

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA  
ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 906**

Introduced by Lindstrom, 18.

Read first time January 12, 2016

Committee: Education

1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to law enforcement; to adopt the Law

2 Enforcement Education Act.

3 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1           Section 1. Sections 1 to 4 shall be known and may be cited as the  
2 Law Enforcement Education Act.

3           Sec. 2. For purposes of the Law Enforcement Education Act:

4           (1) Associate degree program means a degree program at a community  
5 college, state college, or state university which typically requires  
6 completion of an organized program of study of at least sixty semester  
7 credit hours or an equivalent that can be shown to accomplish the same  
8 goal. Associate degree program does not include a baccalaureate degree  
9 program;

10          (2) Baccalaureate degree program means a degree program at a  
11 community college, state college, or state university which typically  
12 requires completion of an organized program of study of at least one  
13 hundred twenty semester credit hours or an equivalent that can be shown  
14 to accomplish the same goal;

15          (3) Community college means a public postsecondary educational  
16 institution which is part of the community college system and includes  
17 all branches and campuses of such institution located within the State of  
18 Nebraska;

19          (4) Law enforcement officer means any person who is responsible for  
20 the prevention or detection of crime or the enforcement of the penal,  
21 traffic, or highway laws of the State of Nebraska or any political  
22 subdivision of the state for more than one hundred hours per year and who  
23 is authorized by law to make arrests;

24          (5) Law enforcement agency means a police department in a  
25 municipality, a sheriff's office, and the Nebraska State Patrol;

26          (6) State college means a public postsecondary educational  
27 institution which is part of the Nebraska state college system and  
28 includes all branches and campuses of such institution located within the  
29 State of Nebraska;

30          (7) State university means a public postsecondary educational  
31 institution which is part of the University of Nebraska and includes all

1 branches and campuses of such institution located within the State of  
2 Nebraska; and

3 (8) Tuition means the charges and cost of tuition as set by the  
4 governing body of a state university, state college, or community  
5 college.

6 Sec. 3. (1) A law enforcement officer shall be entitled to a waiver  
7 of thirty percent of the resident tuition charges of any state  
8 university, state college, or community college if the officer:

9 (a) Maintains satisfactory performance with his or her law  
10 enforcement agency;

11 (b) Meets all admission requirements of the state university, state  
12 college, or community college; and

13 (c) Pursues studies leading to a degree from an associate degree  
14 program or a baccalaureate degree program.

15 The officer may receive the tuition waiver for up to five years if  
16 he or she otherwise continues to be eligible for participation.

17 (2) The state university, state college, or community college shall  
18 wave thirty percent of the officer's tuition remaining due after  
19 subtracting awarded federal financial aid grants and state scholarships  
20 and grants for an eligible law enforcement officer during the time the  
21 officer is enrolled. To remain eligible, the officer must comply with all  
22 requirements of the institution for continued attendance and award of an  
23 associate degree or a baccalaureate degree.

24 (3) An application for the tuition waiver shall include a  
25 verification of the law enforcement officer's satisfactory performance as  
26 a law enforcement officer. It shall be the responsibility of the officer  
27 to obtain a certificate of verification from his or her superior officer  
28 in such officer's law enforcement agency attesting to such officer's  
29 satisfactory performance. The officer shall include the certificate of  
30 verification when applying to the state university, state college, or  
31 community college in order to obtain tuition waiver upon initial

1 enrollment.

2 (4) Within forty-five days after receipt of a completed application,  
3 the state university, state college, or community college shall send  
4 written notice of the law enforcement officer's eligibility or  
5 ineligibility for the tuition waiver. If the officer is determined not to  
6 be eligible for the tuition waiver, the notice shall include the reason  
7 or reasons for such determination and an indication that an appeal of the  
8 determination may be made pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act.

9 Sec. 4. Each state university, state college, or community college  
10 shall adopt and promulgate the procedures, rules, and regulations  
11 necessary to carry out the Law Enforcement Education Act.