

REFERENCE TITLE: **tuition waivers; ABOR; community colleges**

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-seventh Legislature
First Regular Session
2025

HB 2913

Introduced by
Representatives Márquez: Gillette

AN ACT

**AMENDING TITLE 15, CHAPTER 14, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY
ADDING SECTION 15-1809.02; RELATING TO CLASSIFICATION OF STUDENTS FOR
TUITION PURPOSES.**

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Title 15, chapter 14, article 1, Arizona Revised
3 Statutes, is amended by adding section 15-1809.02, to read:

4 15-1809.02. Hazlewood Act tuition waiver scholarship; tuition
5 scholarships; eligibility; policies; rules;
6 definitions

7 A. THE HAZLEWOOD ACT TUITION WAIVER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM IS
8 ESTABLISHED IN THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS. THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS
9 SHALL ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM AND AWARD TUITION WAIVER SCHOLARSHIPS TO ANY
10 PERSON WHO MEETS ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

11 1. ENROLLS IN A UNIVERSITY OR COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

12 2. IS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

13 (a) A VETERAN WHO MEETS BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING:

14 (i) RESIDES IN THIS STATE OR RESIDES OUTSIDE OF THIS STATE SOLELY
15 DUE TO THE CURRENT MILITARY ORDERS OF THE VETERAN OR OF THE VETERAN'S
16 SPOUSE.

17 (ii) WAS DISCHARGED UNDER HONORABLE CONDITIONS AFTER SERVING ON
18 ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY, EXCLUDING INITIAL ENTRY TRAINING, FOR MORE THAN ONE
19 HUNDRED EIGHTY DAYS.

20 (b) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS THE SPOUSE OR CHILD OF A MEMBER OF THE
21 ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES WHO WAS KILLED IN ACTION, DIED WHILE IN
22 SERVICE OR IS MISSING IN ACTION OR WHOSE DEATH, ACCORDING TO
23 DOCUMENTATION, WAS DIRECTLY CAUSED BY AN ILLNESS OR INJURY RELATED TO
24 SERVICE IN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES.

25 (c) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS THE SPOUSE OR CHILD OF A MEMBER OF THE
26 ARIZONA NATIONAL GUARD OR THE ARIZONA AIR NATIONAL GUARD WHO WAS KILLED
27 AFTER JANUARY 1, 1946 WHILE ON ACTIVE DUTY IN THE SERVICE OF THIS STATE OR
28 THE UNITED STATES.

29 (d) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS THE SPOUSE OR CHILD OF A MEMBER OF THE
30 ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES, THE ARIZONA NATIONAL GUARD OR THE
31 ARIZONA AIR NATIONAL GUARD WHO HAS A TOTAL AND PERMANENT DISABILITY OR
32 MEETS THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR INDIVIDUAL UNEMPLOYABILITY
33 ACCORDING TO THE DISABILITY RATINGS FOR THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
34 VETERANS AFFAIRS.

35 3. IS ENTITLED TO CLASSIFICATION AS AN IN-STATE STUDENT UNDER
36 SECTION 15-1802.

37 4. COMPLIES WITH THE STANDARDS OF SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS AS
38 ESTABLISHED BY THE UNIVERSITY OR COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN WHICH THE INDIVIDUAL
39 ENROLLS, EXCEPT THAT THE INDIVIDUAL IS NOT REQUIRED TO ENROLL IN A MINIMUM
40 COURSE LOAD.

41 5. HAS ATTEMPTED FEWER THAN ONE HUNDRED FIFTY CREDIT HOURS USING
42 TUITION WAIVER SCHOLARSHIPS PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

43 B. THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS SHALL:

44 1. DEVELOP AN APPLICATION PROCESS AND POLICIES TO ADMINISTER THE
45 PROGRAM AND TO VERIFY ELIGIBILITY FOR A TUITION WAIVER SCHOLARSHIP

PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION. POLICIES DEVELOPED PURSUANT TO THIS PARAGRAPH MUST DO ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

(a) ALLOW AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS ELIGIBLE PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION TO SUBMIT TO THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS A COMPLETED APPLICATION AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION FOR A TUITION WAIVER SCHOLARSHIP PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION ON OR BEFORE THE LAST DAY INSTRUCTION IS PROVIDED FOR EACH SEMESTER FOR WHICH THE INDIVIDUAL SEEKS A TUITION WAIVER SCHOLARSHIP.

(b) PRESCRIBE GUIDELINES FOR DETERMINING THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF CREDIT HOURS FOR WHICH AN INDIVIDUAL MAY BE AWARDED A TUITION WAIVER SCHOLARSHIP PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION BASED ON THE DEGREE OR CERTIFICATE PROGRAM IN WHICH THE INDIVIDUAL IS ENROLLED. DETERMINATIONS PURSUANT TO THIS SUBDIVISION SHALL BE CONSISTENT WITH THE LENGTH OF THE DEGREE OR CERTIFICATE PROGRAM ACCORDING TO THE UNIVERSITY'S OR COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S CATALOG OR THE REGIONAL ACCREDITATION COMMISSION, EXCEPT THAT AN INDIVIDUAL MAY NOT RECEIVE A TUITION WAIVER SCHOLARSHIP PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION FOR MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED FIFTY ATTEMPTED CREDIT HOURS.

(c) PROHIBIT AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION A, PARAGRAPH 2, SUBDIVISION (d) OF THIS SECTION FROM RECEIVING A TUITION WAIVER SCHOLARSHIP PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION FOR AN UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAM IF, AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SEMESTER, THE INDIVIDUAL HAS COMPLETED AN EXCESSIVE NUMBER OF CREDIT HOURS, UNLESS THE INDIVIDUAL SHOWS GOOD CAUSE. WHEN DETERMINING WHETHER THE INDIVIDUAL HAS COMPLETED AN EXCESSIVE NUMBER OF CREDIT HOURS, THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS SHALL:

(i) CONSIDER THE NUMBER OF CREDIT HOURS COMPLETED BY THE INDIVIDUAL AND THE NUMBER OF CREDIT HOURS REQUIRED FOR THE INDIVIDUAL'S DEGREE OR CERTIFICATE PROGRAM.

(ii) NOT CONSIDER CREDIT HOURS EARNED BY EXAMINATION OR CREDIT HOURS THAT THE INDIVIDUAL EARNED WHILE ENROLLED IN HIGH SCHOOL.

(d) REQUIRE EACH UNIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO REPORT TO THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS THE NUMBER OF CREDIT HOURS FOR WHICH EACH INDIVIDUAL RECEIVED A TUITION WAIVER SCHOLARSHIP PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION FOR EACH SEMESTER. IF THE INDIVIDUAL USED THE TUITION WAIVER SCHOLARSHIP TO PAY FOR ONLY A PORTION OF THE CREDIT HOURS THAT THE INDIVIDUAL COMPLETED DURING THE SEMESTER, THE UNIVERSITY OR COMMUNITY COLLEGE SHALL REPORT ONLY THE PROPORTION THAT WAS FUNDED BY THE TUITION WAIVER SCHOLARSHIP. WHEN REPORTING PROPORTIONAL HOURS TO THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS PURSUANT TO THIS SUBDIVISION, EACH UNIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE SHALL ROUND ANY FRACTION OF A CREDIT HOUR UP TO THE NEAREST WHOLE NUMBER.

(e) IDENTIFY COURSES OR PROGRAMS THAT ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR A TUITION WAIVER SCHOLARSHIP PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION, INCLUDING:

(i) ANY COURSE FOR WHICH A UNIVERSITY OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE DOES NOT RECEIVE FUNDING FROM THIS STATE.

1 (ii) ANY COURSE OR PROGRAM THAT HAS EXTRAORDINARY COSTS, AS
2 DETERMINED BY THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS OR COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

3 (f) ALLOW AN INDIVIDUAL WHO FAILS TO COMPLY WITH THE STANDARDS OF
4 SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS AS ESTABLISHED BY THE UNIVERSITY OR
5 COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN WHICH THE INDIVIDUAL ENROLLS TO REMAIN ELIGIBLE FOR A
6 TUITION WAIVER SCHOLARSHIP IF THE INDIVIDUAL IS EXPERIENCING HARDSHIP OR
7 SHOWS GOOD CAUSE, INCLUDING:

8 (i) THAT THE INDIVIDUAL IS SUFFERING FROM A SEVERE ILLNESS OR OTHER
9 DEBILITATING CONDITION THAT COULD AFFECT THE INDIVIDUAL'S ACADEMIC
10 PERFORMANCE.

11 (ii) THAT THE INDIVIDUAL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CARE OF A SICK,
12 INJURED OR NEEDY PERSON AND THAT THE INDIVIDUAL'S PROVISION OF CARE COULD
13 AFFECT THE INDIVIDUAL'S ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE.

14 (iii) THE INDIVIDUAL'S ACTIVE DUTY OR OTHER SERVICE IN THE ARMED
15 FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES OR THE INDIVIDUAL'S ACTIVE DUTY IN THE ARIZONA
16 NATIONAL GUARD OR ARIZONA AIR NATIONAL GUARD.

17 (iv) ANY OTHER CAUSE CONSIDERED ACCEPTABLE BY THE ARIZONA BOARD OF
18 REGENTS.

19 2. ADOPT RULES GOVERNING THE COORDINATION OF FEDERAL AND STATE
20 BENEFITS FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE ELIGIBLE FOR A TUITION WAIVER SCHOLARSHIP
21 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

22 C. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION:

23 1. "COMMUNITY COLLEGE" MEANS A COMMUNITY COLLEGE AS DEFINED IN
24 SECTION 15-1401.

25 2. "PROGRAM" MEANS THE HAZELWOOD ACT TUITION WAIVER SCHOLARSHIP
26 PROGRAM ESTABLISHED BY THIS SECTION.

27 3. "UNIVERSITY" MEANS A UNIVERSITY UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE
28 ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS.