

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0192

Military scholarships.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Brechtel and Lockhart and  
Senator(s) Perkins

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to defense forces and affairs; establishing  
2 a scholarship for members of the military forces who serve  
3 on certain United State vessels as specified; imposing  
4 administrative duties on the Wyoming community college  
5 commission and providing rulemaking authority; providing an  
6 appropriation; and providing for effective dates.

7

8 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

9

10 **Section 1.** W.S. 19-17-101 is created to read:

11

CHAPTER 17

12

EDUCATIONAL AID FOR MILITARY FORCES

13

14

15 **19-17-101. Educational aid for military forces.**

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1           (a) Upon application in accordance with subsection  
2           (c) of this section, a citizen of the United States who has  
3           served with the military forces of the United States as  
4           specified in this subsection is eligible to receive a  
5           scholarship for five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per academic  
6           year to pursue a degree or certificate at a Wyoming public  
7           post secondary educational institution or a private post  
8           secondary educational institution licensed to operate in  
9           Wyoming under W.S. 21-2-401 through 21-2-407, if the person  
10          has served:

11

12                   (i) As a member of the military forces on a  
13           United States vessel which is named for the state of  
14           Wyoming or one (1) of the political subdivisions of the  
15           state of Wyoming; and

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17                   (ii) A total of at least forty-eight (48) months  
18           on the vessel.

19

20           (b) No person shall be eligible for a scholarship  
21           under this section for more than four (4) academic years  
22           and shall not be eligible for more than six (6) academic  
23           years from the time a scholarship is first awarded under  
24           this section. As used in this section, "academic year"

1 shall constitute two (2) consecutive semesters or terms of  
2 full-time enrollment.

3

4 (c) Eligible persons shall apply for scholarships  
5 under this section with the eligible post secondary  
6 educational institution of enrollment at the time of  
7 applying for admission or prior to the beginning of the  
8 semester for which the scholarship is to be applied at that  
9 post secondary educational institution. The application  
10 shall contain information required by rule and regulation  
11 of the Wyoming community college commission and shall  
12 require each applicant to:

13

14 (i) Verify under penalty of false swearing under  
15 W.S. 6-5-303, that the applicant has not been convicted of  
16 a felony in this state or another jurisdiction; and

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18 (ii) Provide proof of service in the military  
19 forces as required under this section.

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21 (d) The community college commission shall reimburse  
22 each post secondary educational institution for the costs  
23 of each scholarship awarded under this section. Not less  
24 than fifty percent (50%) of the reimbursement shall be made

1 prior to the last day of the first semester of the academic  
2 year for which the scholarship is awarded. The balance of  
3 the scholarship shall be reimbursed to the appropriate  
4 institution prior to the close of the second semester of  
5 that academic year. If insufficient funds are  
6 appropriated, the reimbursement shall be proportionally  
7 reduced based on tuition and fee expenses. The commission  
8 shall promulgate rules and regulations for the  
9 implementation of the scholarship authorized by this  
10 section, including the reimbursement process for  
11 appropriate post secondary educational institutions.

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13 **Section 2.** The Wyoming community college commission  
14 shall promulgate rules and regulations implementing W.S.  
15 19-17-101 as created by section 1 of this act in sufficient  
16 time to enable application for scholarships during the  
17 2009-2010 academic year. In addition, the commission shall  
18 consult the Wyoming military department in establishing an  
19 application process under W.S. 19-17-101 as created by  
20 section 1 of this act and in notifying eligible persons of  
21 the scholarship program.

22

23 **Section 3.** There is appropriated fifty thousand  
24 dollars (\$50,000.00) from the general fund to the community

1 college commission for the period beginning with the  
2 effective date of this section and ending June 30, 2010.  
3 This appropriation shall only be expended for the purpose  
4 of providing reimbursement to educational institutions as  
5 provided in W.S. 19-17-101(d) created under this act.  
6 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this  
7 appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any  
8 other purpose.

9

10 **Section 4.**

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12 (a) Except for subsection (b) of this section, this  
13 act is effective July 1, 2009; and

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15 (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section,  
16 sections 2 and 3 of this act are effective immediately upon  
17 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law  
18 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming  
19 Constitution.

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(END)