

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0304

Community colleges-degree programs.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Nicholas, Crank, Flitner,
Greear, MacGuire and Paxton and Senator(s)
Anderson and Landen

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to postsecondary education; amending
2 authorized academic programs at the community colleges;
3 providing for community college commission approval of
4 baccalaureate degree programs; conforming Hathaway
5 scholarship statutes; creating reporting requirements; and
6 providing for effective dates.

7

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

9

10 **Section 1.** W.S. 21-16-1303(f)(iv), 21-16-1304(b),
11 21-16-1305(a)(iii), 21-18-102(a)(i), 21-18-202(d)(i) and
12 (h)(ii) and 21-18-303(a)(xvi) are amended to read:

13

14 **21-16-1303. Hathaway scholarship program; eligibility**
15 **requirements.**

1

2 (f) Students meeting the requirements of this
3 subsection shall not be subject to the six (6) academic year
4 limitation on scholarships under this article, the
5 satisfactory academic progress requirements of W.S.
6 21-16-1304(c)(i) and 21-16-1305(b)(i) or the continuous
7 enrollment requirements of W.S. 21-16-1304(c)(ii) and
8 21-16-1305(b)(ii), but shall be subject to the following:

9

10 (iv) Within the earlier of eight (8) years of
11 initial Hathaway scholarship eligibility or four (4) years of
12 last attending an eligible institution while receiving a
13 Hathaway scholarship, have enrolled at the University of
14 Wyoming or a Wyoming community college to complete a
15 baccalaureate of applied science degree and have applied for
16 reinstatement of the student's Hathaway scholarship;

17

18 **21-16-1304. Hathaway opportunity, performance and**
19 **honor scholarships.**

20

21 (b) Scholarships under this section shall be for a
22 maximum of the equivalent of eight (8) full-time semesters.

23 ~~Except as specified under subsection (g) of this section, A~~

1 scholarship under this section shall be available for
2 attendance at a Wyoming community college for not more than
3 a maximum of the equivalent of four (4) full-time semesters.

4 except as follows:

5

6 (i) As specified under subsection (g) of this
7 section; or

8

9 (ii) A scholarship for a student enrolled in a
10 baccalaureate degree program at a Wyoming community college
11 shall be for a maximum of the equivalent of eight (8)
12 full-time semesters.

13

14 **21-16-1305. Hathaway provisional opportunity**
15 **scholarships.**

16

17 (a) Any student who meets the criteria under W.S.
18 21-16-1303 is eligible to receive a Hathaway provisional
19 opportunity scholarship to pursue a certificate or degree as
20 follows:

21

22 (iii) A student who receives a scholarship under
23 paragraph (i) of this subsection and who earns a certificate

1 from the community college with a minimum cumulative GPA of
2 2.25 may extend the provisional opportunity scholarship to
3 pursue either a certificate or a degree at a Wyoming community
4 college or if the student earns a degree from the community
5 college with a minimum GPA of 2.25, may extend the scholarship
6 to pursue a degree at the University of Wyoming if the student
7 maintains a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.25 and otherwise
8 remains eligible for a scholarship under this article. A
9 student who receives a scholarship under paragraph (i) of
10 this subsection, is enrolled in a community college
11 baccalaureate program and has received a minimum cumulative
12 GPA of 2.25 after four (4) full-time semesters may extend the
13 provisional opportunity scholarship for an additional four
14 (4) full-time semesters to complete the baccalaureate degree
15 if the student maintains a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.25 and
16 otherwise remains eligible for a scholarship under this
17 article. The scholarship under this paragraph shall be for
18 the same amounts and subject to the same limitations as
19 provided for scholarships under paragraph (a)(i) of this
20 section, except that the student may continue a baccalaureate
21 program or pursue either an additional certificate or a degree
22 and the student may use this scholarship while attending a
23 Wyoming community college or the University of Wyoming.

1

2 **21-18-102. Definitions.**

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4 (a) As used in this act:

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6 (i) "Academic program" means those programs
7 approved by the commission which provide credits:

8

9 (A) Resulting in a two (2) year associate
10 degree;

11

12 (B) Resulting in a baccalaureate degree;

13

14 (C) Resulting in a credit bearing credential
15 such as a certificate; or

16

17 (D) Which may be transferred to an accredited
18 four (4) year college or university.

19

20 **21-18-202. Powers and duties of the commission.**

21

22 (d) The commission shall perform the following approval
23 functions:

1

2 (i) Approve all new academic programs, including
3 baccalaureate degree programs, qualifying for state funding
4 pursuant to the statewide community college strategic plan
5 developed under subsection (h) of this section. For each
6 community college, the commission may approve up to ten (10)
7 baccalaureate degree programs in the applied sciences and up
8 to three (3) additional baccalaureate degree programs in any
9 discipline;

10

11 (h) The commission shall prior to the beginning of each
12 biennial budget period, review, update and modify the
13 statewide college system strategic plan. The plan shall
14 clearly prescribe the components of the educational program
15 and attach program components to statewide system priorities.
16 This plan shall serve as the basis for state operational and
17 capital construction budget requests and funding of the
18 statewide college system for the applicable biennial budget
19 period. In developing, reviewing and updating the strategic
20 plan, the commission shall:

21

22 (ii) Include mechanisms within the planning
23 process which adhere to the state's interests in establishing

1 a statewide college system identified as assuring statewide
2 access to:

3

4 (A) Academic programs, including
5 baccalaureate degree programs;

6

7 (B) Career-technical education and training
8 programs;

9

10 (C) Dual and concurrent enrollment
11 programs; and

12

13 (D) Remedial and continuing education
14 programs responding to needs of students, employers and the
15 state workforce, including program access through outreach or
16 coordinated electronic system technology.

17

18 **21-18-303. District board generally; powers; board**
19 **approved additional mill levy.**

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21 (a) The community college district board may:

22

1 (xvi) Confer degrees and certificates, including
2 baccalaureate degrees in programs approved by the commission,
3 and grant diplomas as are usual for community colleges and
4 authorized under its accreditation by the regional
5 accrediting agency;

6

7 **Section 2.** The University of Wyoming shall consult with
8 the community college commission for the purpose of
9 identifying potential baccalaureate programs to be offered at
10 the Wyoming community colleges. The University of Wyoming and
11 the community college commission shall report to the joint
12 education interim committee by May 1, 2019, August 1, 2019,
13 November 1, 2019 and May 1, 2020 on the status of the
14 consultations. The reports to the committee shall include
15 identification of potential baccalaureate programs, an
16 implementation schedule, associated costs and other
17 associated resource needs.

18

19 **Section 3.**

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21 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this
22 section, this act is effective July 1, 2019.

23

1 (b) Sections 2 and 3 of this act are effective
2 immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill
3 to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the
4 Wyoming Constitution.

5

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(END)