

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2025

H.B. 667
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HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH40371-MTa-12

Short Title: Reduce Barriers to College Completion.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representative Cervania.

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT TO PROVIDE IN-STATE TUITION FOR CERTAIN CHILDREN OF LAWFULLY
ADMITTED OR LAWFULLY PRESENT NONCITIZENS.

Whereas, it is projected that by 2030, sixty-seven percent (67%) of jobs will require a postsecondary degree or credential, underscoring the importance of the educational attainment goal in North Carolina to have two million North Carolinians between the ages of 25 and 44 with a postsecondary degree or credential by 2030; and

Whereas, on its current trajectory, North Carolina will fall short by at least 71,000 individuals to meet our projected workforce needs; and

Whereas, over eighty percent (80%) of employers in the State reported difficulty finding employees for jobs requiring industry-valued credentials; and

Whereas, jobs requiring industry-valued credentials are expected to increase by more than eleven percent (11%) in the next six years; and

Whereas, children of H-1B visa holders who are lawfully admitted or lawfully present and documented residents receive in-State tuition until they are 21 years old and are not yet finished with their four-year degrees; and

Whereas, immigrant households contribute hundreds of billions of dollars in federal, State, and local taxes that fund our public universities; and

Whereas, North Carolina must increase the number of postsecondary-, public-university-educated individuals so the State can have more potential employees entering the workforce with industry-valued credentials; Now, therefore,

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 116-143.1 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

"(i1) A person who was lawfully admitted to this State or is lawfully present in this State and meets all of the following requirements is eligible to be charged the in-State tuition rate:

(1) Has a parent or legal guardian who meets all of the following criteria:

a. Was lawfully admitted to the United States or is lawfully present in the United States.

b. Is not a citizen of the United States.

c. Holds a valid H-1B visa or L-1 visa.

(2) Meets all of the following criteria:

a. Either of the following:

1. Holds a valid H4 visa.

2. All of the following:



- 1 I. Is continuously enrolled at an institution of higher
2 education, including any approved leave of absence
3 from the institution.
4 II. Held a valid H4 visa at some point during the period of
5 continuous enrollment.
6 III. Was classified as a resident for tuition purposes at some
7 point during the period of continuous enrollment.
8 b. Establishes domicile in this State under this section."
9 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with
10 the 2025-2026 academic year.