

HOUSE BILL No. HB 2609

By Legislative Educational Planning Committee

1-3

9 AN ACT concerning postsecondary education; establishing the military
10 service scholarship program.

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12 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

13 Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the military
14 service scholarship program act.

15 Sec. 2. As used in this act:

16 (a) "Executive officer" means the chief executive officer of the state
17 board of regents appointed under K.S.A. 74-3203a, and amendments
18 thereto.

19 (b) "Qualified student" means a person who: (1) Is a resident of the
20 state of Kansas; (2) (A) has served, after September 11, 2001, in military
21 service in Iraq or Afghanistan for at least 90 days or for less than 90 days
22 because of injuries received in Iraq or Afghanistan; or (B) has served,
23 after September 11, 2001, in military service in international waters or
24 on foreign soil in support of military operations in Iraq or Afghanistan for
25 at least 90 days or for less than 90 days because of injuries received during
26 such service; (C) has received an honorable discharge from military serv-
27 ice or is still in military service; and (D) has military discharge papers
28 (DD Form 214) or active duty orders that indicate the person has served
29 after September 11, 2001, in one or more of the following military op-
30 erations: (i) Enduring Freedom; (ii) Nobel Eagle; or (iii) Iraqi Freedom;
31 (3) has been accepted for admission to or is enrolled in a course of in-
32 struction in a postsecondary educational institution; and (4) has qualified
33 for the award of a scholarship under the military service scholarship pro-
34 gram on the basis of having demonstrated scholastic ability, or who has
35 previously so qualified and remains qualified for renewal of the scholar-
36 ship on the basis of remaining in good standing and making satisfactory
37 progress toward completion of the requirements of the course of instruc-
38 tion in which enrolled.

39 (c) "State board" means the state board of regents.

40 (d) "Postsecondary educational institution" has the meaning ascribed
41 thereto by K.S.A. 74-3201b, and amendments thereto.

42 (e) "Military service" means any active service in any armed service
43 of the United States and any service as a member in good standing in the

1 Kansas army or air national guard.

2 (f) "Program" means the military service scholarship program.

3 Sec. 3. (a) There is hereby established the military service scholar-
4 ship program. A scholarship may be awarded under the program to any
5 qualified student and may be renewed for each such student who remains
6 qualified for the scholarship. Determination of the students qualified for
7 such scholarships shall be made by the executive officer. Scholarships
8 shall be awarded on a priority basis to qualified applicants who have the
9 greatest financial need. When determining financial need, the executive
10 officer shall take into consideration federal military educational assistance
11 received by a qualified student, if any.

12 (b) Within the limitations of appropriations therefor, the number of
13 scholarships awarded and the amount awarded to each applicant shall be
14 determined by the executive officer. The amount awarded shall be spec-
15 ified in the agreement. The amount awarded may vary depending upon
16 the number of hours and the program in which the applicant is enrolled.
17 A scholarship awarded under the program shall provide for payment to a
18 qualified student of an amount not to exceed the amount of the fees and
19 tuition for an academic year at the postsecondary educational institution
20 in which the qualified student is enrolled. Except as provided by this
21 subsection, a qualified student may be awarded a scholarship for not more
22 than four academic years of undergraduate study. If the course of instruc-
23 tion requires a fifth year of undergraduate study, a scholarship may be
24 awarded for the duration of the course of instruction.

25 (c) If a student is not enrolled on a full-time basis, a student shall
26 complete the course of study within the time period specified in the
27 agreement and shall receive a proportionate amount of the scholarship
28 allowed under subsection (b) based upon the number of hours enrolled
29 in an academic period, and computed as a fraction of the total number
30 of credit hours required for full-time enrollment.

31 Sec. 4. (a) An applicant for designation as a qualified student and for
32 the award of a scholarship under the military service scholarship program
33 shall provide to the executive officer, on forms supplied by the executive
34 officer, information required by the executive officer.

35 (b) As a condition to awarding a scholarship under this act, the ex-
36 ecutive officer and the applicant shall enter into an agreement which shall
37 require the applicant to:

38 (1) Complete the required course of instruction; and

39 (2) maintain records and make reports to the executive officer as re-
40 quired by the agreement.

41 Sec. 5. The state board of regents shall adopt rules and regulations
42 for administration of the military service scholarship program and shall
43 establish terms, conditions and obligations which shall be incorporated

1 into the provisions of any agreement entered into between the executive
2 officer and an applicant for the award of a scholarship under the program.
3 The terms, conditions and obligations shall be consistent with the provi-
4 sions of law relating to the program and shall include, but not be limited
5 to, the circumstances under which eligibility for financial assistance under
6 the program may be terminated and the amount of financial assistance to
7 be provided.

8 Sec. 6. There is hereby created in the state treasury the military serv-
9 ice scholarship program fund. All expenditures from the military service
10 scholarship program fund shall be for scholarships awarded under the
11 military service scholarship program and shall be made in accordance with
12 appropriation acts upon warrants of the director of accounts and reports
13 issued pursuant to vouchers approved by the executive officer or by a
14 person designated by the executive officer.

15 Sec. 7. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
16 publication in the statute book.