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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that national and Hawaii  
2 analyses indicate that low-income students, even the highest  
3 academic achieving ones, are significantly less likely to  
4 participate in post-secondary education compared with their more  
5 affluent peers. A major obstacle to their enrollment in post-  
6 secondary education is a lack of academic preparation that is  
7 motivated, in part, by the misperception that college tuition is  
8 exorbitant and that the cost must be paid out-of-pocket.

9           The GEAR UP scholars program in Hawaii and other similar  
10 programs demonstrate the success of programs that provide  
11 college scholarships as an incentive for students to pledge to  
12 prepare themselves early for college.

13           The purpose of this Act is to further encourage Hawaii  
14 residents to pursue post-secondary education by appropriating  
15 funds for the B Plus scholarship program and changing the  
16 program's eligibility criteria.



1 SECTION 2. Act 178, Session Laws of Hawaii 2005, as  
2 amended by section 5 of Act 257, Session Laws of Hawaii 2006, is  
3 amended by amending section 57 to read as follows:

4 "SECTION 57. Provided that of the general fund  
5 appropriation for the University of Hawaii systemwide (UOH 900),  
6 the sum of [~~\$500,000~~] \$1,500,000, or so much thereof as may be  
7 necessary for fiscal year [~~2005-2006~~] 2007-2008, and the sum of  
8 [~~\$1,000,000~~] \$2,000,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary  
9 for fiscal year [~~2006-2007,~~] 2008-2009; provided further that  
10 [~~the~~]:

11 (1) The amounts shall be used to fund the B Plus  
12 scholarship program; [~~provided further that the~~]

13 (2) The university shall offer scholarships to any Hawaii  
14 resident who:

15 [~~(1)~~] (A) Enrolls in any campus within the university  
16 system;

17 [~~(2)~~] (B) Has graduated from a Hawaii public high school  
18 with a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or  
19 better[+] and has completed a rigorous high school  
20 curriculum; and

21 [~~(3)~~] (C) Is eligible for need-based financial aid based on  
22 federal financial aid guidelines;



1        (3) Priority for scholarships shall be given to a student  
2        who has pledged, via an early intervention program, to  
3        meet the requirements of the B Plus scholarship  
4        program; and [~~provided further that the~~]

5        (4) The scholarship may be renewed annually if the student  
6        maintains satisfactory academic progress and continues  
7        to meet financial aid guidelines."

8        SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
9 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

10       SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.



**Report Title:**

UH; B Plus Scholarship Program

**Description:**

Appropriates funds for the B Plus scholarship program for fiscal years 2007-2008 and 2008-2009 and changes the program's eligibility criteria. (SD1)

