

Effective 7/1/2014

**Chapter 13b
Veterans Tuition Gap Program Act**

53B-13b-101 Title.

This chapter is known as the "Veterans Tuition Gap Program Act."

Enacted by Chapter 87, 2014 General Session

53B-13b-102 Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

- (1) "Federal program" means the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008, Pub. L. No. 110-252.
- (2) "Institution of higher education" or "institution" means a:
 - (a) credit-granting higher education institution within the state system of higher education; or
 - (b) an institution of higher learning, as defined in the federal program, that is located in the state.
- (3) "Program" means the Veterans Tuition Gap Program created in this chapter.
- (4)
 - (a) "Qualifying military veteran" means a veteran, as defined in Section 68-3-12.5, who:
 - (i) is a resident student under Section 53B-8-102 and rules of the board;
 - (ii) is accepted into an institution and enrolled in a program leading to a bachelor's degree;
 - (iii) has qualified for the federal program;
 - (iv) has maximized the federal benefit under the federal program; and
 - (v) has not completed a bachelor's degree.
 - (b) "Qualifying military veteran" does not include a family member.

Amended by Chapter 141, 2015 General Session

53B-13b-103 Establishment of the Veterans Tuition Gap Program.

There is established a Veterans Tuition Gap Program to serve qualifying military veterans with tuition assistance at institutions of higher education when federal benefits under the federal program are no longer available and a qualifying military veteran has not finished a bachelor's degree.

Enacted by Chapter 87, 2014 General Session

53B-13b-104 Guidelines for administration of the program.

- (1) The board shall use the guidelines in this section to develop policies to implement and administer the program.
- (2)
 - (a) The board shall allocate money appropriated for the program to institutions to provide grants for qualifying military veterans.
 - (b) The board may not use program money for administrative costs or overhead.
 - (c) An institution may not use more than 3% of its program money for administrative costs or overhead.
 - (d) Money returned to the board under Subsection (3)(b) shall be used for future allocations to institutions.

- (3)
 - (a) An institution shall award a program grant to a qualifying military veteran on an annual basis but distribute the money one quarter or semester at a time, with continuing awards contingent upon the qualifying military veteran maintaining satisfactory academic progress as defined by the institution in published policies or rules.
 - (b) At the conclusion of the academic year, money distributed to an institution that was not awarded to a qualifying military veteran or used for allowed administrative purposes shall be returned to the board.
- (4) A qualifying military veteran may receive a program grant until the earlier of the following occurs:
 - (a) the qualifying military veteran completes the requirements for a bachelor's degree; or
 - (b) 12 months from the time that the qualifying military veteran receives an initial program grant.
- (5) A qualifying military veteran who receives a program grant may only use the grant toward tuition at an institution of higher education in the state.
- (6) The board may accept grants, gifts, bequests, and devises of real and personal property from any source for the purpose of awarding grants to qualifying military veterans in addition to those funded by the state.

Enacted by Chapter 87, 2014 General Session