6A-14.0306, Death Benefits for Survivors of First Responders and Military Members

(1) Each Florida College System institution district board of trustees, each district school board with a career center authorized under section 1001.44, F.S., and each board of directors for a charter technical career center authorized under section 1002.34, F.S., shall waive certain educational expenses that the child or spouse of a deceased officer incurs while obtaining an undergraduate education if the law enforcement, correctional, or correctional probation officer is accidentally killed or receives accidental bodily injury which results in the loss of the officer’s life while engaged in the performance of the officer’s law enforcement duties on or after June 22, 1990, or is unlawfully and intentionally killed or dies as a result of such unlawful and intentional act on or after July 1, 1980, while the officer was employed by a political subdivision of the state, pursuant to section 112.19, F.S. Members of the Florida National Guard who are killed, or who die as the result of injuries incurred, while on active duty qualify for educational benefits as a member of the United States Armed Forces as provided in this rule.

(a) The amount waived by the institution must be in an amount equal to the cost of tuition and matriculation and registration fees for a total of 120 credit hours or the equivalent of 3,600 clock hours. The child or spouse may attend on either a full-time or part-time basis. The benefits provided to a child under this rule shall continue until the child's 25th birthday. The benefits provided to a spouse under this rule must commence within five (5) years after the death occurs, and entitlement thereto shall continue until the 10th anniversary of that death.

(b) Upon failure of any child or spouse who receives a waiver in accordance with this rule to comply with the ordinary and minimum requirements regarding discipline and scholarship of the institution attended, such benefits must be withdrawn as to the child or spouse and no further moneys may be expended for the child's or spouse's benefits so long as such failure or delinquency continues.

(c) Only a student in good standing in his or her respective institution may receive the benefits provided in this rule.

(d) A child or spouse receiving benefits under this rule must be enrolled according to the customary rules and requirements of the institution attended.

(2) Each Florida College System institution district board of trustees, each district school board with a career center authorized under section 1001.44, F.S., and each board of directors for a charter technical career center authorized under section 1002.34, F.S., shall waive certain educational expenses that the child or spouse of the deceased firefighter incurs while obtaining an undergraduate education if a firefighter is accidentally killed or
receives accidental bodily injury which results in the loss of the firefighter’s life while engaged in the performance of the firefighter’s duties on or after June 22, 1990, or is unlawfully and intentionally killed or dies as a result of such unlawful and intentional act on or after July 1, 1980, while the firefighter was employed by a political subdivision of the state, pursuant to 112.191, F.S.

(a) The amount waived by the institution must be in an amount equal to the cost of tuition and matriculation and registration fees for a total of 120 credit hours or the equivalent of 3,600 clock hours. The child or spouse may attend on either a full-time or part-time basis. The benefits provided to a child under this rule shall continue until the child's 25th birthday. The benefits provided to a spouse under this rule must commence within five (5) years after the death occurs, and entitlement thereto shall continue until the 10th anniversary of that death.

(b) Upon failure of any child or spouse who receives a waiver in accordance with this rule to comply with the ordinary and minimum requirements regarding discipline and scholarship of the institution attended, such benefits must be withdrawn as to the child or spouse and no further moneys may be expended for the child's or spouse's benefits so long as such failure or delinquency continues.

(c) Only a student in good standing in his or her respective institution may receive the benefits provided in this rule.

(d) A child or spouse receiving benefits under this rule must be enrolled according to the customary rules and requirements of the institution attended.

(3) Each Florida College System institution district board of trustees, each district school board with a career center authorized under section 1001.44, F.S., and each board of directors for a charter technical career center authorized under section 1002.34, F.S., must waive certain educational expenses that the child or spouse of the deceased active duty United States Armed Forces member incurs while obtaining an undergraduate education if a member is killed or receives bodily injury while on active duty which results in the loss of the member’s life, provided that such killing is not the result of suicide and that such bodily injury is not intentionally self-inflicted, pursuant to section 295.061, F.S.

(a) The amount waived by the institution must be in an amount equal to the cost of tuition and matriculation and registration fees for a total of 120 credit hours or the equivalent of 3,600 clock hours. The child or spouse may attend on either a full-time or part-time basis. The benefits provided to a child under this rule shall continue until the
child's 25th birthday. The benefits provided to a spouse under this rule must commence within five (5) years after the death occurs, and entitlement thereto shall continue until the 10th anniversary of that death.

(b) Upon failure of any child or spouse who receives a waiver in accordance with this rule to comply with the ordinary and minimum requirements regarding discipline and scholarship of the institution attended, such benefits must be withdrawn as to the child or spouse and no further moneys may be expended for the child's or spouse's benefits so long as such failure or delinquency continues.

(c) Only a student in good standing in his or her respective institution may receive the benefits provided in this rule.

(d) A child or spouse receiving benefits under this rule must be enrolled according to the customary rules and requirements of the institution attended.

(e) A child or spouse of a member may receive benefits under either this rule or section 295.01, F.S.

(4) Each Florida College System institution district board of trustees, each district school board with a career center authorized under section 1001.44, F.S., and each board of directors for a charter technical career center authorized under section 1002.34, F.S., shall waive certain educational expenses that the child or spouse of a deceased emergency medical technician or paramedic incurs while obtaining an undergraduate education or postgraduate education if an emergency medical technician or paramedic is accidentally killed or receives an accidental bodily injury that subsequently results in the loss of the emergency medical technician’s or paramedic’s life while engaged in the performance of his or her duties on or after July 1, 2019, pursuant to section 112.1912, F.S.

(a) The amount waived by the institution must be in an amount equal to the cost of tuition and matriculation and registration fees for a total of 120 credit hours or the equivalent of 3,600 clock hours. The child or spouse may attend on either a full-time or part-time basis. The benefits provided to a child under this rule shall continue until the child's 25th birthday. The benefits provided to a spouse under this rule must commence within five (5) years after the death occurs, and entitlement thereto shall continue until the 10th anniversary of that death.

(b) Upon failure of any child or spouse who receives a waiver in accordance with this rule to comply with the ordinary and minimum requirements regarding discipline and scholarship of the institution attended, such benefits must be withdrawn as to the child or spouse and no further moneys may be expended for the child's or spouse's benefits so long as such failure or delinquency continues.
(c) Only a student in good standing in his or her respective institution may receive the benefits provided in this rule.

(d) A child or spouse receiving benefits under this rule must be enrolled according to the customary rules and requirements of the institution attended.

(5) Each Florida College System institution board of trustees, each district school board with a career center authorized under section 1001.44, F.S., and each board of directors for a charter technical career center authorized under section 1002.34, F.S., shall adopt written policies and procedures for determining waiver eligibility, including any necessary documentation to prove marriage, kinship, employment or military status, death, and death in the line of duty.

(6) Pursuant to section 1009.285, F.S., a student will be required to pay tuition at one hundred (100) percent of the full cost of instruction upon the third attempt of a college credit course unless the Florida College System institution has granted an exception due to extenuating circumstances.

Rulemaking Authority 112.19(3), 112.191(3), 112.1912(2), 295.061(8) FS. Law Implemented 112.19, 112.191, 112.1912, 250.34, 295.061 FS. History–New