

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

Bill No. 193-31 (Cor)

Introduced by:

2011 MAY 11  
Chris M. Dueñas

**AN ACT TO ADD A NEW §44115 TO CHAPTER 44 OF TITLE 22, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, ESTABLISHING A SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR ECONOMICALLY-DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS SEEKING CAREERS IN THE CONSTRUCTION TRADES; PROVIDING FUNDING SOURCES FOR THE PROGRAM; AND, CITING THIS ACT AS THE “*BUILDING GUAM’S TRADES SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.*”**

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

**Section 1. Legislative Intent.** Guam is in need of a wide variety of trained, construction trade workers, to capture the employment opportunities that are forecasted to be available in the years to come with the military build up projects, and Guam’s organic growth. While training and instructional education courses, aimed at developing educated and skilled workers for Guam are available; the “*Building Guam’s Trades Scholarship Program*” seeks to provide economically-disadvantaged students with the ability to enroll in, and complete an apprenticeship program. The emphasis of offering such an enticement could be the difference between a person who needs to work immediately to support his family, and cannot afford the costs to participate in an apprenticeship program, and a person who can be of greater benefit to his family with both an exposure to apprenticeship training and, upon successfully completing the training, to possess the requisite job skills to become highly employable.

**Section 2. A new § 44115 is added to Chapter 44 of Title 22, Guam Code Annotated.**

**“§ 44115 Building Guam’s Trades Scholarship Program. (a)** There is hereby created the “*Building Guam’s Trades Scholarship Program*” (hereinafter the ‘*Program*’).

**(b) Administration of Program.** The Director of Labor *shall* administer this program and shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary to carry out the intent of this Section.

1           (c)     **Selection Committee.** There *shall* be annually established, an Evaluation and  
2 Selection Committee (the Committee) composed of the following:

3           (1) The Executive Director of the Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority, or his  
4 designee ;

5           (2) The Director of the Department of Public Health and Social Services, or his designee;

6           (3) The Director of the Department of Youth Affairs, or his designee;

7           (4) The Director of the Agency for Human Resource Development, or his designee ; and,

8           (5) The Director of the Department of Labor, or his designee.

9           The Committee *shall* conduct interviews for the purpose of selecting scholarship recipients  
10 for the program listed within this Section. Passing oral interviews, meeting established entrance and  
11 academic requirements for enrollment in a institution of higher education on Guam, and a  
12 demonstrated financial need *shall* constitute the primary criteria for selection of scholarship  
13 recipients. The Board may also prescribe additional qualifications for admission to the scholarship  
14 programs.

15           Applications for the “*Building Guam’s Trades Scholarship Program*” *shall* be received by  
16 April 30 of every year. Applicants *shall* be interviewed at a time and place designated by the  
17 Committee *prior* to June 30. Awards *shall* be granted *prior* to July 30 in a written notice to the  
18 selected applicant, and the applicant’s school administrator, if applicable.

19           (d)     **Scholarships.** The “*Building Guam’s Trades Scholarship Program*” *shall* consist of  
20 students who have declared their intention to attend an institution of higher education. Scholarships  
21 may be awarded to eligible students who meet the following criteria:

22           (1)     Are *bona fide* residents of Guam;

23           (2)     Are citizens *or* permanent resident aliens of the United States;

24           (3)     Are seniors *or* graduates of an accredited high school with a cumulative grade point  
25 average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, *or* its equivalent;

26           (4)     Have been admitted to an institution of higher education on Guam, in accordance  
27 with its admissions policies;

28           (5)     The applicant must be in financial need, which shall be determined by completing  
29 a ‘Free Application for Federal Student Aid’ (‘FAFSA’) form;

30           (e)     **Same: Benefits.** Students entitled to scholarships pursuant to item (d) of this

1 Section *shall* receive the following benefit: a scholarship in the amount of Five Thousand Dollars  
2 (\$5,000.00), issued in two (2) equal installments of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2500.00)  
3 each, with each installment payable at the beginning of the semester, or other applicable training  
4 period.

5 **(f). 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* might deem helpful in the  
11 review 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 specific purpose of funding the  
15 program created by this Article;
- 16 (b) Tax credits for Apprenticeship Program Participants, as authorized under § 44108 of  
17 Chapter 44, Title 22, Guam Code Annotated;
- 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 “*Building Guam’s Trades*  
24 *Scholarship Program*”.

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