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SENATE BILL 325

**51ST LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2014**

INTRODUCED BY

Jacob R. Candelaria

AN ACT

RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION; ESTABLISHING A SCHOLARSHIP  
PROGRAM FOR NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARS.

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

SECTION 1. Section 21-1-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1970,  
Chapter 9, Section 1, as amended) is amended to read:

"21-1-2. MATRICULATION AND TUITION FEES.--

A. Except as otherwise provided in this section and  
in Section 21-1-4.3 NMSA 1978, the boards of regents of the  
university of New Mexico, New Mexico state university, New  
Mexico highlands university, western New Mexico university,  
eastern New Mexico university, New Mexico military institute  
and New Mexico institute of mining and technology shall  
establish and charge matriculation fees and tuition fees as  
follows:

.196014.1

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1 (1) each student shall be charged a  
2 matriculation fee of not less than five dollars (\$5.00) upon  
3 enrolling in each institution;

4 (2) each student who is a resident of New  
5 Mexico shall be charged a tuition fee of not less than twenty  
6 dollars (\$20.00) a year;

7 (3) each student who is not a resident of New  
8 Mexico shall be charged a tuition fee of not less than fifty  
9 dollars (\$50.00) a year;

10 (4) each student shall be charged a tuition  
11 fee of not less than ten dollars (\$10.00) for each summer  
12 session; and

13 (5) each student may be charged a tuition fee  
14 for extension courses.

15 B. Except as otherwise provided in this section and  
16 in Section 21-1-4.3 NMSA 1978, the board of regents of northern  
17 New Mexico college shall establish and charge each student a  
18 matriculation fee and a tuition fee.

19 C. The board of regents of each institution may  
20 establish and grant gratis scholarships to students who are  
21 residents of New Mexico in an amount not to exceed the  
22 matriculation fee or tuition and fees, or both. These  
23 scholarships are in addition to the lottery tuition  
24 scholarships authorized in Section 21-1-4.3 NMSA 1978 and shall  
25 be granted to the full extent of available funds before lottery

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1 tuition scholarships are granted. The number of scholarships  
2 established and granted pursuant to this subsection shall not  
3 exceed three percent of the preceding fall semester enrollment  
4 in each institution and shall not be established and granted  
5 for summer sessions. The president of each institution shall  
6 select and recommend to the board of regents of the  
7 institution, as recipients of scholarships, students who  
8 possess good moral character and satisfactory initiative,  
9 scholastic standing and personality. Beginning with the fall  
10 semester of 2010, a minimum of one-half of the gratis  
11 scholarships established and granted by each board of regents  
12 each year shall be granted on the basis of financial need, and  
13 beginning with the fall semester of 2011, a minimum of two-  
14 thirds of the gratis scholarships established and granted by  
15 each board of regents each year shall be granted on the basis  
16 of financial need.

17 D. The board of regents or governing board of each  
18 institution set out in this subsection may establish and grant,  
19 in addition to those scholarships provided for in Subsection C  
20 of this section, athletic scholarships for tuition and fees.  
21 In no event shall the board of regents of any institution be  
22 allowed to award scholarships for tuition and fees for more  
23 than the number of athletic scholarships set out in this  
24 subsection and in no event shall more than seventy-five percent  
25 of the scholarships granted be for out-of-state residents:

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1 (1) the board of regents of the university of  
2 New Mexico may grant up to two hundred ninety-three athletic  
3 scholarships;

4 (2) the board of regents of New Mexico state  
5 university may grant up to two hundred seventy athletic  
6 scholarships;

7 (3) the boards of regents of New Mexico  
8 highlands university, eastern New Mexico university and western  
9 New Mexico university may each grant up to one hundred forty  
10 athletic scholarships; and

11 (4) the governing board of New Mexico junior  
12 college may grant up to fifty-two athletic scholarships.

13 E. In the event that the number of athletic  
14 scholarships exceeds the number of athletic scholarships  
15 permitted that institution by regulations and bylaws of the  
16 national collegiate athletic association or the national  
17 association of intercollegiate athletics of which that  
18 institution is a member, the appropriate board of regents shall  
19 reduce the number of authorized tuition scholarships to comply  
20 with association rules and regulations.

21 F. The board of regents or governing board of each  
22 institution set out in Subsection D of this section may  
23 establish and grant, in addition to those scholarships provided  
24 for in Subsections C and D of this section, national merit  
25 scholarships for tuition and fees in the same numbers as the

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1 athletic scholarships established pursuant to Subsection D of  
2 this section, provided that:

3 (1) each recipient of a national merit  
4 scholarship has been designated a national merit finalist by  
5 the national merit scholarship corporation;

6 (2) each recipient of a national merit  
7 scholarship enroll in one of the state's educational  
8 institutions set forth in this section or one of the branches  
9 of those institutions within one year following completion of a  
10 high school curriculum at a public or accredited private school  
11 in the United States or of receiving a graduate equivalent  
12 diploma; and

13 (3) in no event shall more than seventy-five  
14 percent of the scholarships granted be for out-of-state  
15 residents.

16 G. The national merit scholarships authorized in  
17 Subsection F of this section may be renewed each semester for  
18 four consecutive years, provided that the scholarship recipient  
19 is a full-time student and has maintained a grade point average  
20 of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale for the semester prior to each  
21 renewal.

22 [~~F-~~] H. Matriculation fees and tuition fees shall  
23 be fixed and made payable as directed by the board of regents  
24 of each institution, collected by the officers of each  
25 institution and accounted for as are other funds of the

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1 institutions. Matriculation fees shall be charged only once  
2 for each institution in which a student enrolls."

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