

1 **LAW ENFORCEMENT TUITION REIMBURSEMENT**

2 2020 SIXTH SPECIAL SESSION

3 STATE OF UTAH

4 **Chief Sponsor: Karen Mayne**

5 House Sponsor: Lee B. Perry

7 **LONG TITLE**

8 **General Description:**

9 This bill reopens the Public Safety Officer Career Advancement Reimbursement Program
10 for new applicants.

11 **Highlighted Provisions:**

12 This bill:

- 13 ▶ removes a prohibition on new applicants to the Public Safety Officer Career
14 Advancement Reimbursement Program;
- 15 ▶ provides for pro rata reimbursement distributions for eligible applicants in certain
16 circumstances;
- 17 ▶ repeals a repeal date; and
- 18 ▶ makes technical and conforming changes.

19 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

20 None

21 **Other Special Clauses:**

22 This bill provides a special effective date.

23 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

24 AMENDS:

25 **53B-8-112**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapter 444

26 **53B-8-114**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapter 444

27 **63I-2-253**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2020, Fifth Special Session, Chapter 7



28

29 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

30 Section 1. Section **53B-8-112** is amended to read:

31 **53B-8-112. Public Safety Officer Career Advancement Reimbursement**

32 **Program.**

33 (1) The Public Safety Officer Career Advancement Reimbursement Program is created.

34 ~~[(2) (a) Notwithstanding the provisions in this section, the board may not accept a new~~
35 ~~application for a reimbursement described in this section for an academic year that begins on or~~
36 ~~after July 1, 2019;]~~

37 ~~[(b)]~~ (2) Subject to legislative appropriations and Subsection (7) the board shall reimburse
38 an applicant who:

39 ~~[(i)]~~ (a) is a certified peace officer, currently employed by a law enforcement agency
40 within the state;

41 ~~[(ii)]~~ (b) has been employed as a certified peace officer for three or more consecutive
42 years;

43 ~~[(iii)]~~ (c) is seeking a post-secondary degree in the area of criminal justice from a
44 credit-granting higher education institution within the state system of higher education, described
45 in Section [53B-1-102](#); and

46 ~~[(iv)]~~ (d) is employed as a peace officer for one year following completion of the
47 academic year for which the individual is seeking reimbursement.

48 (3) Individuals who qualify for reimbursement from the Public Safety Officer Career
49 Advancement Reimbursement Program may apply for reimbursement by July 1 one year after
50 each academic year for which they are requesting reimbursement.

51 (4) Subject to Legislative appropriations, of the funds appropriated for the Public Safety
52 Officer Career Advancement Reimbursement Program:

53 (a) 25% of the annual appropriation shall be designated for applicants who are currently
54 employed by a law enforcement agency with jurisdiction in a county of the third or fourth class;
55 and

56 (b) 12% of the annual appropriation shall be designated for applicants who are currently
57 employed by a law enforcement agency with jurisdiction in a county of the fifth or sixth class.

58 (5) (a) A qualified applicant may be reimbursed up to half of the cost of tuition and fees.

59 (b) A reimbursement under Subsection (5)(a) is limited to:

60 (i) a maximum of \$5,000 each academic year; and

61 (ii) a maximum of eight academic years.

62 (6) (a) The board shall make rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah

63 Administrative Rulemaking Act, to:

64 (i) set deadlines for receiving reimbursement applications and supporting documentation;

65 and

66 (ii) establish the application process and an appeal process for a reimbursement from the

67 Public Safety Officer Career Advancement Reimbursement Program, including procedures to

68 allow for online application submittals.

69 (b) The board shall include a disclosure on all applications and related materials that the

70 amount of the awarded reimbursements may be subject to funding or be reduced, in accordance

71 with Subsection (7).

72 (7) (a) Subject to future budget constraints, the Legislature shall make an annual

73 appropriation from the Education Fund to the board for the costs associated with the Public Safety

74 Officer Career Advancement Reimbursement Program authorized under this section.

75 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, if the appropriation under this section is

76 insufficient to cover the costs associated with the Public Safety Officer Career Advancement

77 Reimbursement Program, the board:

78 (i) may reduce the amount of a reimbursement[-]; and

79 (ii) shall distribute reimbursements on a pro rata basis to all eligible applicants who

80 submitted a complete application before the application deadline.

81 (c) Any individual who is denied reimbursement because of insufficient funds

82 appropriated may re-apply for reimbursement up to two years after the first year of eligibility.

83 Section 2. Section **53B-8-114** is amended to read:

84 **53B-8-114. Continuation of previously authorized scholarships.**

85 (1) As used in this section:

86 (a) "Institution of higher education" means an institution that awards money through a

87 program described in Subsection (2)(a).

88 (b) "Scholarship term" means the length of time during which an individual is eligible to

89 receive award money through a program described in Subsection (2)(a).

90 (2) The board or an institution of higher education:
91 (a) beginning on July 1, 2019, may not accept a new application for an award described
92 in ~~[(i)]~~ Section 53B-6-105.7, which describes engineering and computer technology scholarships;
93 ~~[or]~~ and
94 ~~[(ii)]~~ Section 53B-8-112, which describes a reimbursement for public safety officers; and]
95 (b) may pay, through the end of the scholarship term, an award through a program
96 described in Subsection (2)(a) to an individual whose application for the program was accepted
97 before the applicable date described in Subsection (2)(a).

98 Section 3. Section 63I-2-253 is amended to read:

99 **63I-2-253. Repeal dates -- Titles 53 through 53G.**

100 (1) (a) Section 53-2a-217, regarding procurement during an epidemic or pandemic
101 emergency, is repealed on December 31, 2021.

102 (b) When repealing Section 53-2a-217, the Office of Legislative Research and General
103 Counsel shall, in addition to the office's authority under Subsection 36-12-12(3), make necessary
104 changes to subsection numbering and cross references.

105 (2) Section 53B-2a-103 is repealed July 1, 2021.

106 (3) Section 53B-2a-104 is repealed July 1, 2021.

107 (4) (a) Subsection 53B-2a-108(5), regarding exceptions to the composition of a technical
108 college board of trustees, is repealed July 1, 2022.

109 (b) When repealing Subsection 53B-2a-108(5), the Office of Legislative Research and
110 General Counsel shall, in addition to its authority under Subsection 36-12-12(3), make necessary
111 changes to subsection numbering and cross references.

112 (5) Section 53B-6-105.7 is repealed July 1, 2024.

113 (6) (a) Subsection 53B-7-705(6)(b)(ii)(A), the language that states "Except as provided in
114 Subsection (6)(b)(ii)(B)," is repealed July 1, 2021.

115 (b) Subsection 53B-7-705(6)(b)(ii)(B), regarding comparing a technical college's change
116 in performance with the technical college's average performance, is repealed July 1, 2021.

117 (7) (a) Subsection 53B-7-707(3)(a)(ii), the language that states "Except as provided in
118 Subsection (3)(b)," is repealed July 1, 2021.

119 (b) Subsection 53B-7-707(3)(b), regarding performance data of a technical college during
120 a fiscal year before fiscal year 2020, is repealed July 1, 2021.

- 121 ~~[(8) Section 53B-8-112 is repealed July 1, 2024.]~~
- 122 [(9)] (8) Section 53B-8-114 is repealed July 1, 2024.
- 123 [(10)] (9) (a) The following sections, regarding the Regents' scholarship program, are
124 repealed on July 1, 2023:
- 125 (i) Section 53B-8-202;
 - 126 (ii) Section 53B-8-203;
 - 127 (iii) Section 53B-8-204; and
 - 128 (iv) Section 53B-8-205.
- 129 (b) (i) Subsection 53B-8-201(2), regarding the Regents' scholarship program for students
130 who graduate from high school before fiscal year 2019, is repealed on July 1, 2023.
- 131 (ii) When repealing Subsection 53B-8-201(2), the Office of Legislative Research and
132 General Counsel shall, in addition to its authority under Subsection 36-12-12(3), make necessary
133 changes to subsection numbering and cross references.
- 134 [(11)] (10) Section 53B-10-101 is repealed on July 1, 2027.
- 135 [(12)] (11) Title 53B, Chapter 18, Part 14, Uintah Basin Air Quality Research Project, is
136 repealed July 1, 2023.
- 137 [(13)] (12) Section 53E-3-519 regarding school counselor services is repealed July 1,
138 2020.
- 139 [(14)] (13) Section 53E-3-520 is repealed July 1, 2021.
- 140 [(15)] (14) Subsection 53E-5-306(3)(b)(ii)(B), related to improving school performance
141 and continued funding relating to the School Recognition and Reward Program, is repealed July 1,
142 2020.
- 143 [(16)] (15) Section 53E-5-307 is repealed July 1, 2020.
- 144 [(17)] (16) Subsection 53E-10-309(7), related to the PRIME pilot program, is repealed
145 July 1, 2024.
- 146 [(18)] (17) In Subsections 53F-2-205(4) and (5), regarding the State Board of Education's
147 duties if contributions from the minimum basic tax rate are overestimated or underestimated, the
148 language that states "or 53F-2-301.5, as applicable" is repealed July 1, 2023.
- 149 [(19)] (18) Subsection 53F-2-301(1), relating to the years the section is not in effect, is
150 repealed July 1, 2023.
- 151 [(20)] (19) In Subsection 53F-2-515(1), the language that states "or 53F-2-301.5, as

152 applicable" is repealed July 1, 2023.

153 [~~(21)~~] (20) Section 53F-4-207 is repealed July 1, 2022.

154 [~~(22)~~] (21) In Subsection 53F-9-302(3), the language that states "or 53F-2-301.5, as
155 applicable" is repealed July 1, 2023.

156 [~~(23)~~] (22) In Subsection 53F-9-305(3)(a), the language that states "or 53F-2-301.5, as
157 applicable" is repealed July 1, 2023.

158 [~~(24)~~] (23) In Subsection 53F-9-306(3)(a), the language that states "or 53F-2-301.5, as
159 applicable" is repealed July 1, 2023.

160 [~~(25)~~] (24) In Subsection 53G-3-304(1)(c)(i), the language that states "or 53F-2-301.5, as
161 applicable" is repealed July 1, 2023.

162 [~~(26)~~] (25) Subsections 53G-10-204(1)(c) through (e), and Subsection 53G-10-204(7),
163 related to the civics engagement pilot program, are repealed on July 1, 2023.

164 [~~(27)~~] (26) On July 1, 2023, when making changes in this section, the Office of
165 Legislative Research and General Counsel shall, in addition to the office's authority under
166 Subsection 36-12-12(3), make corrections necessary to ensure that sections and subsections
167 identified in this section are complete sentences and accurately reflect the office's perception of
168 the Legislature's intent.

169 Section 4. **Effective date.**

170 If approved by two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, this bill takes effect
171 upon approval by the governor, or the day following the constitutional time limit of Utah
172 Constitution, Article VII, Section 8, without the governor's signature, or in the case of a veto, the
173 date of veto override.