

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

SENATE BILL 1360

By: Pugh

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to higher education; amending 70 O.S. 2021, Section 3247, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 348, O.S.L. 2023 (70 O.S. Supp. 2023, Section 3247), which relates to in-state tuition status for certain individuals; providing a room and board waiver for certain students; limiting waiver to certain period of time; updating statutory language; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2021, Section 3247, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 348, O.S.L. 2023 (70 O.S. Supp. 2023, Section 3247), is amended to read as follows:

Section 3247. A. A student shall be eligible for in-state status regardless of the residency of the student if the student is a:

1. Dependent child or spouse of a person currently serving as a member of the active uniformed services of the United States on full-time active duty status of more than thirty (30) days and for whom Oklahoma is the home of record;

1 2. Dependent child or spouse of a person currently serving as a
2 member of the military reserve on active duty orders of more than
3 thirty (30) days and for whom Oklahoma is the home of record;

4 3. Person, or spouse or dependent child of a person, currently
5 serving as a member of the uniformed services of the United States
6 who is on full-time active duty for a period of more than thirty
7 (30) days and is stationed or temporarily present in Oklahoma
8 through military orders;

9 4. Person, or spouse or dependent child of a person, who was
10 discharged or released from a period ~~of~~ not fewer than ninety (90)
11 days of active uniformed service; or

12 5. Person who is participating in or has received a partial or
13 full scholarship from the Air Force Reserve ~~Officers'~~ Officer
14 Training Corps, Army Reserve ~~Officers'~~ Officer Training Corps or the
15 Navy/Marines Reserve ~~Officers'~~ Officer Training Corps.

16 B. To be eligible for in-state status as provided for in
17 subsection A of this section and to maintain eligibility, the
18 student shall:

19 1. Satisfy admission and retention standards as determined by
20 the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education for an institution
21 within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education; and

22 2. Have secured admission to and ~~enrolls~~ enroll full-time or
23 part-time in a program of study at an institution within The
24 Oklahoma State System of Higher Education.

1 C. A student who files with the institution within The Oklahoma
2 State System of Higher Education at which the student intends to
3 register a letter of intent to establish residence in the state and
4 who resides in the state while enrolled in the institution shall be
5 eligible for in-state status, regardless of the residency of the
6 student or home of record, if the student:

7 1. Is a person who:

8 a. was discharged or released from a period ~~of~~ not fewer
9 than ninety (90) days of active duty uniformed
10 service, and

11 b. is pursuing a course of education with educational
12 assistance under Chapter 30, 31, 33, or 35 of Title 38
13 of the United States Code while living in this state;
14 or

15 2. Is a person who:

16 a. is entitled to assistance under Section 3311(b) (9) or
17 3319 of Title 38 of the United States Code by virtue
18 of a relationship to a person who was discharged or
19 released from a period ~~of~~ not fewer than ninety (90)
20 days of active duty uniformed services, and

21 b. enrolls in the course(s) concerned within five (5)
22 years of the date the related person was discharged or
23 released from a period ~~of~~ not fewer than ninety (90)
24 days of active duty uniformed services.

1 D. To be eligible for in-state status as provided for in
2 subsection C of this section and to maintain eligibility, the
3 student shall:

4 1. Satisfy admission and retention standards as determined by
5 the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education for an institution
6 within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education; and

7 2. Have secured admission to and enrolls full-time or part-time
8 in a program of study at an institution within The Oklahoma State
9 System of Higher Education.

10 E. A student who meets the eligibility requirements for in-
11 state status shall maintain in-state status if the student remains
12 continuously enrolled at an institution within The Oklahoma State
13 System of Higher Education after the student:

14 1. As described in paragraph 1, 2, 3, or 4 of subsection A or
15 paragraph 1 or 2 of subsection C of this section is discharged or
16 released from active duty service;

17 2. As described in paragraph 1 of subsection C of this section
18 has exhausted education assistance provided under Chapter 30, 31,
19 33, or 35 of Title 38 of the United States Code; or

20 3. As described in paragraph 2 of subsection C of this section
21 has exhausted education assistance provided under Section 3311(b)(9)
22 or 3319 of Title 38 of the United States Code.
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1 F. For purposes of this section, "home of record" means the
2 place where one was living when the person enlisted or was
3 commissioned into the military or reenlisted in the military.

4 G. A student who qualifies for in-state status pursuant to
5 paragraph 5 of subsection A of this section shall be granted a
6 waiver of room and board by the institution of higher education in
7 which he or she is enrolled. The waiver shall not exceed five (5)
8 years from the date of enrollment in the institution of higher
9 education.

10 H. The State Regents for Higher Education shall develop
11 policies and procedures necessary to implement the provisions of
12 this section.

13 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2024.

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

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