A. The Executive Director of the Board shall administer the Spouses and Dependents of Law Enforcement Officers Tuition Scholarship (“Scholarship”) beginning in the Fall of 2024 through fiscal years 2026-2027 from the Spouses and Dependents of Law Enforcement Officers Tuition Scholarship Fund (“Fund”).

1. This Scholarship is a first come, first served scholarship subject to available funding. If there are insufficient monies in the Scholarship Fund, the Executive Director of the Board may not award a tuition scholarship to an Eligible Student.

2. This Scholarship is limited to not more than four academic years or eight semesters in any one program leading towards a career technical education district program certificate or license, a private vocational program as defined in A.R.S. § 32-3001, an associate degree, or a baccalaureate degree.

3. The Executive Director of the Board shall verify student eligibility before awarding a Scholarship. A decision of the Executive Director of the Board as to the administration of the Scholarship is final.

B. Student Eligibility: To be eligible for the scholarship, a student must:

1. Be either:
   a. The current spouse of a law enforcement officer; or
   b. A dependent of a law enforcement officer who is under twenty-seven years old;

2. Enroll in a Participating Institution in a program that will award a career technical education district program certificate or license, a private vocational program as defined in A.R.S. § 32-3001, an associate degree, or a baccalaureate degree; and

3. Annually complete an application for the Scholarship and provide sufficient documentation as requested by the Executive Director of the Board or designee.
C. Amount of Scholarship

1. For Eligible Students attending a university, community college or career technical education district, this Scholarship amount is equal to the amount of tuition and mandatory fees charged by that Participating Institution, minus other public and private gifts and aid awarded to that Eligible Student.

2. For Eligible Students attending a private postsecondary educational institution, this Scholarship may not exceed the remainder of the average resident tuition and mandatory fees charged by universities under the jurisdiction of the Board, minus other public and private gifts and aid awarded to that Eligible Student.

3. This Scholarship award amount will be calculated one time, and after that initial calculation, the Scholarship amount will not be recalculated, unless it is to benefit the student or otherwise required by Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965.

D. Scholarship Application Requirements: An Eligible Student must apply annually and provide sufficient documentation of the following to the Executive Director of the Board or designee:

1. Enrollment and/or admission to a Participating Institution;

2. Proof of completed FAFSA application;

3. Copy of Law Enforcement Officer's Commission Card as applicable;

4. Current Employment Verification Letter from Employer; and

5. Marriage Certificate (Spouse) or Birth Certificate or applicable court order (Dependent).

E. Participating Institutions must comply with the following:

1. Sign an agreement with the Board; and

2. Provide data and records as requested by the Executive Director of the Board or designee.

F. Definitions

1. “Fees” are “Mandatory Fees” as defined in Board Policy 4-101(H).
2. “Law Enforcement Officer” is an individual who is currently employed as either:
   a. A peace officer as defined in A.R.S. § 15-1808(E)(4); or
   b. A correctional officer as defined in A.R.S. § 15-1808(E)(1).

3. A “Participating Institution” is one of the following institutions who have executed an agreement with the Board to administer this scholarship according to applicable law and policy:
   a. A University under the Board’s jurisdiction;
   b. A community college as defined in A.R.S. § 15-1401;
   c. A career technical education program that is offered to adults in Arizona or an associate degree program offered by a career technical education district pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-398; or
   d. A private postsecondary educational institution in Arizona that is licensed pursuant to title 32, chapter 30, article 2 of the Arizona Revised Statutes.

Policy History

2/22/2024 Approved by the Board on second reading.

Related Information