

REFERENCE TITLE: higher education; 2023-2024

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

# HB 2817

Introduced by  
Representatives Livingston: Chaplik (with permission of Committee on  
Rules)

AN ACT

APPROPRIATING MONIES; RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

2 Section 1. Financial aid trust fund; required state match;  
3 reduction

4 Notwithstanding section 15-1642, subsection C, Arizona Revised  
5 Statutes, for fiscal year 2023-2024, each dollar raised pursuant to the  
6 surcharge on student registration fees assessed pursuant to section  
7 15-1642, subsection A, Arizona Revised Statutes, may be matched by less  
8 than \$2 appropriated by the legislature.

9 Sec. 2. Arizona veterinary loan assistance fund; investment  
10 earnings; retroactivity; delayed repeal

11 A. In fiscal year 2023-2024, on notice from the Arizona board of  
12 regents, the state treasurer shall invest and divest monies in the Arizona  
13 veterinary loan assistance fund established by section 15-1650.06, Arizona  
14 Revised Statutes, as provided by section 35-313, Arizona Revised Statutes,  
15 and monies earned from investment shall be credited to the fund.

16 B. This section applies retroactively to from and after June 30,  
17 2023.

18 C. This section is repealed from and after December 31, 2024.

19 Sec. 3. Spouses of military veterans tuition scholarship  
20 fund; investment earnings; retroactivity; delayed  
21 repeal

22 A. In fiscal year 2023-2024, on notice from the Arizona board of  
23 regents, the state treasurer shall invest and divest monies in the spouses  
24 of military veterans tuition scholarship fund established by section  
25 15-1809, Arizona Revised Statutes, as provided by section 35-313, Arizona  
26 Revised Statutes, and monies earned from investment shall be credited to  
27 the fund.

28 B. This section applies retroactively to from and after June 30,  
29 2023.

30 C. This section is repealed from and after December 31, 2024.

31 Sec. 4. Community college districts; state aid for science,  
32 technology, engineering and mathematics and  
33 workforce programs

34 Notwithstanding section 15-1464, subsection A, paragraph 3, Arizona  
35 Revised Statutes, state aid for science, technology, engineering and  
36 mathematics and workforce programs for community college districts for  
37 fiscal year 2023-2024 is as specified in the general appropriations act.

38 Sec. 5. Community college districts; operating state aid;  
39 eligibility; limits

40 Notwithstanding section 15-1466, Arizona Revised Statutes, operating  
41 state aid for community college districts for fiscal year 2023-2024 is as  
42 specified in the general appropriations act.

1           Sec. 6. Spouses and dependents of law enforcement officers  
2                     tuition scholarship fund; tuition scholarships;  
3                     eligibility; rules; reporting requirements;  
4                     definition

5           A. The spouses and dependents of law enforcement officers tuition  
6 scholarship fund is established consisting of legislative appropriations.  
7 The Arizona board of regents shall administer the fund. Monies in the  
8 fund are continuously appropriated and are exempt from the provisions of  
9 section 35-190, Arizona Revised Statutes, relating to lapsing of  
10 appropriations. In fiscal years 2023-2024, 2024-2025, 2025-2026 and  
11 2026-2027 and subject to available monies, the Arizona board of regents  
12 shall use the monies in the fund to award tuition scholarships to any  
13 individual who meets both of the following requirements:

14           1. Enrolls in any of the following:

15           (a) A university under the jurisdiction of the Arizona board of  
16 regents.

17           (b) A community college as defined in section 15-1401, Arizona  
18 Revised Statutes.

19           (c) A career technical education program that is offered to adults  
20 or an associate degree program offered by a career technical education  
21 district pursuant to section 15-398, Arizona Revised Statutes.

22           (d) A private postsecondary educational institution in this state  
23 that is licensed pursuant to title 32, chapter 30, article 2, Arizona  
24 Revised Statutes.

25           2. Is either:

26           (a) The spouse of a law enforcement officer.

27           (b) Under twenty-seven years of age and a dependent of a law  
28 enforcement officer.

29           B. An individual who meets the requirements prescribed in  
30 subsection A of this section may apply to the Arizona board of regents for  
31 a tuition scholarship from the fund in a manner prescribed by the Arizona  
32 board of regents. Subject to available monies, the Arizona board of  
33 regents shall award an eligible individual a tuition scholarship that is  
34 equal to the amount of tuition and mandatory fees charged by the  
35 university, community college or career technical education district in  
36 which the individual is enrolled, reduced by the amount of any federal aid  
37 scholarships or public grants and any other financial gifts, grants or aid  
38 received by that individual, except that if the individual is enrolled in  
39 a private postsecondary educational institution, the tuition scholarship  
40 may not exceed the remainder of the average in-state tuition and fees  
41 charged by universities under the jurisdiction of the Arizona board of  
42 regents minus other gifts and aid awarded to that individual. The Arizona  
43 board of regents shall verify that the individual satisfies the  
44 requirements prescribed in subsection A of this section before awarding a  
45 tuition scholarship. If the Arizona board of regents determines that an

1 individual no longer satisfies the requirements prescribed in subsection A  
2 of this section, the Arizona board of regents may not distribute  
3 additional monies from the fund to the individual until the individual  
4 submits documentation showing that the individual satisfies all  
5 requirements prescribed in subsection A of this section.

6 C. A tuition scholarship provided pursuant to this section shall  
7 be:

8 1. Limited to not more than four academic years or eight semesters.

9 2. Used only for a career technical education district program  
10 certificate or license, a private vocational program as defined in section  
11 32-3001, Arizona Revised Statutes, an associate degree or a baccalaureate  
12 degree.

13 3. Used only to pay tuition and mandatory fees at a career  
14 technical education district, a private postsecondary educational  
15 institution in this state that is licensed pursuant to title 32, chapter  
16 30, article 2, Arizona Revised Statutes, a university under the  
17 jurisdiction of the Arizona board of regents or a community college as  
18 defined in section 15-1401, Arizona Revised Statutes. If the applicant is  
19 not charged to attend a career technical education district program, the  
20 Arizona board of regents may not award the applicant a tuition scholarship  
21 under this section.

22 D. Tuition scholarships under this section shall be awarded on a  
23 first-come, first-served basis. If there are insufficient monies in the  
24 fund, the Arizona board of regents may not award a tuition scholarship to  
25 an eligible individual under this section.

26 E. The Arizona board of regents may rely on a copy of the law  
27 enforcement officer's commission card and a current employment  
28 verification letter from the law enforcement officer's employer to  
29 establish that an individual is a law enforcement officer for the purposes  
30 of this section.

31 F. The Arizona board of regents may adopt rules for the purposes of  
32 administering this section.

33 G. On or before March 1, 2024 and each year thereafter, the Arizona  
34 board of regents shall report to the joint legislative budget committee  
35 and the governor's office of strategic planning and budgeting on all of  
36 the following:

37 1. The total number of students who received a tuition scholarship  
38 under this section by eligible postsecondary institution in the current  
39 academic year.

40 2. The total amounts awarded and average amounts awarded under this  
41 section by eligible postsecondary institution in the current academic  
42 year.

43 3. The total number of students who received a tuition scholarship  
44 under this section and who graduated or completed a program of study by  
45 eligible postsecondary institution.

