

SENATE FLOOR VERSION

February 27, 2023

SENATE BILL NO. 654

By: Rosino of the Senate

and

Burns of the House

[postsecondary education - tuition waivers -
eligibility - rules - codification - effective date -
emergency]

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 3234 of Title 70, unless there
is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Captain
Steven L. Farley Goldstar Families Act".

B. The surviving spouse and children of a member of any branch
of the United States Armed Forces who was killed in action or killed
in the performance of his or her duty after September 11, 2001,
shall be eligible for a waiver of:

1. Undergraduate resident tuition at institutions within The
Oklahoma State System of Higher Education. A student shall be
eligible for a tuition waiver for up to five (5) years or completion

1 of the requirements for a baccalaureate degree, whichever comes
2 first; or

3 2. Resident tuition for a postsecondary program at a technology
4 center school operating under the State Board of Career and
5 Technology Education. Students shall be eligible for a tuition
6 waiver for up to five (5) years or completion of a certificate,
7 whichever comes first.

8 C. To be eligible for a tuition waiver, a student shall:

9 1. Be a resident of this state; and

10 2. Have secured admission to and enrolled in an institution
11 within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education or a
12 postsecondary program at a technology center school operating under
13 the State Board of Career and Technology Education.

14 D. To retain eligibility for a tuition waiver, the student
15 shall maintain good academic standing and satisfactory progress
16 according to standards of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher
17 Education or the State Board of Career and Technology Education.

18 E. A student seeking a tuition waiver pursuant to this section
19 who is eligible for federal education benefits shall exhaust all
20 available federal benefits. Any amount of tuition owed after
21 federal benefits are exhausted shall be waived by the institution of
22 higher education or the technology center school.

1 F. The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and the
2 State Board of Career and Technology Education shall promulgate
3 rules to implement the provisions of this section.

4 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2023.

5 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
6 of the public peace, health, or safety, an emergency is hereby
7 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
8 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

9 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
10 February 27, 2023 - DO PASS
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