

SENATE FILE NO. SF0036

Hathaway lump sum merit scholarship.

Sponsored by: Joint Education Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to the Hathaway scholarship program;
 2 amending award timing for the Hathaway scholarship program;
 3 amending eligibility requirements as specified; eliminating
 4 satisfactory academic progress requirements; eliminating
 5 continuous enrollment requirements; eliminating minimum
 6 credit hour requirements; amending the calculation of
 7 scholarship amounts; deleting obsolete language; making
 8 conforming amendments; specifying applicability; repealing
 9 provisions; and providing for an effective date.

10

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

12

13 **Section 1.** W.S. 21-16-1301(a)(i), (ii) and by
 14 creating new paragraphs (xxi) and (xxii), 21-16-1303(d),
 15 21-16-1304(a)(i)(intro), (ii)(intro), (iii)(intro) and
 16 (h)(intro), 21-16-1305(a)(i)(intro) and (e)(intro),

1 21-16-1306 by creating a new subsection (c),
2 21-16-1307(b) (intro), (d) (intro) and (e) (intro),
3 21-16-1308(c) (ii), 21-16-1309(a) and by creating a new
4 subsection (c), 21-16-1312(c) and 21-18-404 are amended to
5 read:

6

7 **21-16-1301. Definitions.**

8

9 (a) As used in this article:

10

11 (i) "Academic term" means the fall semester or
12 term, ~~or~~ the spring semester or term or other term offered
13 by an eligible institution. In this article, "term" and
14 "semester" have the same meaning; ~~except that recipients~~
15 ~~may elect to use the scholarship during summer school,~~
16 ~~which except as provided by W.S. 21-16-1304(h) and~~
17 ~~21-16-1305(e), counts toward the maximum number of terms~~
18 ~~for which the student is eligible but does not count toward~~
19 ~~computation of an academic year;~~

20

21 (ii) "Academic year" means two (2) consecutive
22 fall and spring semesters. ~~or terms and is the period of~~
23 ~~time a full-time student is expected to complete the~~

1 ~~equivalent of at least two (2) semesters of~~ Unless
2 otherwise excluded under this article, academic ~~work-year~~
3 may also include summer term or other terms;
4

5 (xxi) "Remaining scholarship amount" means the
6 student's total scholarship amount less amounts previously
7 paid on behalf of the student from scholarships under W.S.
8 21-16-1304 or 21-16-1305;
9

10 (xxii) "Total scholarship amount" means the
11 dollar amount specified under W.S. 21-16-1304 or 21-16-1305
12 for the scholarship the student is first awarded under W.S.
13 21-16-1304 or 21-16-1305.
14

15 **21-16-1303. Hathaway scholarship program; eligibility**
16 **requirements.**
17

18 (d) No student shall be eligible for a scholarship
19 under this article ~~for more than the equivalent of eight~~
20 ~~(8) full-time semesters. Except as provided by subsection~~
21 ~~(f) of this section, no student shall be eligible for a~~
22 ~~scholarship under this article~~ for any semesters commencing
23 after six (6) academic years following the student's

1 initial eligibility. For purposes of this subsection, a
2 student's initial eligibility shall be deemed to commence
3 with the first semester in which the state is obligated to
4 reimburse an eligible institution for the student's
5 scholarship under this article. The department shall by
6 rule and regulation establish exceptions to this subsection
7 for military service, religious service and other good
8 cause shown.

9

10 **21-16-1304. Hathaway opportunity, performance and**
11 **honor scholarships.**

12

13 (a) Any student who meets the criteria under W.S.
14 21-16-1303 is eligible to receive a scholarship to pursue a
15 degree or certificate as follows:

16

17 (i) With a minimum cumulative high school GPA of
18 2.50 and a score equal to or greater than the 2015-2016
19 national percentile rank of forty-three (43) on a college
20 entrance examination administered throughout the United
21 States and relied upon by institutions of higher education
22 to determine acceptance of students for attendance, a
23 Hathaway opportunity scholarship ~~for:~~ in a total

1 scholarship amount of six thousand seven hundred twenty
2 dollars (\$6,720.00).

3

4 (ii) With a minimum cumulative high school GPA
5 of 3.0 and a score equal to or greater than the 2015-2016
6 national percentile rank of fifty-six (56) on a college
7 entrance examination administered throughout the United
8 States and relied upon by institutions of higher education
9 to determine acceptance of students for attendance, a
10 Hathaway performance scholarship ~~for:~~ in a total
11 scholarship amount of ten thousand eighty dollars
12 (\$10,080.00).

13

14 (iii) With a minimum cumulative high school GPA
15 of 3.5 and a score equal to or greater than the 2015-2016
16 national percentile rank of seventy-nine (79) on an
17 examination administered throughout the United States and
18 relied upon by institutions of higher education to
19 determine acceptance of students for attendance, a Hathaway
20 honor scholarship ~~for:~~ in a total scholarship amount of
21 thirteen thousand four hundred forty dollars (\$13,440.00).

22

1 (h) ~~Notwithstanding subparagraphs (a) (i) (B), (ii) (B)~~
2 ~~and (iii) (B) of this section,~~ The applicable scholarship
3 amount awarded to any eligible student under this section
4 may be available to that student, ~~upon election,~~ for
5 enrollment ~~in up to six (6) semester hours~~ during any
6 summer academic term or other academic term offered by an
7 eligible institution outside of the regular fall or spring
8 semester. ~~, subject to the following:~~

9
10 **21-16-1305. Hathaway provisional opportunity**
11 **scholarships.**

12
13 (a) Any student who meets the criteria under W.S.
14 21-16-1303 is eligible to receive a Hathaway provisional
15 opportunity scholarship to pursue a certificate or degree
16 as follows:

17
18 (i) With a minimum cumulative high school GPA of
19 2.50 and either a score equal to or greater than the
20 2015-2016 national percentile rank of thirty (30) on a
21 college entrance examination administered throughout the
22 United States and relied upon by institutions of higher
23 education to determine acceptance of students for

1 attendance or a qualifying cumulative score on a
2 career-technical aptitude test as determined by the
3 department, a scholarship ~~for:~~ in a total scholarship
4 amount of three thousand three hundred sixty dollars
5 (\$3,360.00).

6
7 (e) ~~Notwithstanding subparagraph (a)(i)(B) of this~~
8 ~~section,~~ The scholarship amount awarded to any eligible
9 student under this section may be available to that
10 student, ~~upon election,~~ for enrollment ~~in up to six (6)~~
11 ~~semester hours~~ during any summer academic term or other
12 academic term offered by an eligible institution outside of
13 the regular fall or spring semester, ~~subject to the~~
14 ~~following:~~

15
16 **21-16-1306. Need based scholarships.**

17
18 (c) Except as provided in this subsection, no student
19 shall be required by the eligible institution to elect to
20 use a greater portion of a scholarship awarded under W.S.
21 21-16-1304 or 21-16-1305 in order to decrease the student's
22 unmet financial need. For scholarships awarded under W.S.

1 21-16-1304 and 21-16-1305 the calculation of unmet
2 financial need shall be in accordance with the following:

3

4 (i) For students receiving the Hathaway honors
5 scholarship, the scholarship amount used to calculate unmet
6 financial need shall be:

7

8 (A) One thousand six hundred eighty dollars
9 (\$1,680.00) per semester; or

10

11 (B) The amount provided under subparagraph
12 (A) of this paragraph times a fraction, the numerator of
13 which is the number of hours for which the student is
14 enrolled per semester and the denominator is twelve (12),
15 if the student enrolled at an eligible institution for at
16 least six (6) and less than twelve (12) semester hours.

17

18 (ii) For students receiving the Hathaway
19 performance scholarship, the scholarship amount used to
20 calculate unmet financial need shall be the lesser of:

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22 (A) The scholarship amount actually used by
23 the student in the semester; or

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(B) One thousand two hundred sixty dollars (\$1,260.00) per semester.

(iii) For students receiving the Hathaway opportunity scholarship, the scholarship amount to calculate unmet financial need shall be the lesser of:

(A) The scholarship amount actually used by the student in the semester; or

(B) Eight hundred forty dollars (\$840.00) per semester.

(iv) For students receiving the Hathaway provisional opportunity scholarship, the scholarship amount used to calculate unmet financial need shall be the lesser of:

(A) The scholarship amount actually used by the student in the semester; or

1 (B) Eight hundred forty dollars (\$840.00)
2 per semester.

3

4 **21-16-1307. Success curriculum; test standards.**

5

6 (b) Except as otherwise provided for by law, the
7 success curriculum required to qualify for honor or
8 performance scholarship eligibility under this article ~~for~~
9 ~~students graduating from high school in the 2019-2020~~
10 ~~school year and each school year thereafter~~ shall be as
11 follows:

12

13 (d) The success curriculum required to qualify for
14 opportunity scholarship eligibility under this article ~~for~~
15 ~~students graduating from high school in the 2010-2011~~
16 ~~school year and each school year thereafter~~ shall be as
17 follows:

18

19 (e) The success curriculum required to qualify for
20 provisional opportunity scholarship eligibility under this
21 article ~~for students graduating from high school in the~~
22 ~~2010-2011 school year and each school year thereafter~~ shall

1 be the curriculum required for high school graduation under
2 W.S. 21-2-304(a)(iii) subject to the following:

3

4 **21-16-1308. Administration; rules and regulations.**

5

6 (c) The department shall establish annual reporting
7 procedures for purposes of policy analysis and program
8 evaluation and providing accurate data to the legislature
9 and governor relative to the program's impact on the state
10 and on students. In developing the annual reporting
11 procedure the department shall consult with the University
12 of Wyoming and community college financial aid officers and
13 registrars or their designees. It is the intention of the
14 legislature that the reporting system and the requirements
15 thereof shall be applicable to all recipients of
16 scholarships under this article. Compliance with this
17 section shall be made a condition of receiving a
18 scholarship under this article. For any student attending
19 more than one (1) eligible institution, the home
20 institution shall be responsible for data reporting for
21 that student, and any other eligible institution shall
22 cooperate as necessary with the home institution to fulfill

1 that duty. The reporting system shall include the following
2 information:

3
4 (ii) Scholarships by students as they progress
5 from semester to semester or other equivalent periods of
6 time as may be applicable once enrolled at an eligible
7 institution. The data shall be reported by institution
8 attended, by the instructional program, and by scholarship
9 category and shall include ~~the percent of students losing~~
10 ~~scholarship eligibility due to not earning the minimum~~
11 ~~number of credit hours, the percent of students losing~~
12 ~~scholarship eligibility due to not having the required~~
13 ~~cumulative grade point average, the percent of students~~
14 ~~losing scholarship eligibility for failing to make~~
15 ~~satisfactory academic progress and~~ the percentage of
16 students losing scholarship eligibility for failing to
17 enroll. The same information shall also be reported by
18 categories showing those students qualifying through
19 career-technical aptitude assessment scores and scores on
20 high school equivalency certification, and by the group of
21 students who attended a home-based educational program and
22 did not graduate from an eligible high school;

23

1 **21-16-1309. Scholarship amounts.**

2

3 (a) Except the needs based scholarship awarded
4 pursuant to W.S. 21-16-1306, to the extent a scholarship
5 under this article would, when combined with any grant or
6 scholarship from a student financial aid program
7 administered through the state or any state institution, in
8 any semester exceed the cost of ~~attendance~~ tuition and
9 mandatory fees at the eligible institution, the scholarship
10 under this article shall be reduced by the amount necessary
11 to not exceed that cost of ~~attendance~~ tuition and mandatory
12 fees.

13

14 (c) Any student receiving a scholarship under W.S.
15 21-16-1304 or 21-16-1305 may elect to receive all or a
16 portion of the remaining scholarship amount in any semester
17 in which the student is enrolled at an eligible
18 institution. The election shall be submitted to the
19 eligible institution at the time of enrollment for an
20 academic term. The eligible institution shall calculate the
21 student's remaining scholarship amount in accordance with
22 W.S. 21-16-1301(a)(xxi) and shall include the amount, as
23 limited in this subsection, in its certification of

1 students under W.S. 21-16-1308(a)(iv). The department shall
2 review the amount certified for each student and include
3 the amount it determines to be in compliance with this
4 article in its certification to the state treasurer of
5 balances due to each institution under W.S.
6 21-16-1308(a)(v). Crediting of a student's remaining
7 scholarship amount under this subsection shall be limited
8 so that the remaining scholarship amount to be credited
9 does not exceed the cost of the student's tuition and
10 mandatory fees for the semester.

11
12 **21-16-1312. Hathaway expand Wyoming scholarship;**
13 **eligibility requirements and conditions; selection.**

14
15 (c) A Hathaway expand Wyoming scholarship shall be
16 for the student's cost of ~~attendance~~ tuition and mandatory
17 fees at an eligible institution, but not to exceed the
18 maximum dollar amount provided to students receiving a
19 trustee scholarship at the University of Wyoming and
20 subject to reduction in accordance with W.S. 21-16-1309(a).
21 No student shall be eligible for a Hathaway expand Wyoming
22 scholarship for more than the equivalent of eight (8)
23 full-time semesters. ~~Minimum continuing eligibility and~~

1 ~~reinstatement eligibility requirements for a Hathaway~~
2 ~~expand Wyoming scholarship shall be the same as~~
3 ~~requirements for a Hathaway honors scholarship. These~~
4 ~~minimum requirements may be increased by rule of the~~
5 ~~department to requirements no more stringent than those~~
6 ~~imposed by the University of Wyoming for recipients of a~~
7 ~~trustee scholarship. Hathaway expand Wyoming scholarships~~
8 ~~may be reduced in the same manner and to lower levels as~~
9 ~~provided for Hathaway honor scholarships for failure to~~
10 ~~meet continuing eligibility requirements. To remain~~
11 ~~eligible for the scholarship under this section, the~~
12 ~~student shall:~~

13

14 (i) Maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.25;

15

16 (ii) Enroll in at least twelve (12) semester
17 hours for each spring and fall semester for the duration of
18 the scholarship;

19

20 (iii) Successfully complete at least twenty-four
21 (24) semester hours each academic year.

22

23 **21-18-404. Student grants; amounts.**

1

2 There shall be made available student grants under the
3 Wyoming works program. The grant amount shall not exceed

4 ~~the amount provided for two (2) semesters under the~~

5 ~~Hathaway provisional opportunity scholarship pursuant to~~

6 ~~W.S. 21-16-1305(a)(i)(A),~~ one thousand six hundred eighty

7 dollars (\$1,680.00) in any one (1) academic year, unless

8 the credential program is in an economic sector determined

9 by the commission to fulfill a critical workforce need.

10 For credential programs in such economic sectors, the grant

11 amount shall not exceed ~~the amount provided for two (2)~~

12 ~~semesters under the Hathaway honor scholarship pursuant to~~

13 ~~W.S. 21-16-1304(a)(iii)(A)~~ three thousand three hundred

14 sixty dollars (\$3,360.00) in any one (1) academic year.

15 One-half (1/2) of the annual award shall be provided to the

16 student at each fall and spring academic term of

17 qualification, unless the credential program or course is

18 for a defined period of less than a full semester or the

19 student elects to reserve any portion of the annual award

20 for attendance at a subsequent summer school term. For

21 credential programs of one (1) term or less, cost of

22 attendance and unmet financial need shall be calculated on

23 a projected annual basis, but the annual award amount shall

1 be provided in full in the term of attendance, on a
2 prorated basis.

3

4 **Section 2.** W.S. 21-16-1301(a)(xiv), 21-16-1303(f),
5 21-16-1304(a)(i)(A) through (C), (ii)(A) through (C),
6 (iii)(A) through (C), (b) through (g) and (h)(i) through
7 (v) and 21-16-1305(a)(i)(A) through (C), (ii), (iii), (b)
8 through (d) and (e)(i) through (v) are repealed.

9

10 **Section 3.** For any student who received a Hathaway
11 honors, performance, opportunity, provisional opportunity
12 or need based scholarship before the effective date of this
13 act and who continues to have eligibility for the
14 scholarship, the student shall continue to receive the
15 scholarship pursuant to title 21, chapter 16, article 13 of
16 the Wyoming Statutes as in effect on June 30, 2026.

17

18 **Section 4.** This act is effective July 1, 2026.

19

20

(END)