DRAFT ONLY
NOT APPROVED FOR
INTRODUCTION

HOUSE BILL NO.

Hathaway lump sum merit scholarship.

Sponsored by: Joint Education Interim Committee

A BILL

for

AN ACT relating to the Hathaway scholarship program; amending award timing for the Hathaway scholarship program; amending eligibility requirements as specified; amending the calculation of unmet financial need; amending the calculation of scholarship amounts; deleting obsolete language; specifying applicability; repealing provisions; and providing for an effective date.

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

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STAFF COMMENT

Note: 26LSO-0096, Use of Hathaway scholarships at private institutions amends the same section of statutes contained below. The Committee may want to consider the implications and necessary conforming amendments if this bill and 26LSO-0096 become law.

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Section 1. W.S. 21-16-1301(a)(i), (ii) and by creating new paragraphs (xxi) and (xxii), 21-16-1303(b)(iii)(B) and (d), 21-16-1304(a)(i)(intro), (ii)(intro), (iii)(intro) and (h)(intro), 21-16-1305(a)(i)(intro) and (e)(intro), 21-16-1306 by creating a new subsection (c), 21-16-1307(b)(intro), (d)(intro) and (e)(intro), 21-16-1308(b)(intro), (iii)(A) and (iv)(A), 21-16-1309 by creating a new subsection (c), 21-16-1310, 21-16-1312(c) and 21-18-404 are amended to read:

21-16-1301. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(i) "Academic term" means the fall semester or term, ~~or~~ the spring semester or term, the summer semester or term or other term offered by an eligible institution.

In this article, "term" and "semester" have the same meaning; ~~except that recipients may elect to use the scholarship during summer school, which except as provided by W.S. 21-16-1304(h) and 21-16-1305(e), counts toward the maximum number of terms for which the student is eligible but does not count toward computation of an academic year;~~

(ii) "Academic year" means two (2) consecutive fall and spring semesters. ~~or terms and is the period of time a full-time student is expected to complete the equivalent of at least two (2) semesters of~~ Unless otherwise excluded under this article, academic ~~work~~ year may also include summer term or other terms;

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

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

21-16-1303. Hathaway scholarship program; eligibility requirements.

(b) Under the Hathaway scholarship program, subject to availability of funds as determined by the legislature, the state shall provide a scholarship pursuant to W.S. 21-16-1304 and 21-16-1305 to any student who has been accepted by and enrolls in an eligible institution to pursue a degree or certificate, and who meets the following qualifications:

(iii) The student has:

(B) Applied for a scholarship under this article within ~~four (4)~~ twenty (20) years of the date of high school graduation, or is otherwise eligible under rules promulgated pursuant to W.S. 21-16-1308(b)(iii) and (iv). The department shall by rule ~~and regulation~~ establish exceptions to the requirement of this subparagraph for military service, religious service and other good cause shown; and

(d) No student shall be eligible for a scholarship under this article ~~for more than the equivalent of eight (8) full-time semesters. Except as provided by subsection (f) of this section, no student shall be eligible for a scholarship under this article for any semesters commencing~~ after ~~six (6)~~ twenty (20) academic years following the student's initial eligibility. For purposes of this subsection, a student's initial eligibility shall be deemed to commence with the ~~first semester in which the state is obligated to reimburse an~~ date of the eligible ~~institution for the~~ student's ~~scholarship under this article~~ high school graduation. The department shall by rule ~~and regulation~~ establish exceptions to this subsection for military service, religious service and other good cause shown.

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

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

(i) With a minimum cumulative high school GPA of 2.50 and a score equal to or greater than the 2015-2016 national percentile rank of forty-three (43) on a college entrance examination administered throughout the United States and relied upon by institutions of higher education to determine acceptance of students for attendance, a Hathaway opportunity scholarship ~~for:~~ in a total scholarship amount of six thousand seven hundred twenty dollars ($6,720.00).

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

(iii) With a minimum cumulative high school GPA of 3.5 and a score equal to or greater than the 2015-2016 national percentile rank of seventy-nine (79) on an

examination administered throughout the United States and relied upon by institutions of higher education to determine acceptance of students for attendance, a Hathaway honor scholarship ~~for:~~ in a total scholarship amount of thirteen thousand four hundred forty dollars ($13,440.00).

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

21-16-1305. Hathaway provisional opportunity scholarships.

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

(i) With a minimum cumulative high school GPA of 2.50 and either a score equal to or greater than the 2015-2016 national percentile rank of thirty (30) on a college entrance examination administered throughout the United States and relied upon by institutions of higher education to determine acceptance of students for attendance or a qualifying cumulative score on a career-technical aptitude test as determined by the department, a scholarship ~~for:~~ in a total scholarship amount of three thousand three hundred sixty dollars ($3,360.00).

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STAFF COMMENT

This draft resurrects 22LSO-0163, Hathaway lump sum merit scholarship as instructed by the Committee. The amendments to the Opportunity and the Provisional Scholarships make the scholarships redundant with the exception of the necessary scores for eligibility. Both can be used at a community college or the University of Wyoming. Both award the same amount. The Committee may wish to consider repealing one of the scholarships and make a determination regarding minimum academic requirements for eligibility.

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(e) ~~Notwithstanding subparagraph (a)(i)(B) of this section,~~ The scholarship amount awarded to any eligible student under this section may be available to that

student~~, upon election,~~ for enrollment ~~in up to six (6) semester hours~~ during any summer academic term or other academic term offered by an eligible institution outside of the regular fall or spring semester.~~, subject to the following:~~

21-16-1306. Need based scholarships.

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

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

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

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

(ii) For students receiving the Hathaway performance 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

(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

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

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STAFF COMMENT

This draft resurrects 22LSO-0163, Hathaway lump sum merit scholarship as instructed by the Committee. Pursuant to the draft, the Honor's Scholarship, a student is required to be enrolled in at least 6 credit hours to receive the Need Based Scholarship and the Need Based Scholarship is prorated bases on the number of courses a student takes. See page 9, lines 16-21. The Performance, Opportunity, and Provisional Scholarships do not contain the same requirements. This is a policy choice for the Committee and the Legislature. The purpose of this comment is to draw your attention to the two different policy choices contained in this draft.

Secondly, if the Committee repeals the Opportunity or Provisional Scholarship, conforming amendments will be necessary to in subsection (c) of this section.

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

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

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

(e) The success curriculum required to qualify for provisional opportunity scholarship eligibility under this article ~~for students graduating from high school in the~~

~~2010-2011 school year and each school year thereafter~~ shall be the curriculum required for high school graduation under W.S. 21-2-304(a)(iii) subject to the following:

21-16-1308. Administration and rules.

(b) The department shall, in consultation with University of Wyoming and community college admissions officers, the Wyoming community college commission and financial aid officers and school districts, promulgate rules ~~and regulations~~ necessary to implement this article, including:

(iii) Criteria and procedures under which students in a home-based educational program can qualify for scholarships under this article. A student in a home-based educational program:

(A) Shall make application for an initial scholarship before his ~~twenty-first~~ forty-first birthday;

(iv) Criteria and procedures under which students who receive a high school equivalency certificate

can qualify for scholarships under this article. A student receiving a high school equivalency certificate shall:

(A) Receive the certificate and make application for the initial scholarship no later than ~~four (4)~~ twenty (20) years after and no sooner than the graduation date of the student's high school class, unless ordered by a court to complete the requirements for the certificate prior to that graduation date or for other good cause shown as determined by the department. For purposes of making application prior to the graduation date of the student's class, "other good cause" shall include, but is not limited to, a showing by the student that the student has been emancipated under W.S. 14-1-201 through 14-1-206 or that the student is a parent or a legal guardian of a minor. The student shall have attended an eligible high school prior to receiving his certificate and shall have received his certificate while residing in Wyoming;

21-16-1309. Scholarship amounts.

(c) Any student receiving a scholarship under W.S 21-16-1304 or 21-16-1305 may elect to receive all or a

portion of his remaining scholarship amount in any semester in which the student is enrolled at an eligible institution. The election shall be submitted to the eligible institution at the time of enrollment for an academic term. The eligible institution shall calculate the student's remaining scholarship amount in accordance with W.S. 21-16-1301(a)(xxi) and shall include the amount, as limited in this subsection, in its certification of students under W.S. 21-16-1308(a)(iv). The department shall review the amount certified for each student and include the amount it determines to be in compliance with this article in its certification to the state treasurer of balances due to each institution under W.S. 21-16-1308(a)(v). Crediting of a student's remaining scholarship amount under this subsection shall be limited so that the remaining scholarship amount to be credited does not exceed the cost of the student's tuition and mandatory fees for the semester.

21-16-1310. Legislative oversight and authority.

Nothing in this article shall be construed to constitute an entitlement to a scholarship established and funded by the

legislature. Wyoming Hathaway scholarships shall be subject to legislative appropriation and the legislature reserves the right to modify or terminate the program established under this article at any time. Scholarships awarded under this article shall not be transferred by the student recipient or expended for any purpose except as provided in this article.

21-16-1312. Hathaway expand Wyoming scholarship; eligibility requirements and conditions; selection.

(c) A Hathaway expand Wyoming scholarship shall be for the student's cost of attendance at an eligible institution, but not to exceed the maximum dollar amount provided to students receiving a trustee scholarship at the University of Wyoming and subject to reduction in accordance with W.S. 21-16-1309(a). No student shall be eligible for a Hathaway expand Wyoming scholarship for more than the equivalent of eight (8) full-time semesters. ~~Minimum continuing eligibility and reinstatement eligibility requirements for a Hathaway expand Wyoming scholarship shall be the same as requirements for a Hathaway honors scholarship. These minimum requirements~~

~~may be increased by rule of the department to requirements no more stringent than those imposed by the University of Wyoming for recipients of a trustee scholarship. Hathaway expand Wyoming scholarships may be reduced in the same manner and to lower levels as provided for Hathaway honor scholarships for failure to meet continuing eligibility requirements.~~ To remain eligible for the scholarship under this section, the student shall:

(i) Maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.25;

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

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

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STAFF COMMENT

The Legislature has not appropriated funds to award scholarships under the Hathaway Expand Wyoming Scholarship. It is a policy choice whether the Committee would like to amend the statute as noted above or repeal the statute as the program has not been operational since enacted by 2019 Wyo. Sess. Laws, Ch. 81.

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21-18-404. Student grants; amounts.

There shall be made available student grants under the Wyoming works program. The grant amount shall not exceed ~~the amount provided for two (2) semesters under the Hathaway provisional opportunity scholarship pursuant to W.S. 21-16-1305(a)(i)(A),~~ one thousand six hundred eighty dollars ($1,680.00) in any one (1) academic year, unless the credential program is in an economic sector determined by the commission to fulfill a critical workforce need. For credential programs in such economic sectors, the grant amount shall not exceed ~~the amount provided for two (2) semesters under the Hathaway honor scholarship pursuant to W.S. 21-16-1304(a)(iii)(A)~~ three thousand three hundred sixty dollars ($3,360.00) in any one (1) academic year. One-half (1/2) of the annual award shall be provided to the student at each fall and spring academic term of qualification, unless the credential program or course is for a defined period of less than a full semester or the student elects to reserve any portion of the annual award for attendance at a subsequent summer school term. For

credential programs of one (1) term or less, cost of attendance and unmet financial need shall be calculated on a projected annual basis, but the annual award amount shall be provided in full in the term of attendance, on a prorated basis.

Section 2. W.S. 21-16-1301(a)(xiv), 21-16-1303(e)(vi) and (f), 21-16-1304(a)(i)(A) through (C), (ii)(A) through (C), (iii)(A) through (C), (b) through (g) and (h)(i) through (v), 21-16-1305(a)(i) (A) through (C), (ii) and (iii), (b) through (d) and (e)(i) through (v) and 21-16-1308(b)(v) are repealed.

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STAFF COMMENT

For informational purposes, the following provisions in italics are repealed by section 2:

*** Note: The provisions cited below do not reflect the amendments in section 1. Refer to section 1 for changes to laws not repealed by section 2.**

21-16-1301. Definitions.

(a) As used in this article:

(xiv) "Satisfactory academic progress" means, except as further specified in this paragraph, completing at least six (6) semester hours per semester if enrolled for less than twelve (12) semester hours and completing at least twelve (12) semester hours per semester if enrolled for twelve (12) or more semester hours, and meeting such

other criteria as established by the eligible institution to ensure the student earns his degree or certificate in a timely manner. The student's hours of enrollment for purposes of this paragraph shall be the same number of hours of enrollment used to determine the state's obligation to reimburse the eligible institution for the student's scholarship under this article. Satisfactory academic progress shall be determined annually following the spring semester, but a student's scholarship may be reinstated pursuant to W.S. 21-16-1304(f)(i) or 21-16-1305(d)(i) following any semester or summer school session. For students enrolled in a program at a Wyoming community college that requires on-the-job training and less than six (6) credit hours per semester to receive a certificate, "satisfactory academic progress" means completing all semester hours the student is enrolled in each semester, meeting the hourly on-the-job training requirements and meeting other criteria as established by the Wyoming community college to ensure the student earns the certificate in a timely manner;

21-16-1303. Hathaway scholarship program; eligibility requirements.

(e) A student is not eligible for a scholarship under this article if he:

(vi) Has been convicted of a felony in this state or another jurisdiction and has not been granted an exception by the department of education as provided for in W.S. 21-16-1308(b)(v);

(f) Students meeting the requirements of this subsection shall not be subject to the six (6) academic year limitation on scholarships under this article, the satisfactory academic progress requirements of W.S. 21-16-1304(c)(i) and 21-16-1305(b)(i) or the continuous enrollment requirements of W.S. 21-16-1304(c)(ii) and 21-16-1305(b)(ii), but shall be subject to the following:

(i) Have been initially eligible for and received a Hathaway scholarship;

(ii) Have received an associate of applied science degree from an eligible institution;

(iii) Have engaged in a vocation related to the associate of applied science degree after initially receiving a Hathaway scholarship;

(iv) Within the earlier of eight (8) years of initial Hathaway scholarship eligibility or four (4) years of last attending an eligible institution while receiving a Hathaway scholarship, have enrolled at the University of Wyoming or a Wyoming community college to complete a baccalaureate of applied science degree and have applied for reinstatement of the student's Hathaway scholarship;

(v) Upon application for reinstatement of the Hathaway scholarship, be subject to the maintenance grade point average and other eligibility requirements under this article;

(vi) Upon reinstatement of eligibility, be subject to the satisfactory academic progress requirements of W.S. 21-16-1304(c)(i) and 21-16-1305(b)(i) and the continuous enrollment requirements of W.S. 21-16-1304(c)(ii) and 21-16-1305(b)(ii);

(vii) Not have received a Hathaway scholarship for more than the equivalent of four (4) full-time semesters; and

(viii) Not be eligible for a scholarship under this article:

(A) For more than a total of the equivalent of eight (8) full-time semesters; nor

(B) For any semesters commencing after ten (10) academic years following the student's initial eligibility.

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

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

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

(A) Eight hundred forty dollars ($840.00) per semester at an eligible institution if enrolled for twelve (12) or more semester hours;

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

(C) For students enrolled in a program at a Wyoming community college that requires on-the-job training and credit hours to receive a certificate that are enrolled in less than six (6) hours per semester, the amount provided under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph times a fraction, the numerator of which is the number of hours for which the student is enrolled and the denominator is twelve (12).

(ii) With a minimum cumulative high school GPA of 3.0 and a score equal to or greater than the 2015-2016 national percentile rank of fifty-six (56) on a college entrance examination administered throughout the United States and relied upon by institutions of higher education to determine acceptance of students for attendance, a Hathaway performance scholarship for:

(A) One thousand two hundred sixty dollars ($1,260.00) per semester at an eligible institution if enrolled for twelve (12) or more semester hours;

(B) The amount provided under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph times a fraction, the numerator of which is the number of hours for which the student is enrolled and the denominator is twelve (12), if enrolled at

an eligible institution for at least six (6) and less than twelve (12) semester hours;

(C) For students enrolled in a program at a Wyoming community college that requires on-the-job training and credit hours to receive a certificate that are enrolled in less than six (6) hours per semester, the amount provided under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph times a fraction, the numerator of which is the number of hours for which the student is enrolled and the denominator is twelve (12).

(iii) With a minimum cumulative high school GPA of 3.5 and a score equal to or greater than the 2015-2016 national percentile rank of seventy-nine (79) on an examination administered throughout the United States and relied upon by institutions of higher education to determine acceptance of students for attendance, a Hathaway honor scholarship for:

(A) One thousand six hundred eighty dollars ($1,680.00) per semester at an eligible institution if enrolled for twelve (12) or more semester hours;

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

(C) For students enrolled in a program at a Wyoming community college that requires on-the-job training and credit hours to receive a certificate that are enrolled in less than six (6) hours per semester, the amount provided under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph times a fraction, the numerator of which is the number of hours for which the student is enrolled and the denominator is twelve (12).

(b) Scholarships under this section shall be for a maximum of the equivalent of eight (8) full-time semesters. A scholarship under this section shall be available for attendance at a Wyoming community college for not more than

a maximum of the equivalent of four (4) full-time semesters, except as follows:

(i) As specified under subsection (g) of this section; or

(ii) A scholarship for a student enrolled in a baccalaureate degree program at a Wyoming community college shall be for a maximum of the equivalent of eight (8) full-time semesters.

(c) To remain eligible for the scholarship under this section, the student shall:

(i) Except as provided in W.S. 21-16-1303(f) and subsection (h) of this section, make satisfactory academic progress toward a certificate or degree. If a student fails to make satisfactory academic progress or maintain the cumulative grade point average required for continuation in the program as provided in this subsection, the student shall become ineligible for the scholarship in subsequent semesters unless granted an exception for cause by the department or except as otherwise provided in subsection (f) of this section. The department may delegate to any eligible institution the department's authority to grant an exception for cause, but shall only do so in accordance with department rules establishing procedures and criteria for granting an exception and any eligible institution acting pursuant to such delegation shall grant exceptions only in accordance with those rules;

(ii) Except as provided in W.S. 21-16-1303(f) and subsections (f) and (h) of this section, maintain continuous enrollment for not less than two (2) semesters in each successive academic year. The department shall by rule and regulation establish exceptions to the requirement of this paragraph for military service, religious service and other good cause shown; and

(iii) Maintain a cumulative grade point average as evaluated at the end of each spring academic term as follows:

(A) For Hathaway opportunity scholarships, at least a 2.25 GPA;

(B) For Hathaway performance scholarships and Hathaway honor scholarships, at least a 2.50 GPA.

(d) A student receiving a Hathaway honor scholarship or a Hathaway performance scholarship who fails to meet the GPA requirements of subsection (c) of this section necessary to maintain that scholarship may be awarded a Hathaway opportunity scholarship for attendance at an appropriate eligible institution if he meets the requirements necessary to maintain that scholarship.

(e) The cumulative grade point average required under this section to maintain a scholarship shall be the student's grade point average achieved at all eligible institutions after the student's initial eligibility as determined under W.S. 21-16-1303(d).

(f) If a student is otherwise eligible under this article and neither the applicable number of full-time equivalent semesters nor the maximum scholarship eligibility time period specified under subsection (b) of this section and W.S. 21-16-1303(d), including semesters for which a scholarship was not received, has been reached, a scholarship under this section which is lost may be reinstated if the student meets the applicable requirements imposed by this subsection and successfully completes courses at an eligible institution in a summer school session for which the student enrolled in at least six (6) semester hours or an academic term occurring during the period the scholarship is lost. A lost scholarship shall be reinstated in the first academic term following the academic term or summer school session during which the student:

(i) Attains satisfactory academic progress as defined by W.S. 21-16-1301(a)(xiv) for a scholarship lost under this subsection for failure to meet the requirements of paragraph (c)(i) of this section; or

(ii) Achieves the cumulative grade point average required of the applicable scholarship under paragraph (c)(iii) of this section for a scholarship lost for failure to meet the requirements of paragraph (c)(iii) of this section; or

(iii) For a scholarship lost for failure to meet the requirements of (c)(ii) of this section, enrolls and completes one (1) academic term as a full-time or part-time student, whichever is applicable, occurring during the period in which the scholarship is lost.

(g) Notwithstanding subsection (b) of this section, a scholarship received under this section for attendance at a Wyoming community college for four (4) full-time semesters may be extended for continued attendance at a Wyoming community college by a student who otherwise remains eligible for that scholarship under this article, and that student has earned a certificate or degree from a Wyoming community college or has otherwise successfully completed sufficient courses for eligibility to enroll in courses within a program offered by a Wyoming community college which leads to a professional degree. A scholarship extended under this subsection shall not exceed the maximum equivalent of eight (8) full-time semesters when combined with the four (4) full-time semesters of initial community college attendance under the scholarship and shall not support enrollment in coursework at an institution other than a Wyoming community college or the University of Wyoming.

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

(i) The amount provided under subparagraph (a)(i)(A), (ii)(A) or (iii)(A) of this section, as applicable, for enrollment in up to six (6) hours during any summer term or other academic term offered by an eligible institution shall be available in an amount equal to the proportion of the per semester scholarship amount that the number of semester hours enrolled bears to twelve (12);

(ii) The computation under paragraph (i) of this subsection shall be based upon that scholarship amount for which the student is qualified under this section at the time of his enrollment in the summer or other academic term pursuant to this subsection;

(iii) The amount paid under this subsection shall be included in computing the student's total maximum scholarship amount under this section, as applied to that scholarship amount for which the student qualifies under this section at the time of his last eligible academic semester or semesters, as applicable;

(iv) Scholarships under this subsection shall not be included in computations for that student's six (6) academic year limitation on scholarships under this section, his eight (8) or four (4) full-time semester equivalency limitation under subsection (b) of this section, as applicable, his satisfactory academic progress requirements under paragraph (c)(i) of this section, his continuous enrollment requirements under paragraph (c)(ii) of this section or in reinstating lost scholarships under paragraph (f)(iii) of this section;

(v) The student's hours of enrollment under this subsection shall be used to determine the state's obligation to reimburse the eligible institution for the student's scholarship as applied under this subsection, subject to W.S. 21-16-1308(a)(v) and rules and regulations of the department.

21-16-1305. Hathaway provisional opportunity scholarships.

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

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

qualifying cumulative score on a career-technical aptitude test as determined by the department, a scholarship for:

(A) Eight hundred forty dollars ($840.00) per semester at a Wyoming community college if enrolled for twelve (12) or more semester hours;

(B) The amount provided under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph times a fraction, the numerator of which is the number of hours for which the student is enrolled and the denominator is twelve (12), if enrolled at a Wyoming community college for at least six (6) and less than twelve (12) semester hours;

(C) For students enrolled in a program at a Wyoming community college that requires on-the-job training and credit hours to receive a certificate that are enrolled in less than six (6) hours per semester, the amount provided under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph times a fraction, the numerator of which is the number of hours for which the student is enrolled and the denominator is twelve (12).

(ii) Scholarships under paragraph (i) of this subsection shall be for a maximum of the equivalent of four (4) full-time semesters;

(iii) A student who receives a scholarship under paragraph (i) of this subsection and who earns a certificate from the community college with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.25 may extend the provisional opportunity scholarship to pursue either a certificate or a degree at a Wyoming community college or if the student earns a degree from the community college with a minimum GPA of 2.25, may extend the scholarship to pursue a degree at the University of Wyoming if the student maintains a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.25 and otherwise remains eligible for a scholarship under this article. A student who receives a scholarship under paragraph (i) of this subsection, is enrolled in a community college applied baccalaureate program and has received a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.25 after four (4) full-time semesters may extend the provisional opportunity scholarship for an additional four (4) full-time semesters to complete the baccalaureate degree if the student maintains a minimum cumulative GPA of

2.25 and otherwise remains eligible for a scholarship under this article. The scholarship under this paragraph shall be for the same amounts and subject to the same limitations as provided for scholarships under paragraph (a)(i) of this section, except that the student may continue a baccalaureate program or pursue either an additional certificate or a degree and the student may use this scholarship while attending a Wyoming community college or the University of Wyoming.

(b) To remain eligible for the scholarship award under this section, the student shall:

(i) Except as provided by W.S. 21-16-1303(f) and subsection (e) of this section, make satisfactory academic progress toward a certificate or degree. If a student fails to make satisfactory academic progress or maintain the cumulative grade point average required for continuation in the program provided in paragraph (iii) of this subsection, the student shall become ineligible for the scholarship in subsequent semesters unless granted an exception for cause by the department or except as otherwise provided in subsection (d) of this section. The department may delegate to any eligible institution the department's authority to grant an exception for cause, but shall only do so in accordance with department rules establishing procedures and criteria for granting an exception and any eligible institution acting pursuant to such delegation shall grant exceptions only in accordance with those rules;

(ii) Except as provided by W.S. 21-16-1303(f) and subsections (d) and (e) of this section, maintain continuous enrollment for not less than two (2) semesters in each successive academic year. The department shall by rule and regulation establish exceptions to the requirement of this paragraph for military service, religious service and other good cause shown; and

(iii) Maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.25 GPA, as evaluated at the end of each spring academic term for certificates or degrees that require more than one (1) academic year.

(c) The cumulative grade point average required under this section to maintain a scholarship shall be the

student's grade point average achieved at all eligible institutions after the student's initial eligibility as determined under W.S. 21-16-1303(d).

(d) If a student is otherwise eligible under this article and neither the applicable number of full-time equivalent semesters nor the maximum scholarship eligibility time period specified under paragraph (a)(ii) of this section and W.S. 21-16-1303(d), including semesters for which a scholarship was not received, has been reached, a scholarship under this section which is lost may be reinstated if the student meets the applicable requirements imposed by this subsection and successfully completes courses at an eligible institution in a summer school session for which the student enrolled in at least six (6) semester hours or an academic term occurring during the period the scholarship is lost. A lost scholarship shall be reinstated in the first academic term following the academic term or summer school session during which the student:

(i) Attains satisfactory academic progress as defined by W.S. 21-16-1301(a)(xiv) for a scholarship lost for failure to meet the requirements of paragraph (b)(i) of this section; or

(ii) Achieves the cumulative grade point average required under paragraph (b)(iii) of this section for a scholarship lost for failure to meet the requirements of paragraph (b)(iii) of this section; or

(iii) For a scholarship lost for failure to meet the requirements of paragraph (b)(ii) of this section, enrolls and completes one (1) academic term as a full-time or part-time student, whichever is applicable, occurring during the period in which the scholarship is lost.

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

(i) The amount provided under subparagraph (a)(i)(A) of this section for enrollment in up to six (6) hours during any summer term or other academic term offered by an eligible institution shall be available in an amount equal to the proportion of the per semester scholarship amount that the number of semester hours enrolled bears to twelve (12);

(ii) The computation under paragraph (i) of this subsection shall be based upon that scholarship amount for which the student is qualified under this section at the time of his enrollment in the summer or other academic term pursuant to this subsection;

(iii) The amount paid under this subsection shall be included in computing the student's total maximum scholarship amount under this section, as applied to that scholarship amount for which the student qualifies under this section at the time of his last eligible academic semester or semesters, as applicable;

(iv) Scholarships under this subsection shall not be included in computations for that student's six (6) academic year limitation on his scholarship under this section, his four (4) year full-time semester equivalency limitation or extension thereof under paragraph (a)(iii) of this section, his satisfactory academic progress requirements under paragraph (b)(i) of this section, his continuous enrollment requirements under paragraph (b)(ii) of this section or in reinstating lost scholarships under paragraph (d)(iii) of this section;

(v) The student's hours of enrollment under this subsection shall be used to determine the state's obligation to reimburse the eligible institution for the student's scholarship as applied under this subsection, subject to W.S. 21-16-1308(a)(v) and rules and regulations of the department.

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

(b) The department shall, in consultation with University of Wyoming and community college admissions officers, the Wyoming community college commission and financial aid officers and school districts, promulgate

rules and regulations necessary to implement this article, including:

(v) Criteria, which shall include satisfactory completion of all terms and conditions imposed upon the applicant by the court in which the felony conviction was obtained, in order to determine when an exception may be granted to W.S. 21-16-1303(e)(vi) to allow the person to receive a scholarship under this article;

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Section 3. For any student who received a Hathaway honors, performance, opportunity or provisional opportunity scholarship before the effective date of this act and who continues to have eligibility for the scholarship, the student shall continue to receive the scholarship pursuant to Title 21, Chapter 16, Article 13 of the Wyoming Statutes as in effect on June 30, 2026.

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

(END)