



The Legislature  
of the  
State of New Mexico

49th Legislature, Second Session

LAWS 2010

CHAPTER 109

SENATE BILL 134

Introduced by

SENATOR WILLIAM H. PAYNE



# Chapter 109

AN ACT

RELATING TO LEGISLATIVE LOTTERY SCHOLARSHIPS; CHANGING  
ELIGIBILITY FOR MILITARY VETERANS TO RECEIVE A LEGISLATIVE  
LOTTERY SCHOLARSHIP; RECONCILING MULTIPLE AMENDMENTS TO THE  
SAME SECTION OF LAW IN LAWS 2007.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 21-1-4.3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1996,  
Chapter 71, Section 3, as amended by Laws 2007, Chapter 72,  
Section 7 and by Laws 2007, Chapter 73, Section 1) is amended  
to read:

"21-1-4.3. LEGISLATIVE LOTTERY SCHOLARSHIPS  
AUTHORIZED--CERTAIN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.--

A. To the extent that funds are made available by  
the legislature from the lottery tuition fund, the boards of  
regents of New Mexico state university, New Mexico institute  
of mining and technology, eastern New Mexico university,  
western New Mexico university, the university of New Mexico,  
New Mexico highlands university and northern New Mexico  
college shall award legislative lottery scholarships for  
tuition for qualified resident students attending their  
respective institutions and branches of those institutions.

B. Except as otherwise authorized in this section,  
the legislative lottery scholarships authorized in this  
section shall apply only to full-time resident students who,

1 immediately upon completion of a high school curriculum at a  
2 public or accredited private New Mexico high school or upon  
3 receiving a graduate equivalent diploma, are accepted for  
4 entrance to and attend one of the state educational  
5 institutions set forth in this section or one of the branches  
6 of those institutions. Each legislative lottery scholarship  
7 shall be awarded for up to four consecutive years beginning  
8 the second semester of the recipient's first year of  
9 enrollment if the recipient has maintained residency in New  
10 Mexico and maintained a grade point average of 2.5 or higher  
11 on a 4.0 scale during the first semester of full-time  
12 enrollment.

13 C. The legislative lottery scholarships authorized  
14 in this section shall also apply to full-time resident  
15 students who, immediately upon completion of a high school  
16 curriculum at a public or accredited private New Mexico high  
17 school or upon receiving a graduate equivalent diploma,  
18 attend a two-year public post-secondary educational  
19 institution in New Mexico and who, upon the completion of  
20 that curriculum or at the end of two years, whichever is  
21 sooner, transfer to one of the post-secondary state  
22 educational institutions set forth in this section. Those  
23 students shall be eligible for a legislative lottery  
24 scholarship for two consecutive years if they maintain  
25 residency in New Mexico, maintain a grade point average of

1 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale and attend the institution full  
2 time during the regular academic year.

3 D. The legislative lottery scholarships authorized  
4 in this section shall also apply to full-time resident  
5 students who:

6 (1) within one hundred twenty days of  
7 completion of a high school curriculum at a public or  
8 accredited private New Mexico high school, or of receiving a  
9 graduate equivalent diploma, begin service in the United  
10 States armed forces; and

11 (2) within one year of completion of  
12 honorable service or medical discharge from the service  
13 attend one of the state educational institutions set forth in  
14 this section.

15 E. The higher education department shall prepare  
16 guidelines setting forth explicit student continuing  
17 eligibility criteria and guidelines for administration of the  
18 legislative lottery scholarship program. Guidelines shall be  
19 distributed to the board of regents of each institution to  
20 enable a uniform availability of the resident student  
21 legislative lottery scholarships.

22 F. For purposes of the legislative lottery  
23 scholarship program as it applies to students with  
24 disabilities who may require special accommodations, the  
25 higher education department, in consultation with the student

1 and the office at the institution that serves students with  
2 disabilities, shall review both the definition of "full time"  
3 and the maximum number of consecutive semesters of eligibility  
4 and adjust either or both as deemed reasonable and  
5 appropriate, based on the student's disability needs. In no  
6 case, however, shall "full time" mean fewer than six credit  
7 hours per semester and in no case shall eligibility extend  
8 beyond fourteen consecutive semesters." \_\_\_\_\_

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*Diane D. Denish*

Diane D. Denish, President  
Senate

*Lenore M. Naranjo*

Lenore M. Naranjo, Chief Clerk  
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House of Representatives

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Stephen R. Arias, Chief Clerk  
House of Representatives

Approved by me this 10<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2010

*Bill Richardson*

Governor Bill Richardson  
State of New Mexico

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