

§§1,2 -  
C.18A:6-8.5 &  
18A:6-8.6  
§3 - Note

P.L.2010, CHAPTER 13, *approved May 6, 2010*  
Senate, No. 826

1 AN ACT concerning certain benefits for school district employees  
2 and supplementing chapter 6 of Title 18A of the New Jersey  
3 Statutes.

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5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
6 of New Jersey:

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8 1. In order for a board of education to provide to an employee  
9 tuition assistance for coursework taken at an institution of higher  
10 education or additional compensation upon the acquisition of  
11 additional academic credits or completion of a degree program at an  
12 institution of higher education:

13 a. The institution shall be a duly authorized institution of  
14 higher education as defined in section 3 of P.L.1986, c.87  
15 (C.18A:3-15.3);

16 b. The employee shall obtain approval from the superintendent  
17 of schools prior to enrollment in any course for which tuition  
18 assistance is sought. In the event that the superintendent denies the  
19 approval, the employee may appeal the denial to the board of  
20 education.

21 In the case of a superintendent, the approval shall be obtained  
22 from the board of education; and

23 c. The tuition assistance or additional compensation shall be  
24 provided only for a course or degree related to the employee's  
25 current or future job responsibilities.

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27 2. Nothing in this act shall be construed to limit the authority  
28 of a board of education to establish more stringent requirements for  
29 the provision of tuition assistance or additional compensation than  
30 the requirements set forth in section 1 of P.L. , c. (C. )  
31 (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

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33 3. This act shall take effect on July 1 of the school year next  
34 following the date of enactment, except that this act shall not be  
35 deemed to impair an obligation set forth in a collective negotiations  
36 agreement or an individual contract of employment in effect on the  
37 effective date.

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STATEMENT

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41 This bill requires that in order for a board of education to provide  
42 its employees tuition assistance for academic coursework at an

1 institution of higher education or additional compensation upon the  
2 acquisition of additional academic credits or completion of a degree  
3 program at an institution of higher education:

4 1) The institution of higher education must be a “duly  
5 authorized institution of higher education,” which is defined in  
6 State law at section 3 of P.L.1986, c.87 (C.18A:3-15.3);

7 2) The employee must obtain approval from the superintendent  
8 of schools prior to enrollment in any course for which tuition  
9 assistance is sought. In the event that the superintendent denies the  
10 approval, the employee may appeal the denial to the board of  
11 education. In the case of a superintendent of schools, the approval  
12 must be obtained from the board of education; and,

13 3) The course or degree must be related to the employee’s  
14 current or future job responsibilities.

15 The bill provides that a board of education may establish more  
16 stringent requirements for the provision of tuition assistance or  
17 additional compensation than are set forth in the bill.

18 The bill would become effective on July 1 of the school year  
19 next following the date of enactment. However, the bill’s  
20 provisions will not be deemed to impair an obligation set forth in  
21 any collective negotiations agreement or any individual contract of  
22 employment in effect on that July 1.

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28 Requires certain conditions be met in order for school districts to  
29 provide their employees with tuition assistance for coursework or  
30 additional compensation upon acquisition of academic credits or  
completion of a degree program.