients; the total number of recipients that completed their degree  
9 program in the *prior* semester; the total amount expended for the *prior* semester for any activity  
10 related to the program; and any other information that *I Liheslatura* will deem helpful in the review  
11 of the program.”

12           **Section 3. Funding Sources.** Funding to administer and conduct the program in this  
13 Article *may* come from any or all of the following sources:

- 14           (a) direct appropriation by *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* for the express purpose of funding the  
15 program created by this Article;
- 16           (b) public investments from GEDA’s Qualifying Certificate Program, not already  
17 dedicated for a particular use;
- 18           (c) company donations to a “Qualified Tuition Program, also known as a 529 program”  
19 made available to eligible employees for re-investment and development; and
- 20           (d) any other source of funding for which the use of money for the purposes herein is  
21 consistent with law.

22 The Program shall make every effort to award up to Five Hundred (500) scholarships annually.

23           **Section 4. Short Title.** This Act shall be known as the “*Growing Guam’s Work Force*  
24 *Scholarship Program*”.

25           **Section 5. Effective Date.** This Act shall be effective upon enactment.  
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