

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

HOUSE BILL 27

**51ST LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2013**

INTRODUCED BY

Sheryl Williams Stapleton

AN ACT

RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION; EXTENDING LOTTERY SCHOLARSHIP  
ELIGIBILITY TO STUDENTS WHO ARE ACCEPTED TO A STATE HIGHER  
EDUCATION INSTITUTION WITHIN TWO YEARS OF COMPLETION OF HIGH  
SCHOOL CURRICULUM, RECEIPT OF GRADUATE EQUIVALENT DIPLOMA OR  
COMPLETION OF HONORABLE SERVICE OR MEDICAL DISCHARGE FROM  
SERVICE IN THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES.

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. LEGISLATIVE LOTTERY 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  
.190362.1

underscoring material = new  
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

underscored material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

1 mining and technology, eastern New Mexico university, western  
2 New Mexico university, the university of New Mexico, New Mexico  
3 highlands university and northern New Mexico college shall  
4 award legislative lottery scholarships for tuition for  
5 qualified resident students attending their respective  
6 institutions and branches of those institutions.

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

21 C. The legislative lottery scholarships authorized  
22 in this section shall also apply to full-time resident students  
23 who, immediately upon completion of a high school curriculum at  
24 a public or accredited private New Mexico high school or upon  
25 receiving a graduate equivalent diploma, attend a two-year

.190362.1

underscored material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

1 public post-secondary educational institution in New Mexico and  
2 who, upon the completion of that curriculum or at the end of  
3 two years, whichever is sooner, transfer to one of the post-  
4 secondary state educational institutions set forth in this  
5 section. Those students shall be eligible for a legislative  
6 lottery scholarship for two consecutive years if they maintain  
7 residency in New Mexico, maintain a grade point average of 2.5  
8 or higher on a 4.0 scale and attend the institution full time  
9 during the regular academic year.

10 D. The legislative lottery scholarships authorized  
11 in this section shall also apply to full-time resident students  
12 who:

13 (1) within [~~one hundred twenty days~~] two years  
14 of completion of a high school curriculum at a public or  
15 accredited private New Mexico high school, or of receiving a  
16 graduate equivalent diploma, begin service in the United States  
17 armed forces; and

18 (2) within [~~one year~~] two years of completion  
19 of honorable service or medical discharge from the service,  
20 attend one of the state educational institutions set forth in  
21 this section.

22 E. The higher education department shall prepare  
23 guidelines setting forth explicit student continuing  
24 eligibility criteria and guidelines for administration of the  
25 legislative lottery scholarship program. Guidelines shall be

.190362.1

underscored material = new  
~~[bracketed material]~~ = delete

1 distributed to the board of regents of each institution to  
2 enable a uniform availability of the resident student  
3 legislative lottery scholarships.

4 F. For purposes of the legislative lottery  
5 scholarship program as it applies to students with  
6 disabilities who may require special accommodations, the  
7 higher education department, in consultation with the student  
8 and the office at the institution that serves students with  
9 disabilities, shall review both the definition of "full time"  
10 and the maximum number of consecutive semesters of  
11 eligibility and adjust either or both as deemed reasonable  
12 and appropriate, based on the student's disability needs. In  
13 no case, however, shall "full time" mean fewer than six  
14 credit hours per semester, and in no case shall eligibility  
15 extend beyond fourteen consecutive semesters."