

**House File 2023 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 2023

BY LATHAM

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act establishing the United States army reserve service  
2 scholarship program within the college student aid  
3 commission.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 256.211A United States army reserve  
2 service scholarship program.

3 1. A United States army reserve service scholarship program  
4 is established to be administered by the college student aid  
5 commission for members of the reserve forces of the United  
6 States army who are enrolled as undergraduate students in an  
7 Iowa community college, an institution of higher learning under  
8 the control of the state board of regents, or an accredited  
9 private institution as defined in section 256.183. The college  
10 student aid commission shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter  
11 17A to administer this section. An individual is eligible for  
12 the United States army reserve service scholarship program if  
13 the individual meets all of the following conditions:

14 a. Is a resident of the state and a member of a United  
15 States army reserve unit located in this state while receiving  
16 scholarship award payments issued pursuant to this section.

17 b. Satisfactorily completed required initial active duty  
18 training.

19 c. Maintains satisfactory performance of duty upon return  
20 from initial active duty training.

21 d. Is enrolled as an undergraduate student in a community  
22 college as defined in section 260C.2, an institution of higher  
23 learning under the control of the state board of regents, or an  
24 accredited private institution as defined in section 256.183,  
25 and maintains satisfactory academic progress.

26 e. Completes and submits application forms required by the  
27 college student aid commission, including the free application  
28 for federal student aid, and applies for all nonrepayable state  
29 and federal financial aid for which the member is eligible.

30 f. Is certified by the United States army reserve command,  
31 or another appropriate entity, as meeting the requirements of  
32 this section.

33 2. Scholarship awards paid pursuant to this section  
34 shall not exceed the resident tuition rate established for  
35 institutions of higher learning under the control of the

1 state board of regents. If the amount appropriated in a  
2 fiscal year for purposes of this section is insufficient to  
3 provide scholarships to all who apply for the program and who  
4 are determined to be eligible for the program pursuant to  
5 subsection 1, paragraph "f", the college student aid commission  
6 shall determine the distribution of scholarships. Eligibility  
7 and scholarship award determinations shall not be based upon a  
8 member's unit or the location at which drills are attended.

9 3. a. Except as provided for in paragraph "b", an eligible  
10 member of the United States army reserve, attending an  
11 institution as provided in subsection 1, paragraph "d", shall  
12 not receive scholarship awards under this section for more than  
13 one hundred twenty semester, or the equivalent, credit hours  
14 of undergraduate study.

15 b. An eligible member of the United States army reserve,  
16 attending an institution as provided in subsection 1,  
17 paragraph "d", who is enrolled in a program of education  
18 leading to a postsecondary degree that meets the eligibility  
19 requirements for the federal Edith Nourse Rogers STEM  
20 scholarship established under 38 U.S.C. §3320, shall not  
21 receive scholarship awards issued under this section for more  
22 than one hundred thirty semester, or the equivalent, credit  
23 hours of undergraduate study.

24 c. Except as provided for in paragraph "b", an eligible  
25 member of the United States army reserve shall not receive  
26 scholarship awards for more than one hundred twenty semester  
27 hours combined between the United States army reserve service  
28 scholarship program established pursuant to this section and  
29 the national guard service scholarship established pursuant to  
30 section 256.210.

31 d. A United States army reserve member who has met the  
32 educational requirements for a baccalaureate degree is  
33 ineligible for a scholarship award under this section.

34 4. The eligibility of applicants shall be certified by  
35 the United States army reserve command or another appropriate

1 entity. Awards under this section shall be paid to the  
2 community college, accredited private institution, or  
3 institution of higher learning under the control of the state  
4 board of regents by the college student aid commission upon  
5 receipt of certification by the educational institution as to  
6 accuracy of charges made and as to the attendance and academic  
7 progress of the individual at the educational institution.  
8 The college student aid commission shall maintain an annual  
9 record of the number of participants and the dollar value of  
10 the awards issued.

11 5. Scholarships awarded under this section may be used by  
12 the recipient for the recipient's cost of attendance as defined  
13 in Tit. IV, pt. B, of the federal Higher Education Act of 1965,  
14 as amended.

15 6. Notwithstanding section 8.33, moneys appropriated  
16 for purposes of this section which remain unencumbered or  
17 unobligated at the close of the fiscal year for which the funds  
18 were appropriated shall not revert but shall be available for  
19 expenditure for the following fiscal year for purposes of this  
20 section.

21 Sec. 2. CODE EDITOR DIRECTIVE. The Code editor shall  
22 designate section 256.211A, as enacted in this Act, as a new  
23 section within chapter 256, subchapter VII, part 4, subpart  
24 G, and may redesignate the preexisting subpart and correct  
25 internal references as necessary, including references to  
26 subpart headnotes.

27

#### EXPLANATION

28 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
29 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

30 This bill establishes the United States army reserve service  
31 scholarship program within the college student aid commission  
32 to provide scholarships to certain members of the reserve  
33 forces of the United States army. The bill provides that an  
34 individual is eligible for a scholarship under the program if  
35 the individual is a resident of the state and a member of a

1 United States army reserve unit while receiving scholarship  
2 award payments; satisfactorily completed required initial  
3 active duty training; maintains satisfactory performance  
4 of duty upon return from initial active duty training; is  
5 enrolled as an undergraduate student in a community college  
6 in this state, an institution of higher learning under the  
7 control of the state board of regents, or an accredited  
8 private institution, and maintains satisfactory academic  
9 progress; completes and submits application forms required  
10 by the commission and applies for all nonrepayable state and  
11 federal financial aid for which the member is eligible; and is  
12 certified as meeting the requirements under the program.

13 The bill provides that scholarship awards under the program  
14 shall not exceed the resident tuition rate established for  
15 institutions of higher learning under the control of the state  
16 board of regents. If the amount appropriated in a fiscal  
17 year for purposes of the program is insufficient to provide  
18 scholarships to all who apply for and are eligible for the  
19 program, the commission shall determine the distribution of  
20 scholarships.

21 The bill prohibits an eligible member of the United  
22 States army reserve from receiving scholarship awards under  
23 the program for more than 120 semester credit hours of  
24 undergraduate study. However, an eligible member of the  
25 United States army reserve who is enrolled in a program of  
26 education leading to a postsecondary degree that meets the  
27 eligibility requirements for the federal Edith Nourse Rogers  
28 STEM scholarship may receive scholarship awards under the  
29 program for 130 semester credit hours of undergraduate study.  
30 The bill establishes limits on the amount of scholarship awards  
31 for eligible members who receive scholarship awards under the  
32 program and the national guard service scholarship program. A  
33 United States army reserve member who has met the educational  
34 requirements for a baccalaureate degree is ineligible for a  
35 scholarship award under the program.

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1 Awards under the program shall be paid to the educational  
2 institution by the commission upon receipt of certification by  
3 the educational institution as to accuracy of charges made and  
4 as to the attendance and academic progress of the individual  
5 at the educational institution. The commission must maintain  
6 an annual record of the number of participants and the dollar  
7 value of the awards issued under the program.

8 Scholarships awarded under the program may be used by the  
9 recipient for the recipient's cost of attendance as defined in  
10 the federal Higher Education Act of 1965.