

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 906

FINAL READING

Introduced by Lindstrom, 18.

Read first time January 12, 2016

Committee: Education

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to law enforcement; to adopt the Law
- 2 Enforcement Education Act.
- 3 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Sections 1 to 4 of this act shall be known and may be
2 cited as the Law Enforcement Education Act.

3 Sec. 2. For purposes of the Law Enforcement Education Act:

4 (1) Associate degree program means a degree program at a community
5 college, state college, or state university which typically requires
6 completion of an organized program of study of at least sixty semester
7 credit hours or an equivalent that can be shown to accomplish the same
8 goal. Associate degree program does not include a baccalaureate degree
9 program;

10 (2) Baccalaureate degree program means a degree program at a
11 community college, state college, or state university which typically
12 requires completion of an organized program of study of at least one
13 hundred twenty semester credit hours or an equivalent that can be shown
14 to accomplish the same goal;

15 (3) Community college means a public postsecondary educational
16 institution which is part of the community college system and includes
17 all branches and campuses of such institution located within the State of
18 Nebraska;

19 (4) Law enforcement officer means any person who is responsible for
20 the prevention or detection of crime or the enforcement of the penal,
21 traffic, or highway laws of the State of Nebraska or any political
22 subdivision of the state for more than one hundred hours per year and who
23 is authorized by law to make arrests;

24 (5) Law enforcement agency means a police department in a
25 municipality, a sheriff's office, and the Nebraska State Patrol;

26 (6) State college means a public postsecondary educational
27 institution which is part of the Nebraska state college system and
28 includes all branches and campuses of such institution located within the
29 State of Nebraska;

30 (7) State university means a public postsecondary educational
31 institution which is part of the University of Nebraska and includes all

1 branches and campuses of such institution located within the State of
2 Nebraska; and

3 (8) Tuition means the charges and cost of tuition as set by the
4 governing body of a state university, state college, or community
5 college.

6 Sec. 3. (1) A law enforcement officer shall be entitled to a waiver
7 of thirty percent of the resident tuition charges of any state
8 university, state college, or community college if the officer:

9 (a) Maintains satisfactory performance with his or her law
10 enforcement agency;

11 (b) Meets all admission requirements of the state university, state
12 college, or community college; and

13 (c) Pursues studies leading to a degree that relates to a career in
14 law enforcement from an associate degree program or a baccalaureate
15 degree program.

16 The officer may receive the tuition waiver for up to five years if
17 he or she otherwise continues to be eligible for participation.

18 (2) The state university, state college, or community college shall
19 wave thirty percent of the officer's tuition remaining due after
20 subtracting awarded federal financial aid grants and state scholarships
21 and grants for an eligible law enforcement officer during the time the
22 officer is enrolled. To remain eligible, the officer must comply with all
23 requirements of the institution for continued attendance and award of an
24 associate degree or a baccalaureate degree.

25 (3) An application for the tuition waiver shall include a
26 verification of the law enforcement officer's satisfactory performance as
27 a law enforcement officer. It shall be the responsibility of the officer
28 to obtain a certificate of verification from his or her superior officer
29 in such officer's law enforcement agency attesting to such officer's
30 satisfactory performance. The officer shall include the certificate of
31 verification when applying to the state university, state college, or

1 community college in order to obtain tuition waiver upon initial
2 enrollment.

3 (4) Within forty-five days after receipt of a completed application,
4 the state university, state college, or community college shall send
5 written notice of the law enforcement officer's eligibility or
6 ineligibility for the tuition waiver. If the officer is determined not to
7 be eligible for the tuition waiver, the notice shall include the reason
8 or reasons for such determination and an indication that an appeal of the
9 determination may be made pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act.

10 Sec. 4. Each state university, state college, or community college
11 shall adopt and promulgate the procedures, rules, and regulations
12 necessary to carry out the Law Enforcement Education Act.