

## **Military and Veteran Financial Assistance Programs Administered by the Kansas Board of Regents**

- **Kansas National Guard Educational Assistance**

During the 2002 Legislative session, House Bill 2642 transferred the administration of the National Guard Educational Assistance Program from the Adjutant General's Office to the Kansas Board of Regents. The stipend covers a percentage of tuition and fees, as far as the funding will allow. Ideally, the program covers 100% of tuition/fee costs. The student's service obligation is to complete their service to the appropriate guard unit plus three months service for each semester of assistance received. Eligible institutions include: vocational-technical schools and colleges, community colleges, state educational institutions, accredited independent institutions and Washburn University.

- **Kansas Reserve Officer Training Corps Program**

The ROTC program was established in 1980 through tuition waiver opportunities for eligible full-time resident students enrolled at regents institutions or Washburn University. This scholarship provides the student with a stipend in an amount not to exceed 70% of the costs of attendance at the institution for an academic year. (For students at Washburn, the scholarship shall provide an amount not to exceed 70% of the cost of attendance at the state educational institutions for an academic year.) Tuition waivers are limited to eight semesters. A selection committee at each institution identifies recipients for the scholarship. Upon graduation, students must be commissioned as a Second Lieutenant and serve no less than four years as a commissioned officer for the appropriate guard unit. If a student leaves the program or does not fulfill their service obligation, the Kansas Board of Regents will place them into repayment status, over a five-year period, for the amount of tuition they received plus interest.

- **Waiver for Dependents and Spouses of Deceased Military Personnel**

During the 2005 Legislative session, K.S.A. 75-4364 was amended to include dependents and spouses of deceased military personnel. This waiver covers tuition and fees at the institution. Dependents or a spouse, who has not remarried, of a deceased individual must meet the following criteria: (1) The individual participated in military service, which is defined as active service in any United States armed service or in federal or state service in the Kansas Army or Air National Guard and (2) The individual's death occurred on or after September 11, 2001 while, and as a result of the individual's military service. This waiver is available at the regent's institutions and Washburn.

- **Waiver for Former Prisoners of War**

K.S.A. 75-4364 was further amended during the 2005 legislative session to include prisoners of war. This waiver covers tuition and fees at the institution. An individual must meet both of the following criteria: (1) They must be a resident of Kansas at the time they entered service in the United States armed forces according to the residency rules for in-state tuition at the state universities and (2) While serving in the United States armed forces the individual was declared to be a prisoner of war, as established by the

U.S. Secretary of Defense, after January 1, 1960. This waiver is available at the regent's institutions and Washburn.

- **Kansas Military Service Scholarship**

During the 2007 Legislative session, KBOR was authorized to administer the Kansas Military Service Scholarship Program. This scholarship will sunset on June 30, 2008 unless the program is enacted through statute during the 2008 Legislative session. Eligible students are Kansas residents, who have graduated from a high school in Kansas, or received a general educational development (GED) credential and have been a resident of Kansas for at least two years. In addition, students must have served in military service in Iraq or Afghanistan at least 90 days since September 11, 2001 and been honorably discharged or is still in military service. Students must have served in one or more of the following military operations: (a) Enduring Freedom; (b) Nobel Eagle; or (c) Iraqi Freedom. Eligible institutions include area vocational technical schools and colleges, community colleges, the state educational institutions and Washburn University. Recipients may be enrolled either part-time or full-time, but must be enrolled in a minimum of 6 hours to be eligible for the scholarship. The scholarship covers the student's tuition and required fees. Students do not need to demonstrate financial need, however any federal military tuition assistance that they receive is applied first toward their tuition and fees and the remaining balance may be in scholarship assistance.