



Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC)
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MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 1, 2021

TO: The Honorable Members of the Delaware General Assembly

FROM: Ann C. Fisher, Chairperson
GACEC

RE: Senate Bill No. 12 Expansion of the Student Excellence Equals Degree (SEED) Program

The Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC) has reviewed Senate Bill No. 12, which will expand the Delaware Student Excellence Equals Degree (SEED) Act to allow the inclusion of adult Delaware residents who are not recent high school graduates. The sponsor of the legislation believes the expansion of the SEED program will encourage adult learners to return to school to enhance their knowledge, their marketable skills and increase their employment opportunities. Council supports the proposed expansion.

Adult individuals with a high school diploma or less education were significantly impacted by COVID-19-related job loss. This legislation can help to alleviate the effects of the pandemic on these adults.

Students who qualify for the expanded program will not have to repay the State because payments under this program will be grants, not loans.

Council supports expanding the Delaware Student Excellence Equals Degree (SEED) program legislation for these reasons.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration of our endorsement and observations. Please feel free to contact me or Pam Weir at the GACEC office should you have any questions.