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HOUSE BILL 209

48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2007

INTRODUCED BY

Nathan P. Cote

AN ACT

RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION; ALLOWING MILITARY DEPENDENTS
STATIONED IN NEW MEXICO WHO GRADUATE FROM A NEW MEXICO HIGH
SCHOOL TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR LOTTERY TUITION SCHOLARSHIPS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 21-1-4.3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1996,
Chapter 71, Section 3, as amended) is amended to read:

"21-1-4.3. TUITION SCHOLARSHIPS AUTHORIZED--CERTAIN
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.--

A. To the extent that funds are made available by
the legislature from the lottery tuition fund, the boards of
regents of New Mexico state university, New Mexico institute of
mining and technology, eastern New Mexico university, western
New Mexico university, the university of New Mexico, New Mexico
highlands university and northern New Mexico [~~state school~~]

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1 college shall award tuition scholarships for qualified resident
2 students attending their respective institutions and branches
3 of those institutions.

4 B. Except as otherwise authorized in [~~Subsection C~~
5 ~~of~~] this section, the tuition scholarships authorized in this
6 section shall apply only to full-time resident students who,
7 immediately upon completion of a high school curriculum at a
8 public or accredited private New Mexico high school or upon
9 receiving a graduate equivalent diploma, are accepted for
10 entrance to and attend one of the state educational
11 institutions set forth in this section or one of the branches
12 of those institutions. Each tuition scholarship shall be
13 awarded for up to four consecutive years beginning the second
14 semester of the recipient's first year of enrollment, provided
15 that the recipient has maintained residency in New Mexico and
16 maintained a grade point average of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0
17 scale during [~~his~~] the first semester of full-time enrollment.

18 C. The tuition scholarships authorized in this
19 section shall also apply to full-time resident students who,
20 immediately upon completion of a high school curriculum at a
21 public or accredited private New Mexico high school or upon
22 receiving a graduate equivalent diploma, attend a two-year
23 public post-secondary educational institution in New Mexico and
24 who, upon the completion of that curriculum or at the end of
25 two years, whichever is sooner, transfer to one of the post-

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1 secondary state educational institutions set forth in this
2 section. Those students shall be eligible for a tuition
3 scholarship for two consecutive years, provided that those
4 students maintain residency in New Mexico, maintain a grade
5 point average of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale and attend the
6 institution full time during the regular academic year.

7 D. The tuition scholarships authorized in this
8 section shall also apply to full-time resident students who:

9 (1) within one hundred twenty days of
10 completion of a high school curriculum at a public or
11 accredited private New Mexico high school, or of receiving a
12 graduate equivalent diploma, begin service in the United States
13 armed forces; and

14 (2) within one hundred twenty days of
15 completion of honorable service or medical discharge from the
16 service are accepted for entrance to and attend one of the
17 state educational institutions set forth in this section.

18 E. The tuition scholarships authorized in this
19 section shall also apply to full-time students who completed a
20 high school curriculum at a public or accredited private New
21 Mexico high school and who were attending that high school
22 because their parents were in the armed services of the United
23 States and stationed in New Mexico, although the parents may
24 maintain a permanent home of record in another state. For
25 purposes of eligibility for tuition scholarships, such students

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1 shall be considered New Mexico residents and shall meet the
2 requirements of Subsection B of this section to receive tuition
3 scholarships.

4 ~~[E.]~~ F. The ~~[commission on]~~ higher education
5 department shall prepare guidelines setting forth explicit
6 student continuing eligibility criteria and guidelines for
7 administration of the tuition scholarship program. Guidelines
8 shall be distributed to the board of regents of each
9 institution to enable a uniform availability of the resident
10 student tuition scholarships."

11 Section 2. Section 21-13-10 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1963,
12 Chapter 17, Section 9, as amended) is amended to read:

13 "21-13-10. BOARD DUTIES.--

14 A. It is the duty of the community college board to
15 determine financial and educational policies of the community
16 college. The community college board shall provide for the
17 management of the community college and execution of these
18 policies by selecting a competent president for the community
19 college, and, upon the president's recommendation, the board
20 shall employ other administrative personnel, instructional
21 staff or other personnel as may be needed for the operation,
22 maintenance and administration of the community college.

23 B. The community college board shall have the power
24 to fix tuition and fee rates for resident and nonresident
25 students of the community college district, to accept gifts, to

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1 accept federal aid, to purchase, hold, sell and rent property
2 and equipment and to promote the general welfare of the
3 institution for the best interest of educational service to the
4 people of the community college district.

5 C. To the extent that funds are made available by
6 the legislature from the lottery tuition fund, the community
7 college board shall award tuition scholarships for qualified
8 resident students attending their respective institutions.

9 D. The tuition scholarships authorized in this
10 section shall apply only to full-time resident students who,
11 immediately upon completion of a high school curriculum at a
12 public or accredited private New Mexico high school or upon
13 receiving a graduate equivalent diploma, are accepted for
14 entrance to and attend a community college. For the purposes
15 of this subsection, "full-time resident students" includes
16 students who completed a high school curriculum at a public or
17 accredited private New Mexico high school and who were
18 attending that high school because their parents were in the
19 armed services of the United States and stationed in New
20 Mexico, although the parents may maintain a permanent home of
21 record in another state. Each tuition scholarship shall be
22 awarded for up to two consecutive years beginning the second
23 semester of the recipient's first year of enrollment, provided
24 that the recipient has maintained residency in New Mexico and
25 maintained a grade point average of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0

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1 scale during [~~his~~] the first semester of full-time enrollment.

2 E. The [~~commission on~~] higher education department
3 shall prepare guidelines setting forth explicit student
4 continuing eligibility criteria and guidelines for
5 administration of the tuition scholarship program. Guidelines
6 shall be distributed to community college boards to enable a
7 uniform availability of the resident student tuition
8 scholarships."

9 Section 3. Section 21-16-10.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1996,
10 Chapter 71, Section 6, as amended) is amended to read:

11 "21-16-10.1. TUITION SCHOLARSHIPS AUTHORIZED.--

12 A. To the extent that funds are made available by
13 the legislature from the lottery tuition fund, the board of a
14 technical and vocational institute shall award tuition
15 scholarships for qualified resident students attending a
16 technical and vocational institute.

17 B. The tuition scholarships authorized in this
18 section shall apply only to full-time resident students who,
19 immediately upon completion of a high school curriculum at a
20 public or accredited private New Mexico high school or upon
21 receiving a graduate equivalent diploma, are accepted for
22 entrance to and attend a technical and vocational institute.
23 For the purposes of this subsection, "full-time resident
24 students" includes students who completed a high school
25 curriculum at a public or accredited private New Mexico high

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1 school and who were attending that high school because their
2 parents were in the armed services of the United States and
3 stationed in New Mexico, although the parents may maintain a
4 permanent home of record in another state. Each tuition
5 scholarship shall be awarded for up to two consecutive years
6 beginning the second semester of the recipient's first year of
7 enrollment, provided that the recipient has maintained
8 residency in New Mexico and maintained a grade point average of
9 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale during [~~his~~] the first semester of
10 full-time enrollment with renewal of an additional two years
11 upon transfer.

12 C. The [~~commission on~~] higher education department
13 shall prepare guidelines setting forth explicit student
14 continuing eligibility criteria and guidelines for
15 administration of the tuition scholarship program. Guidelines
16 shall be distributed to the boards of technical and vocational
17 institutes to enable a uniform availability of the resident
18 student tuition scholarships."

19 Section 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the
20 provisions of this act is July 1, 2007.

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