



## 2009 SENATE BILL 85

February 25, 2009 – Introduced by Senators LEIBHAM, HOPPER, PLALE, DARLING and S. FITZGERALD, cosponsored by Representatives RHOADES, SCHNEIDER, BIES, BROOKS, LOTHIAN, A. OTT, SPANBAUER, SUDER and TOWNSEND. Referred to Committee on Agriculture and Higher Education.

1     **AN ACT** *to amend* 36.27 (3n) (a) 1., 36.27 (3n) (a) 2., 36.27 (3p) (a) (intro.), 38.24  
2           (7) (a) 1., 38.24 (7) (a) 2. and 38.24 (8) (a) (intro.) of the statutes; **relating to:**  
3           eligibility for tuition fee remission for certain veterans and their spouses,  
4           surviving spouses, and children.

---

### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

Current law provides remission of tuition for certain students attending the University of Wisconsin (UW) System and technical college campuses. Under that law, certain veterans and the spouses, children, or surviving spouses of certain veterans are eligible for a full remission of tuition at the UW System and at the technical colleges for 128 credits or eight semesters. For a veteran to be eligible, he or she must have served under honorable conditions in certain types of active duty, be a resident, and have entered service while a resident of this state. For the spouse, surviving spouse, or child to be eligible, the veteran must have entered service while a resident of this state and either died while on duty or have a service-connected disability that is rated as 30 percent or more while a resident of this state.

This bill adds eligibility for the tuition remission for a veteran, and for the spouse, surviving spouse, or child of a disabled or deceased veteran, if the veteran was a resident of this state for at least ten continuous years after entering service and before the student registers for college.

**SENATE BILL 85**

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

---

*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

1           **SECTION 1.** 36.27 (3n) (a) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

2           36.27 **(3n)** (a) 1. A person who has served on active duty under honorable  
3 conditions in the U.S. armed forces, in forces incorporated as part of the U.S. armed  
4 forces, in the national guard, or in a reserve component of the U.S. armed forces; who  
5 was a resident of this state at the time of entry into that service or who was a resident  
6 for at least 10 continuous years after the time of entry into that service; and who,  
7 while a resident of this state, died on active duty, died as the result of a  
8 service-connected disability, or died in the line of duty while on active or inactive  
9 duty for training purposes.

10           **SECTION 2.** 36.27 (3n) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

11           36.27 **(3n)** (a) 2. A person who was either a resident of this state at the time  
12 of entry into service described in subd. 1. or who was a resident of this state for at  
13 least 10 continuous years immediately preceding the beginning of any semester or  
14 session for which the spouse, surviving spouse, or child registers at an institution,  
15 and who the U.S. department of veteran affairs has awarded at least a 30 percent  
16 service-connected disability rating under 38 USC 1114 or 1134.

17           **SECTION 3.** 36.27 (3p) (a) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

18           36.27 **(3p)** (a) (intro.) In this subsection, “veteran” means a person who is  
19 verified by the department of veterans affairs as being a resident of this state for  
20 purposes of receiving benefits under ch. 45; who is verified by the department of  
21 veterans affairs as being either a resident of the state at the time of his or her entry

**SENATE BILL 85**

1 into the U.S. armed forces or forces incorporated in the U.S. armed forces, or as being  
2 a resident of this state for at least 10 continuous years immediately preceding the  
3 beginning of any semester or session for which the person registers at an institution;  
4 and as meeting any of the following conditions:

5 **SECTION 4.** 38.24 (7) (a) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

6 38.24 (7) (a) 1. A person who has served on active duty under honorable  
7 conditions in the U.S. armed forces, in forces incorporated as part of the U.S. armed  
8 forces, in the national guard, or in a reserve component of the U.S. armed forces; who  
9 was a resident of this state at the time of entry into that service or who was a resident  
10 of this state for at least 10 continuous years after the time of entry into that service;  
11 and who, while a resident of this state, died on active duty, died as the result of a  
12 service-connected disability, or died in the line of duty while on active or inactive  
13 duty for training purposes.

14 **SECTION 5.** 38.24 (7) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

15 38.24 (7) (a) 2. A person who was either a resident of this state at the time of  
16 entry into service described in subd. 1. or who was a resident of this state for at least  
17 10 continuous years immediately preceding the beginning of any semester or session  
18 for which the spouse, surviving spouse, or child registers at an institution, and who  
19 the U.S. department of veteran affairs has awarded at least a 30 percent  
20 service-connected disability rating under 38 USC 1114 or 1134.

21 **SECTION 6.** 38.24 (8) (a) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

22 38.24 (8) (a) (intro.) In this subsection, “veteran” means a person who is verified  
23 by the department of veterans affairs as being a resident of this state for purposes  
24 of receiving benefits under ch. 45; who is verified by the department of veterans  
25 affairs as being either a resident of this state at the time of his or her entry into the

**SENATE BILL 85****SECTION 6**

1 U.S. armed forces or forces incorporated in the U.S. armed forces, or as being a  
2 resident of this state for at least 10 continuous years immediately preceding the  
3 beginning of any semester or session for which the person registers at an institution;  
4 and as meeting any of the following conditions:

5 **SECTION 7. Initial applicability.**

6 (1) TUITION EXEMPTION FOR ALIENS. The treatment of sections 36.27 (3h) (a) 1.  
7 and 2. and (3p) (a) (intro.) and 38.24 (7) (a) 1. and 2. and (8) (a) (intro.) of the statutes  
8 first applies to persons who enroll for the semester or session following the effective  
9 date of this subsection.

10 (END)