

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0176

Veterans tuition waiver program requirements.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Walters and Nicholas, B.
and Senator(s) Landen and Perkins

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to veterans; specifying additional
2 requirements for eligibility under the veterans tuition
3 waiver program; and providing for an effective date.

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

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7 **Section 1.** W.S. 19-14-106(a)(ii)(C), (b), (f) and (g)
8 is amended to read:

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10 **19-14-106. Free tuition and fees for education of war**
11 **orphans and veterans; definitions.**

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13 (a) As used in this section:

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15 (ii) "Vietnam veteran" means any person who:

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(C) Is a graduate of a Wyoming high school or resident of Wyoming at the time of attaining a high school equivalency certificate and has been a resident of Wyoming for not less than one (1) year.

(b) The state or any political educational subdivision shall provide free tuition, matriculation and other fees to all eligible persons who are graduates of a Wyoming high school or were residents of ~~this state~~ Wyoming at the time of attaining a high school equivalency certificate and who are attending or may attend ~~any state institutions in elementary, secondary and college grades, business colleges, state vocational training schools or other educational institutions of this state where courses of instruction are provided in subjects which would tend to enable the eligible persons to engage in any useful trade, occupation or profession~~ the University of Wyoming or a Wyoming community college for the purpose of attaining a baccalaureate or associate degree.

1 Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, as amended, an
2 overseas combat veteran, a combat veteran surviving spouse
3 or a combat veteran dependent shall receive free tuition
4 and fees for up to a total of ten (10) semesters of study
5 at the University of Wyoming or any Wyoming community
6 college for the purpose of attaining a baccalaureate or
7 associate degree. The University of Wyoming and all Wyoming
8 community colleges shall cooperate to ensure that a total
9 of not more than ten (10) semesters is provided under this
10 section to any recipient. No person shall be eligible for
11 the benefits provided under this section for any semester
12 commencing more than eight (8) academic years after the
13 semester in which the person initially receives benefits
14 under this section. The institution in which the student
15 enrolls shall grant exceptions to the requirements of this
16 subsection for military service, religious service or other
17 good cause shown, which exceptions shall be consistent with
18 rules promulgated by the Wyoming department of education
19 for the Hathaway scholarship program under W.S.
20 21-16-1303(d).

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22 (g) In order to qualify for the benefit under this
23 section, a person claiming eligibility as an overseas

1 combat veteran, combat veteran surviving spouse or combat
2 veteran dependent shall be a graduate of a Wyoming high
3 school or resident of Wyoming at the time of attaining a
4 high school equivalency certificate and enroll at the
5 University of Wyoming or a Wyoming community college. A
6 combat veteran dependent shall be under twenty-two (22)
7 years of age at the time of enrollment at the University of
8 Wyoming or a Wyoming community college.

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10 **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2017.

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12 (END)