

ARTICLE 21F
FIRE FIGHTER AND PEACE OFFICER SURVIVORS SCHOLARSHIPS

Section

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21-21F-1. Short title.

This act [21-21F-1 to 21-21F-5 NMSA 1978] may be cited as the "Fire Fighter and Peace Officer Survivors Scholarship Act".

History: Laws 1986, ch. 50, § 1.

21-21F-2. Legislative intent.

The legislature recognizes the importance of the duties performed by our fire fighters and peace officers and the debt we owe to the fire fighters and peace officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty. The intent of this act [21-21F-1 to 21-21F-5 NMSA 1978] is to make a small payment on that debt by providing their survivors with an opportunity for a college education.

History: Laws 1986, ch. 50, § 2.

21-21F-3. Definitions.

As used in the Fire Fighter and Peace Officer Survivors Scholarship Act [21-21F-1 to 21-21F-5 NMSA 1978]:

A. "board" ["commission"] means the board of educational finance [commission on higher education];

B. "eligible institution" means any state institution of higher education in New Mexico;

C. "fire fighter" means any member of a fire department that is part of or administered by the state or any political subdivision of the state;

D. "peace officer" means any member of a police or sheriff's department that is part of or administered by the state or any political subdivision of the state and officers in the department of corrections;

E. "survivor" means the spouse of the fire fighter or peace officer killed in the line of duty and any adopted or natural children twenty-one years of age or under at the time of his death.

History: Laws 1986, ch. 50, § 3.

21-21F-4. Eligibility.

A survivor meeting entrance requirements shall be entitled to a scholarship to the eligible institution of his choice. The amount of the scholarship shall be equal to the amount of tuition charged by the institution attended. The scholarship shall continue for such time as the recipient remains a student in good standing at the institution, but in no event shall any survivor receive a scholarship for more than five years.

History: Laws 1986, ch. 50, § 4.

21-21F-5. Rules and regulations.

The commission may adopt rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of the Fire Fighter and Peace Officer Survivors Scholarship Act [21-21F-1 to 21-21F-5 NMSA 1978]. A financial aid officer may exercise professional judgment when special circumstances exist to adjust the cost of attendance or the expected family contribution or to modify other factors that make the program responsive to a student's special financial circumstances and for which documentation exists in the student's file within the parameters authorized for this program.

History: Laws 1986, ch. 50, § 5; 1991, ch. 262, § 6.