

REFERENCE TITLE: law enforcement; families; tuition scholarships

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Fifty-sixth Legislature  
First Regular Session  
2023

## **HB 2420**

Introduced by  
Representative Gress

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 15, CHAPTER 14, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY  
ADDING SECTION 15-1809.02; APPROPRIATING MONIES; RELATING TO EDUCATION.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Title 15, chapter 14, article 1, Arizona Revised  
3 Statutes, is amended by adding section 15-1809.02, to read:

4 15-1809.02. Spouses and dependents of law enforcement  
5 officers tuition scholarship fund; tuition  
6 scholarships; eligibility; rules; definition

7 A. THE SPOUSES AND DEPENDENTS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS TUITION  
8 SCHOLARSHIP FUND IS ESTABLISHED CONSISTING OF LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATIONS.  
9 THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS SHALL ADMINISTER THE FUND. MONIES IN THE  
10 FUND ARE SUBJECT TO LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATION AND ARE EXEMPT FROM THE  
11 PROVISIONS OF SECTION 35-190 RELATING TO LAPSING OF APPROPRIATIONS.  
12 SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE MONIES, THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS SHALL USE THE  
13 MONIES IN THE FUND TO AWARD TUITION SCHOLARSHIPS TO ANY PERSON WHO MEETS  
14 BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

15 1. ENROLLS IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

16 (a) A UNIVERSITY UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE ARIZONA BOARD OF  
17 REGENTS.

18 (b) A COMMUNITY COLLEGE AS DEFINED IN SECTION 15-1401.

19 (c) A CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION DISTRICT PROGRAM AS DEFINED IN  
20 SECTION 15-391.

21 (d) A PRIVATE POSTSECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION IN THIS STATE  
22 THAT IS LICENSED PURSUANT TO TITLE 32, CHAPTER 30, ARTICLE 2.

23 2. IS THE SPOUSE OR A DEPENDENT OF A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER IN  
24 THIS STATE.

25 B. A PERSON WHO MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION A  
26 OF THIS SECTION MAY APPLY TO THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS FOR A TUITION  
27 SCHOLARSHIP FROM THE FUND IN A MANNER PRESCRIBED BY THE ARIZONA BOARD OF  
28 REGENTS. SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE MONIES, THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS SHALL  
29 AWARD AN ELIGIBLE PERSON A TUITION SCHOLARSHIP THAT IS EQUAL TO THE AMOUNT  
30 OF TUITION AND MANDATORY FEES CHARGED BY THE UNIVERSITY, COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
31 OR CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION DISTRICT IN WHICH THE PERSON IS ENROLLED,  
32 REDUCED BY THE AMOUNT OF ANY FEDERAL AID SCHOLARSHIPS OR PUBLIC GRANTS AND  
33 ANY OTHER FINANCIAL GIFTS, GRANTS OR AID RECEIVED BY THAT PERSON, EXCEPT  
34 THAT IF THE PERSON IS ENROLLED IN A PRIVATE POSTSECONDARY EDUCATIONAL  
35 INSTITUTION, THE TUITION SCHOLARSHIP MAY NOT EXCEED THE REMAINDER OF THE  
36 AVERAGE IN-STATE TUITION AND FEES CHARGED BY UNIVERSITIES UNDER THE  
37 JURISDICTION OF THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS MINUS OTHER GIFTS AND AID  
38 AWARDED TO THAT PERSON. THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS SHALL VERIFY THAT  
39 THE PERSON SATISFIES THE REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION A OF THIS  
40 SECTION BEFORE AWARDING A TUITION SCHOLARSHIP. IF THE ARIZONA BOARD OF  
41 REGENTS DETERMINES THAT A PERSON NO LONGER SATISFIES THE REQUIREMENTS  
42 PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION, THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS  
43 MAY NOT AWARD A SUBSEQUENT TUITION SCHOLARSHIP FROM THE FUND UNTIL THE  
44 PERSON SUBMITS DOCUMENTATION SHOWING THAT THE PERSON SATISFIES ALL  
45 REQUIREMENTS PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION.

1 C. A TUITION SCHOLARSHIP PROVIDED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL  
2 BE:

3 1. LIMITED TO NOT MORE THAN FOUR ACADEMIC YEARS OR EIGHT SEMESTERS.

4 2. USED ONLY FOR A CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION DISTRICT PROGRAM  
5 CERTIFICATE OR LICENSE, A PRIVATE VOCATIONAL PROGRAM AS DEFINED IN SECTION  
6 32-3001, AN ASSOCIATE DEGREE OR A BACCALAUREATE DEGREE.

7 3. USED ONLY TO PAY TUITION AND MANDATORY FEES AT A CAREER  
8 TECHNICAL EDUCATION DISTRICT PROGRAM AS DEFINED IN SECTION 15-391, A  
9 PRIVATE POSTSECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION IN THIS STATE THAT IS  
10 LICENSED PURSUANT TO TITLE 32, CHAPTER 30, ARTICLE 2, A UNIVERSITY UNDER  
11 THE JURISDICTION OF THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS OR A COMMUNITY COLLEGE AS  
12 DEFINED IN SECTION 15-1401. IF THE APPLICANT IS NOT CHARGED TO ATTEND A  
13 CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION DISTRICT PROGRAM, THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS  
14 MAY NOT AWARD THE APPLICANT A TUITION SCHOLARSHIP UNDER THIS SECTION.

15 D. TUITION SCHOLARSHIPS UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE AWARDED ON A  
16 FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS. IF THERE ARE INSUFFICIENT MONIES IN THE  
17 FUND, THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS MAY NOT AWARD A TUITION SCHOLARSHIP TO  
18 AN ELIGIBLE PERSON UNDER THIS SECTION.

19 E. THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS MAY ADOPT RULES FOR THE PURPOSES OF  
20 ADMINISTERING THIS SECTION.

21 F. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER"  
22 MEANS A PEACE OFFICER AS DEFINED IN SECTION 1-215 OR A CORRECTIONAL  
23 OFFICER.

24 Sec. 2. Appropriation; spouses and dependents of law  
25 enforcement officers tuition scholarship fund;  
26 intent

27 A. The sum of \$10,000,000 is appropriated from the state general  
28 fund in fiscal year 2023-2024 to the spouses and dependents of law  
29 enforcement officers tuition scholarship fund established by section  
30 15-1809.02, Arizona Revised Statutes, as added by this act, and is  
31 appropriated from the spouses and dependents of law enforcement officers  
32 tuition scholarship fund to the Arizona board of regents.

33 B. The legislature intends that the appropriation made in  
34 subsection A of this section be considered ongoing funding in future  
35 years.