

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NOS. 1514, 1525 & 1527
103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

3077H.04C

JOSEPH ENGLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 173.2553, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof three new sections relating to college tuition for public safety personnel.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 173.2553, RSMo, is repealed and three new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 173.2553, 173.2655, and 173.2660, to read as follows:

173.2553. 1. There is hereby established a "Fast Track Workforce Incentive Grant", and any moneys appropriated by the general assembly for this program shall be deposited in the fund created in subsection 13 of this section and shall be used to provide grants for Missouri citizens to attend an approved Missouri postsecondary institution of their choice in accordance with the provisions of this section.

2. The definitions of terms set forth in section 173.1102 shall be applicable to such terms as used in this section ~~[and section 173.2554]~~. In addition, the following terms shall mean:

(1) "Active apprentice status", formal participation in an apprenticeship that meets any related requirements as defined by the organization providing the apprenticeship or the United States Department of Labor;

(2) "Board", the coordinating board for higher education;

(3) "Eligible apprentice", an individual who:

(a) Is a citizen or permanent resident of the United States;

(b) Is a Missouri resident as determined by reference to standards promulgated by the coordinating board;

(c) Has active apprentice status in an eligible apprenticeship;

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

18 (d) Has an adjusted gross income as reported on ~~[their]~~ **such individual's** Missouri
19 individual income tax return that does not exceed eighty thousand dollars for married filing
20 joint taxpayers or forty thousand dollars for all other taxpayers; and

21 (e) Is twenty-five years of age or older at the time of entering the apprenticeship or
22 has not been enrolled in a postsecondary education program, other than one related to the
23 current apprenticeship, for the prior two calendar years;

24 (4) "Eligible apprenticeship", a United States Department of Labor approved
25 apprenticeship, as defined under 29 CFR Part 29, conducted within the state of Missouri that
26 prepares a participant to enter employment in an area of occupational shortage as determined
27 by the coordinating board;

28 (5) "Eligible program of study", a program of instruction:

29 (a) Resulting in the award of a certificate, undergraduate degree, or other industry-
30 recognized credential; and

31 (b) That has been designated by the coordinating board as preparing students to enter
32 an area of occupational shortage as determined by the board;

33 (6) "Eligible student", an individual who:

34 (a) Has completed and submitted a FAFSA for the academic year for which the grant
35 is requested or if the student is enrolled, or is enrolling, with an eligible training provider that
36 does not participate in federal student aid programs, has provided documentation of their
37 adjusted gross income as determined by the board;

38 (b) Is a citizen or permanent resident of the United States;

39 (c) Is a Missouri resident for at least two years prior to receiving a grant pursuant to
40 the fast track workforce incentive grant program as determined by reference to standards
41 promulgated by the coordinating board, provided that this paragraph shall not apply to an
42 individual who is an active duty member of the Armed Forces of the United States who has
43 been transferred to the state of Missouri, or his or her spouse;

44 (d) Is enrolled, or plans to enroll, at least half-time as a student in an eligible
45 undergraduate program of study offered by an approved public, private, or virtual institution,
46 as defined in section 173.1102 or by an eligible training provider;

47 (e) Has an adjusted gross income, as reported on the FAFSA or other documentation
48 as determined by the board, that does not exceed eighty thousand dollars for married filing
49 joint taxpayers or forty thousand dollars for all other taxpayers; and

50 (f) Is twenty-five years of age or older at the time of enrollment or has not been
51 enrolled in an educational program for the prior two academic years;

52 (7) "Eligible training provider", a training organization listed in the state of Missouri
53 eligible training provider system maintained by the office of workforce development in the
54 department of higher education and workforce development;

55 (8) "FAFSA", the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, as maintained by the
56 United States Department of Education;

57 (9) "Fast track grant", an amount of moneys paid by the state of Missouri to a student
58 under the provisions of this section;

59 (10) "Graduation", completion of a program of study as indicated by the award of a
60 certificate, undergraduate degree, or other industry-recognized credential;

61 (11) "Qualifying employment", full-time employment of a Missouri resident at a
62 workplace located within the state of Missouri, or self-employment while a Missouri resident,
63 with at least fifty percent of an individual's annual income coming from self-employment,
64 either of which result in required returns of income in accordance with section 143.481;

65 (12) "Recipient", an eligible student, an eligible apprentice, a renewal apprentice, or a
66 renewal student who receives a fast track grant under the provisions of this section;

67 (13) "Related educational costs", direct costs incurred by an individual as part of an
68 eligible apprenticeship program, such as, but not limited to, tools, books, and uniforms;

69 (14) "Renewal apprentice", an eligible apprentice who remains in compliance with
70 the provisions of this section, has received the grant as an initial apprentice, maintains active
71 apprentice status, and who has not received a bachelor's degree;

72 (15) "Renewal student", an eligible student who remains in compliance with the
73 provisions of this section, has received a grant as an initial recipient, maintains a cumulative
74 grade point average of at least two and one-half on a four-point scale or the equivalent, makes
75 satisfactory academic degree progress as defined by the institution, with the exception of
76 grade point average, and has not received a bachelor's degree.

77 3. Standards of eligibility for renewed assistance shall be the same as for an initial
78 award of financial assistance; except that, for a renewal student, an applicant shall
79 demonstrate a grade point average of two and one-half on a four-point scale, or the equivalent
80 on another scale.

81 4. Eligibility for a grant expires upon the earliest of:

82 (1) Receipt of the grant for four semesters or the equivalent;

83 (2) Receipt of a bachelor's degree; or

84 (3) For an eligible student, reaching two hundred percent of the time typically
85 required to complete the program of study.

86 5. The coordinating board shall initially designate eligible programs of study by
87 January 1, 2020, in connection with local education institutions, regional business
88 organizations, and other stakeholders. The coordinating board shall annually review the
89 list of eligible programs of study and occupations relating to eligible apprenticeships and
90 make changes to the program list as it determines appropriate.

91 6. The coordinating board shall be the administrative agency for the implementation
92 of the program established by this section [~~and section 173.2554~~]. The coordinating board
93 shall promulgate reasonable rules and regulations for the exercise of its functions and the
94 effectuation of the purposes of this section [~~and section 173.2554~~]. The coordinating board
95 shall prescribe the form and the time and method of filing applications and supervise the
96 processing thereof. The coordinating board shall determine the criteria for eligibility of
97 applicants and shall evaluate each applicant's eligibility. The coordinating board shall select
98 qualified recipients to receive grants, make such awards of financial assistance to qualified
99 recipients, and determine the manner and method of payment to the recipients.

100 7. The coordinating board shall determine eligibility for renewed assistance on the
101 basis of annual applications. As a condition to consideration for initial or renewed assistance,
102 the coordinating board may require the applicant and the applicant's spouse to execute forms
103 of consent authorizing the director of revenue to compare financial information submitted by
104 the applicant with the Missouri individual income tax returns of the applicant, and the
105 applicant's spouse, for the taxable year immediately preceding the year for which application
106 is made, and to report any discrepancies to the coordinating board.

107 8. Grants shall be awarded in an amount equal to the actual tuition and general fees
108 charged of an eligible student, after all federal nonloan aid, state student aid, and any other
109 governmental student financial aid are applied. If a grant amount is reduced to zero due to the
110 receipt of other aid, the eligible student shall receive an award of up to five hundred dollars or
111 the remaining cost of attendance as calculated by the institution after all nonloan student aid
112 has been applied, whichever is less, per academic term. Grants shall also be awarded in an
113 amount equal to the related educational costs for an eligible apprentice after all other
114 governmental assistance provided for the apprenticeship has been applied.

115 9. If appropriated funds are insufficient to fund the program as described, students
116 and apprentices applying for renewed assistance shall be given priority until all funds are
117 expended.

118 10. An eligible student [~~that~~ **who**] is the recipient of financial assistance may transfer
119 from one approved public, private, or virtual institution, or eligible training provider to
120 another without losing eligibility for assistance under this section, but the coordinating board
121 shall make any necessary adjustments in the amount of the award. If a recipient of financial
122 assistance at any time is entitled to a refund of any tuition or fees under the rules and
123 regulations of the institution in which he or she is enrolled, the institution shall pay the
124 portion of the refund that may be attributed to the grant to the coordinating board. The
125 coordinating board shall use these refunds to make additional awards under the provisions of
126 this section.

127 11. Persons who receive fast track grants under this section shall be required to
128 submit proof of residency and qualifying employment to the coordinating board for higher
129 education within thirty days of completing each twelve months of qualifying employment
130 until the three-year employment obligation is fulfilled.

131 12. Under section 23.253 of the Missouri sunset act:

132 (1) The provisions of the new program authorized under this section shall sunset
133 automatically on August 28, 2029, unless reauthorized by an act of the general assembly; and

134 (2) If such program is reauthorized, the program authorized under this section shall
135 sunset automatically six years after the effective date of the reauthorization; and

136 (3) This section shall terminate on December thirty-first of the calendar year
137 immediately following the calendar year in which the program authorized under this section
138 is sunset.

139 13. (1) There is hereby created in the state treasury the "Fast Track Workforce
140 Incentive Grant Fund". The state treasurer shall be custodian of the fund. In accordance with
141 sections 30.170 and 30.180, the state treasurer may approve disbursements. The fund shall be
142 a dedicated fund and, upon appropriation, moneys in the fund shall be used solely by the
143 coordinating board for the purposes of this section.

144 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080 to the contrary, any moneys
145 remaining in the fund at the end of the biennium shall not revert to the credit of the general
146 revenue fund.

147 (3) The state treasurer shall invest moneys in the fund in the same manner as other
148 funds are invested. Any interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be credited to
149 the fund.

150 14. **(1) As used in this subsection, "public safety personnel" includes, but is not**
151 **limited to, any police officer, firefighter, paramedic, emergency medical dispatcher,**
152 **emergency medical technician, or advanced emergency medical technician who is**
153 **trained and authorized by law or rule to render emergency medical assistance or**
154 **treatment.**

155 **(2) In addition to an eligible apprentice and an eligible student as defined in this**
156 **section, the following shall be eligible to receive fast track grants under this section:**

157 **(a) An individual who qualifies as public safety personnel; and**

158 **(b) A dependent of an individual who qualifies as public safety personnel.**

159 **(3) The adjusted gross income requirements under paragraph (d) of subdivision**
160 **(3) of subsection 2 of this section and paragraph (e) of subdivision (6) of subsection 2 of**
161 **this section shall not apply to an individual described under subdivision (2) of this**
162 **subsection.**

163 **(4) No individual or dependent who receives a fast track grant under this**
164 **subsection shall be eligible to receive an award for tuition charges under sections**
165 **173.2655 and 173.2660.**

166 **15.** The coordinating board shall have the authority to promulgate rules to implement
167 the provisions of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section
168 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective
169 only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable,
170 section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers
171 vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective
172 date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant
173 of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2019, shall be
174 invalid and void.

173.2655. 1. This section and section 173.2660 shall be known and may be cited
2 **as the "Public Safety Recruitment and Retention Act".**

3 **2. For purposes of this section and section 173.2660, unless the context clearly**
4 **indicates otherwise, the following terms mean:**

5 **(1) "Advanced emergency medical technician", as such term is defined in section**
6 **190.100;**

7 **(2) "Department", the department of higher education and workforce**
8 **development;**

9 **(3) "Emergency medical dispatcher", as such term is defined in section 190.100;**

10 **(4) "Emergency medical technician", as such term is defined in section 190.100;**

11 **(5) "Firefighter", any officer or employee of a fire department who is employed**
12 **for the purpose of fighting fires, excluding volunteer firefighters and anyone employed**
13 **in a clerical or other capacity not involving fire-fighting duties;**

14 **(6) "Legal dependent", as such term is defined by the United States Department**
15 **of Education for purposes of the Free Application for Student Financial Aid;**

16 **(7) "Line of duty", any action that public safety personnel is authorized or**
17 **obligated by law, rule, or regulation to perform, related to or as a condition of**
18 **employment or service;**

19 **(8) "Open seat", a vacant position in a class, course, or program that is available**
20 **for enrollment, and which may become available when a student drops out or transfers,**
21 **or when a class, course, or program has unused capacity, allowing new students to**
22 **register or enroll;**

23 **(9) "Paramedic", as such term is defined in section 190.100;**

24 **(10) "Police officer", any person who, by virtue of office or public employment,**
25 **is vested by law with the power and duty to make arrests for violation of the laws of the**

26 state of Missouri or ordinances of any municipality thereof, while acting within the
27 scope of his or her authority as an employee of a public law enforcement agency, as such
28 term is defined in section 590.1040;

29 (11) "Public institution of higher education", a public community college, state
30 college, or state university;

31 (12) "Public safety personnel", includes any police officer, firefighter,
32 paramedic, emergency medical dispatcher, emergency medical technician, or
33 advanced emergency medical technician who is trained and authorized by law or rule
34 to render emergency medical assistance or treatment;

35 (13) "Tuition", the charges and cost of tuition as set by the governing body of a
36 public institution of higher education, including fees such as course fees, activity fees,
37 technology fees, and mandatory fees charged by such institution to all full-time students
38 as a condition of enrollment, but excluding the costs of room, board, books, and any
39 other educational materials, equipment, or supplies.

40 3. Subject to appropriation, public safety personnel with at least six years of
41 service shall be entitled to an award worth up to one hundred percent of the resident
42 tuition charges of a public institution of higher education if the individual:

43 (1) Possesses one of the following:

44 (a) A current, valid license issued by the department of health and senior
45 services authorizing such person to serve as an emergency medical technician, advanced
46 emergency medical technician, or paramedic;

47 (b) A current, valid license issued by the peace officer standards and training
48 commission authorizing such person to serve as a peace officer pursuant to the
49 provisions of chapter 590;

50 (c) A current, valid certificate issued by the division of fire safety authorizing
51 such person to serve as a firefighter; or

52 (d) A current, valid certificate confirming successful completion of an
53 emergency medical dispatcher course and any ongoing training requirements
54 pursuant to section 650.340; and

55 (e) For all public safety personnel, a certificate of verification signed by the
56 individual's supervisor or employer verifying that such individual is currently employed
57 full-time as public safety personnel and trained and authorized by law or rule to render
58 emergency medical assistance or treatment;

59 (2) Meets all admission requirements of the public institution of higher
60 education;

61 (3) Has not already earned a baccalaureate degree;

62 **(4) Pursues studies leading to an associate degree or baccalaureate degree in one**
63 **of the following academic subject areas:**

64 **(a) For police officers, eligible subjects include forensic science, fisheries and**
65 **wildlife, political science, psychology, history, philosophy, sociology, anthropology,**
66 **global studies, Spanish, journalism, advertising, public relations, nutrition and health**
67 **sciences, communication sciences and disorders, and criminal justice;**

68 **(b) For firefighters, paramedics, emergency medical technicians, and advanced**
69 **emergency medical technicians, eligible subjects include biology, chemistry,**
70 **biochemistry, microbiology, nutrition and health sciences, communication sciences**
71 **and disorders, Spanish, advertising, public relations, paramedicine, fire science, fire**
72 **technology, fire administration, fire management, communications, homeland security,**
73 **emergency management, disaster management, and crisis management; and**

74 **(c) For emergency medical dispatchers, eligible subjects include any subject**
75 **specified in paragraph (a) or (b) of this subdivision;**

76 **(5) Submits verification of the professional license or certificate and the**
77 **certificate of verification required by subdivision (1) of this subsection to the**
78 **department, in a form and manner as prescribed by the department;**

79 **(6) Files with the department documentation showing proof of employment as**
80 **public safety personnel and proof of residence in Missouri each year such individual or**
81 **such individual's legal dependent applies for and receives the tuition award;**

82 **(7) First applies for all other forms of federal and state student financial aid**
83 **before applying for a tuition award, including, but not limited to, filing the United States**
84 **Department of Education Free Application for Federal Student Aid and, if applicable,**
85 **applying for financial assistance pursuant to the provisions of 38 U.S.C. Section 3301 et**
86 **seq.; and**

87 **(8) Submits a document to the department confirming that the public safety**
88 **personnel has satisfied the provisions of subdivision (7) of this subsection, to be**
89 **submitted in a form and manner as prescribed by the department.**

90 **4. Public safety personnel may receive the tuition award pursuant to subsection**
91 **3 of this section for up to five years if they otherwise continue to be eligible for the**
92 **tuition award. The five years of tuition award eligibility starts once the individual**
93 **applies for and receives the tuition award for the first time and is available to such**
94 **individual for the next five consecutive years or the individual's achievement of one**
95 **hundred twenty credit hours, whichever occurs first.**

96 **5. Subject to appropriation, a legal dependent of public safety personnel with at**
97 **least ten years of service shall be entitled to a tuition award worth up to one hundred**
98 **percent of the resident tuition charges of any public institution of higher education for**

99 an associate or baccalaureate degree program if such public safety personnel satisfies
100 the provisions of subdivisions (1), (5), and (6) of subsection 3 of this section and the legal
101 dependent:

102 (1) Executes an agreement with the department in accordance with the
103 provisions of section 173.2660;

104 (2) Has not previously earned a baccalaureate degree;

105 (3) Meets all admission requirements of the public institution of higher
106 education;

107 (4) First applies for all other forms of federal and state student financial aid
108 before applying for a tuition award, including, but not limited to, filing the United States
109 Department of Education Free Application for Federal Student Aid and, if applicable,
110 applying for financial assistance pursuant to the provisions of 38 U.S.C. Section 3301 et
111 seq.;

112 (5) Submits a document to the department confirming that the legal dependent
113 has satisfied subdivision (4) of this subsection, to be submitted in a form and manner as
114 prescribed by the department;

115 (6) Submits the verification required pursuant to subsection 8 of this section to
116 the department; and

117 (7) Pursues studies leading to an associate degree or baccalaureate degree in any
118 one of the subject areas specified in paragraphs (a) to (c) subdivision (4) of subsection 3
119 of this section.

120 6. A legal dependent may receive the tuition award for up to five years if the
121 public safety personnel and the legal dependent continue to be eligible for such tuition
122 award. The five years of tuition award eligibility starts once the legal dependent applies
123 for and receives the tuition award for the first time and is available to such legal
124 dependent for the next five consecutive years or the legal dependent's achievement of
125 one hundred twenty credit hours, whichever occurs first.

126 7. The tuition award shall be worth up to one hundred percent of the public
127 safety personnel's or the legal dependent's tuition remaining due after subtracting
128 awarded federal financial aid grants and state scholarships and grants for the eligible
129 public safety personnel or legal dependent during the time the public safety personnel or
130 legal dependent is enrolled. To remain eligible, the public safety personnel or legal
131 dependent shall comply with all requirements of the institution for continued attendance
132 and award of an associate degree or a baccalaureate degree.

133 8. (1) An application for a tuition award shall include a verification of the public
134 safety personnel's satisfaction of the requirements of subdivisions (1), (5), and (6) of
135 subsection 3 of this section. The public safety personnel shall include such verification

136 when he or she or his or her legal dependent is applying to the department for a tuition
137 waiver.

138 (2) The death of public safety personnel in the line of duty which occurs after
139 submission of an application for a tuition award shall not disqualify such individual's
140 otherwise eligible legal dependent from receiving the tuition award. In such case, in lieu
141 of submitting the certificate of verification provided for in subdivision (1) of this
142 subsection, the legal dependent shall submit a statement attesting that:

143 (a) At the time of death, such public safety personnel satisfied the requirements
144 of subdivision (1) of this subsection; and

145 (b) Such public safety personnel died in the line of duty.

146 9. The department shall provide a tuition award to public safety personnel and
147 legal dependents who satisfy the provisions of this section and section 173.2660, if
148 applicable, and apply for an open seat at a public institution of higher education, but
149 shall not provide a tuition award if doing so would require the institution to create
150 additional seats exceeding class, course, or program capacity.

151 10. All applicants for a tuition award shall submit their applications to the
152 department no later than December fifteenth annually. No later than March first
153 annually, the department shall send written notice of the applicant's eligibility or
154 ineligibility for the tuition award and state whether the application has been approved
155 or denied. If the applicant is determined not to be eligible for the tuition award, the
156 notice shall include the reason or reasons for such determination. If the application is
157 denied, the notice shall include the reason or reasons for the denial.

158 11. The department shall promulgate rules to implement the provisions of this
159 section and section 173.2660. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in
160 section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall
161 become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter
162 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable
163 and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to
164 review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently
165 held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or
166 adopted after August 28, 2025, shall be invalid and void.

167 12. (1) There is hereby created in the state treasury the "Public Safety
168 Recruitment and Retention Fund", which shall consist of moneys appropriated by the
169 general assembly for the purpose of implementing the provisions of this section and
170 section 173.2660. The state treasurer shall be custodian of the fund. In accordance with
171 sections 30.170 and 30.180, the state treasurer may approve disbursements. The fund
172 shall be a dedicated fund and money in the fund shall be used solely by the department

173 of higher education and workforce development for the purpose of granting tuition
174 awards as provided in this section and 173.2660.

175 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080 to the contrary, any moneys
176 remaining in the fund at the end of the biennium shall not revert to the credit of the
177 general revenue fund.

178 (3) The state treasurer shall invest moneys in the fund in the same manner as
179 other funds are invested. Any interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be
180 credited to the fund.

181 13. In any year in which moneys in the public safety recruitment and retention
182 fund are insufficient to fully fund tuition awards for all eligible applicants, tuition
183 awards shall be awarded in the following order of priority; provided that, in the event of
184 a tie in eligibility, available funds shall be distributed on a pro rata basis:

185 (1) Priority class one shall include public safety personnel, in the following
186 order:

187 (a) Public safety personnel in departments located wholly or partially in counties
188 or cities not within a county with the highest crime rate per capita, as determined by the
189 most recent uniform crime reporting statistics from the Federal Bureau of
190 Investigation; and

191 (b) Public safety personnel with the most years of service; and

192 (2) Priority class two shall include dependents of public safety personnel, in the
193 following order:

194 (a) Dependents of public safety personnel in departments located wholly or
195 partially in counties or cities not within a county with the highest crime rate per capita,
196 as determined by the most recent uniform crime reporting statistics from the Federal
197 Bureau of Investigation; and

198 (b) Dependents of public safety personnel with the most years of service.

199 14. The tuition awards provided for in this section and section 173.2660 are
200 subject to appropriation. If there are no moneys in the fund established in subsection 12
201 of this section, no tuition awards shall be granted.

202 15. No individual or dependent who receives an award for tuition charges under
203 sections 173.2655 and 173.2660 shall be eligible to receive a fast track grant under
204 subsection 14 of section 173.2553.

173.2660. 1. Each legal dependent who is a tuition award recipient pursuant to
2 the provisions of section 173.2655 shall execute an agreement as provided in this section.
3 Such agreement shall include the following terms, as appropriate:

4 (1) The tuition award recipient agrees to reside within the state of Missouri for a
5 period of five years following the use of the tuition award;

6 **(2) Each year during the five-year period following use of the tuition award, the**
7 **tuition award recipient agrees to file a state income tax return and provide a copy of**
8 **such tax return to the department to document that such recipient still resides in the**
9 **state of Missouri;**

10 **(3) If the tuition award recipient fails to annually file a tax return to prove**
11 **residency in the state of Missouri for the five-year period following the use of the tuition**
12 **award or fails to remain a resident of Missouri for the five-year period following the use**
13 **of the tuition award, the tuition award recipient agrees that the tuition award shall be**
14 **treated as a loan to such recipient, subject to the following conditions:**

15 **(a) Interest shall be charged on the unpaid balance of the amount received from**
16 **the date the recipient ceases to reside in Missouri until the amount received is paid back**
17 **to the state. The interest rate shall be adjusted annually and shall be equal to one**
18 **percentage point over the prevailing United States prime rate in effect on January first**
19 **of such year; and**

20 **(b) The servicer of such loans shall be the higher education loan authority of the**
21 **state of Missouri created pursuant to sections 173.350 to 173.445; and**

22 **(4) Any residency, filing, or payment obligation incurred by the tuition award**
23 **recipient under section 173.2655 is canceled in the event of the tuition award recipient's**
24 **total and permanent disability or death.**

25 **2. The five-year residency requirement begins once the legal dependent applies**
26 **for and receives the tuition award for the first time and continues until the tuition award**
27 **recipient's:**

28 **(1) Completion of the five-year tuition award eligibility period;**

29 **(2) Completion of a baccalaureate degree at a public institution of higher**
30 **education;**

31 **(3) Completion of an associate degree at a public community college and**
32 **notification to the department that such recipient does not intend to pursue a**
33 **baccalaureate degree or additional associate degree using tuition awards pursuant to the**
34 **public safety recruitment and retention act; or**

35 **(4) Notification to the department that such recipient does not plan to use**
36 **additional tuition awards pursuant to the public safety recruitment and retention act.**

✓