

SENATE FILE NO. SF0101

Emergency responders-dependent's tuition.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Aullman and Johnson and
Representative(s) Lubnau, Warren, Watt,
White and Zwonitzer

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to peace officers and emergency medical
2 technicians; providing tuition free post-secondary
3 education for specified dependents of peace officers and
4 emergency medical technicians who die in the line of duty;
5 providing for the applicability of the act; and providing
6 for an effective date.

7

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

9

10 **Section 1.** W.S. 7-2-108 and 33-36-114 are created to
11 read:

12

13 **7-2-108. Free tuition and fees for education of**
14 **survivors of deceased peace officers.**

15

1 (a) The University of Wyoming for up to ten (10)
2 semesters and each community college for up to a total of
3 six (6) semesters of study at the community college level
4 shall provide free tuition and fees for any person who is a
5 surviving dependent of a peace officer who has qualified
6 pursuant to W.S. 9-1-701 through 9-1-709 and who died while
7 acting within the scope of his duties in the service of a
8 law enforcement agency in the state. If the surviving
9 dependent first enrolls in a community college and then
10 transfers to another community college or the University of
11 Wyoming, the free tuition and fees shall continue until the
12 dependent has completed a cumulative total of ten (10)
13 semesters at the community college level and the
14 university, not to exceed six (6) semesters at the
15 community college level.

16

17 (b) In order to qualify for the benefit under this
18 section, a person claiming eligibility for free tuition and
19 fees under this section shall be under twenty-two (22)
20 years of age at the time of the death of the parent or
21 other person responsible for the support of the applicant.
22 Upon application by a person claiming eligibility for free
23 tuition and fees under this section because of the death of

1 a parent or legal guardian, the university or community
2 college where the person applied for enrollment shall:

3

4 (i) Determine whether the decedent was an
5 individual specified in subsection (a) of this section;

6

7 (ii) Determine whether the decedent died while
8 acting within the scope of his duties; and

9

10 (iii) Certify whether the person claiming
11 eligibility for free tuition and fees under this section is
12 qualified to receive free tuition and fees under this
13 section.

14

15 (c) A person who had qualified for free tuition and
16 fees under subsection (b) of this section, shall be deemed
17 eligible for the free tuition and fees at any other
18 community college or the University of Wyoming up to the
19 maximum number of semesters of study allowed under
20 subsection (a) of this section, if the person transfers to
21 another institution specified in subsection (a) of this
22 section.

23

1 (d) For purposes of paragraph (b)(ii) of this
2 section, it shall be conclusively presumed that the
3 decedent died while acting within the scope of duties if
4 death benefits were paid as a result of the death to any
5 person pursuant to the Wyoming Worker's Compensation Act.

6
7 (e) By the end of the spring semester completing the
8 student's third or fourth semester of attendance, the
9 student shall have a cumulative grade point average of at
10 least two point zero (2.0) and shall maintain a cumulative
11 grade point average of at least two point zero (2.0) at the
12 end of each subsequent spring semester to continue to
13 receive the free tuition and fees.

14
15 **33-36-114. Free tuition and fees for education of**
16 **survivors of deceased emergency medical technicians.**

17
18 (a) The University of Wyoming for up to ten (10)
19 semesters and each community college for up to a total of
20 six (6) semesters of study at the community college level
21 shall provide free tuition and fees for any person who is a
22 surviving dependent of a paid or volunteer emergency
23 medical technician who died while acting within the scope
24 of his duties in the service of a paid or volunteer

1 ambulance service located in Wyoming, when responding at
2 the request of a public agency to assist in a civil or
3 military emergency, or natural or human caused disaster.
4 If the surviving dependent first enrolls in a community
5 college and then transfers to another community college or
6 the University of Wyoming, the free tuition and fees shall
7 continue until the dependent has completed a cumulative
8 total of ten (10) semesters at the community college level
9 and the university, not to exceed six (6) semesters at the
10 community college level.

11

12 (b) In order to qualify for the benefit under this
13 section, a person claiming eligibility for free tuition and
14 fees under this section shall be under twenty-two (22)
15 years of age at the time of the death of the parent or
16 other person responsible for the support of the applicant.
17 Upon application by a person claiming eligibility for free
18 tuition and fees under this section because of the death of
19 a parent or legal guardian, the university or community
20 college where the person applied for enrollment shall:

21

22 (i) Determine whether the decedent was an
23 individual specified in subsection (a) of this section;

24

1 (ii) Determine whether the decedent died while
2 acting within the scope of his duties as specified in
3 subsection (a) of this section; and

4
5 (iii) Certify whether the person claiming
6 eligibility for free tuition and fees under this section is
7 qualified to receive free tuition and fees under this
8 section.

9
10 (c) A person who had qualified for free tuition and
11 fees under subsection (b) of this section, shall be deemed
12 eligible for the free tuition and fees at any other
13 community college or the University of Wyoming up to the
14 maximum number of semesters of study allowed under
15 subsection (a) of this section, if the person transfers to
16 another institution specified in subsection (a) of this
17 section.

18
19 (d) For purposes of paragraph (b)(ii) of this
20 section, it shall be conclusively presumed that the
21 decedent died while acting within the scope of duties if
22 death benefits were paid as a result of the death to any
23 person pursuant to the Wyoming Worker's Compensation Act.

24

1 **Section 2.** This act is effective immediately upon
2 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law
3 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming
4 Constitution.

5

6

(END)