

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2021

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SENATE BILL 212

Short Title: Bennett College Accredit./Private Need-Based. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Robinson and Davis (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

March 10, 2021

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO CLARIFY ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS FOR BENNETT COLLEGE  
3 FOR THE NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS ATTENDING PRIVATE  
4 INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 116-280(3) reads as rewritten:

7 "(3) Eligible private postsecondary institution. – A school that is any of the  
8 following:

9 a. A nonprofit postsecondary educational institution with a main  
10 permanent campus located in this State that is not owned or operated  
11 by the State of North Carolina or by an agency or political subdivision  
12 of the State or by any combination thereof that satisfies all of the  
13 following:

14 1. Is either (i) accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges  
15 and Schools under the standards of the College Delegate  
16 Assembly of the Association Commission on Colleges  
17 (SACSCOC) or by the New England Association of Schools  
18 and Colleges through its Commission on Institutions of Higher  
19 Education. Education or (ii) was accredited by SACSCOC on  
20 January 1, 2021, and, beginning January 1, 2021, was a  
21 member of the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges  
22 and Schools.

23 2. Awards a postsecondary degree as defined in G.S. 116-15.

24 b. A postsecondary institution owned or operated by a hospital authority  
25 as defined in G.S. 131E-16(14) or school of nursing affiliated with a  
26 nonprofit postsecondary educational institution as defined in  
27 sub-subdivision a. of this subsection."

28 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with  
29 scholarships awarded for the 2021-2022 academic year.

