

ENROLLED ACT NO. 57, SENATE

FIFTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING
2006 BUDGET SESSION

AN ACT relating to peace officers and emergency medical technicians; providing tuition free post-secondary education for specified dependents of peace officers and emergency medical technicians who die in the line of duty; providing for the applicability of the act; and providing for an effective date.

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

Section 1. W.S. 7-2-108 and 33-36-114 are created to read:

7-2-108. Free tuition and fees for education of survivors of deceased peace officers.

(a) The University of Wyoming for up to ten (10) semesters and each community college for up to a total of six (6) semesters of study at the community college level shall provide free tuition and fees for any person who is a surviving dependent of a peace officer who has qualified pursuant to W.S. 9-1-701 through 9-1-709 and who died while acting within the scope of his duties in the service of a law enforcement agency in the state. If the surviving dependent first enrolls in a community college and then transfers to another community college or the University of Wyoming, the free tuition and fees shall continue until the dependent has completed a cumulative total of ten (10) semesters at the community college level and the university, not to exceed six (6) semesters at the community college level.

(b) In order to qualify for the benefit under this section, a person claiming eligibility for free tuition and fees under this section shall be under twenty-two (22) years of age at the time of the death of the parent or

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other person responsible for the support of the applicant. Upon application by a person claiming eligibility for free tuition and fees under this section because of the death of a parent or legal guardian, the university or community college where the person applied for enrollment shall:

(i) Determine whether the decedent was an individual specified in subsection (a) of this section;

(ii) Determine whether the decedent died while acting within the scope of his duties; and

(iii) Certify whether the person claiming eligibility for free tuition and fees under this section is qualified to receive free tuition and fees under this section.

(c) A person who had qualified for free tuition and fees under subsection (b) of this section, shall be deemed eligible for the free tuition and fees at any other community college or the University of Wyoming up to the maximum number of semesters of study allowed under subsection (a) of this section, if the person transfers to another institution specified in subsection (a) of this section.

(d) For purposes of paragraph (b)(ii) of this section, it shall be conclusively presumed that the decedent died while acting within the scope of duties if death benefits were paid as a result of the death to any person pursuant to the Wyoming Worker's Compensation Act.

(e) By the end of the spring semester completing the student's third or fourth semester of attendance, the student shall have a cumulative grade point average of at least two point zero (2.0) and shall maintain a cumulative

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grade point average of at least two point zero (2.0) at the end of each subsequent spring semester to continue to receive the free tuition and fees.

33-36-114. Free tuition and fees for education of survivors of deceased emergency medical technicians.

(a) The University of Wyoming for up to ten (10) semesters and each community college for up to a total of six (6) semesters of study at the community college level shall provide free tuition and fees for any person who is a surviving dependent of a paid or volunteer emergency medical technician who died while acting within the scope of his duties in the service of a paid or volunteer ambulance service located in Wyoming, when responding at the request of a public agency to assist in a civil or military emergency, or natural or human caused disaster. If the surviving dependent first enrolls in a community college and then transfers to another community college or the University of Wyoming, the free tuition and fees shall continue until the dependent has completed a cumulative total of ten (10) semesters at the community college level and the university, not to exceed six (6) semesters at the community college level.

(b) In order to qualify for the benefit under this section, a person claiming eligibility for free tuition and fees under this section shall be under twenty-two (22) years of age at the time of the death of the parent or other person responsible for the support of the applicant. Upon application by a person claiming eligibility for free tuition and fees under this section because of the death of a parent or legal guardian, the university or community college where the person applied for enrollment shall:

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(i) Determine whether the decedent was an individual specified in subsection (a) of this section;

(ii) Determine whether the decedent died while acting within the scope of his duties as specified in subsection (a) of this section; and

(iii) Certify whether the person claiming eligibility for free tuition and fees under this section is qualified to receive free tuition and fees under this section.

(c) A person who had qualified for free tuition and fees under subsection (b) of this section, shall be deemed eligible for the free tuition and fees at any other community college or the University of Wyoming up to the maximum number of semesters of study allowed under subsection (a) of this section, if the person transfers to another institution specified in subsection (a) of this section.

(d) For purposes of paragraph (b)(ii) of this section, it shall be conclusively presumed that the decedent died while acting within the scope of duties if death benefits were paid as a result of the death to any person pursuant to the Wyoming Worker's Compensation Act.

(e) By the end of the spring semester completing the student's third or fourth semester of attendance, the student shall have a cumulative grade point average of at least two point zero (2.0) and shall maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least two point zero (2.0) at the end of each subsequent spring semester to continue to receive the free tuition and fees.

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Section 2. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

(END)

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Governor

TIME APPROVED: _____

DATE APPROVED: _____

I hereby certify that this act originated in the Senate.

Chief Clerk