

Nebraska First Responder Recruitment and Retention Act Form

Note: This form is subject to change with little or no notice in response to Nebraska law. Filling out this application does not make you eligible for a tuition waiver under the Act. Criteria for eligibility is determined by the University of Nebraska System in accordance with Nebraska Law.

Eligible law enforcement officers, professional firefighters, and their legal dependents may qualify for a tuition waiver from the University of Nebraska pursuant to the terms of the Nebraska First Responder Recruitment and Retention Act of 2023*. Those who qualify are eligible to receive a credit of up to full tuition charges after subtracting other scholarships and grants for applicable fall, spring, or summer terms.

For purposes of the program, a law enforcement officer is any resident of Nebraska who is responsible for the prevention or detection of crime or the enforcement of the penal, traffic, or highway laws of the State of Nebraska or any political subdivision of the state for more than one hundred (100) hours per year and who is authorized by law to make arrests. A professional firefighter is a resident of Nebraska and is firefighter or firefighter-paramedic who is a member of a paid fire department of a municipality or a rural or suburban fire protection district in Nebraska, including a municipality having a home rule charter or a municipal authority created pursuant to a home rule charter that has its own paid fire department, and for whom firefighting is a full-time career. Legal dependents are students who are considered a dependent of a law enforcement officer or professional firefighter pursuant to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) filed with the Department of Education.

Students seeking this tuition waiver must apply annually and may receive it for up to five (5) years so long as the student continues to be eligible. A legal dependent eligible for the Nebraska First Responder Recruitment and Retention Act waiver must also sign an agreement with the state agreeing to reside within the State of Nebraska for a period of five (5) years following the use of the tuition waiver and to file a tax return with the Department of Revenue to document that the recipient resides in the State of Nebraska. Failure to comply with the above may result in repayment to the University of Nebraska of the amount of tuition waived under the Act.

*§85-2601 through 85-2604 and sections 110, 112, and 113 of LB727[2023]

By submitting this application, you acknowledge that you meet the definition of a “dependent student” under FAFSA, have filled out the FAFSA, and that at least one parent or legal guardian qualifies as a law enforcement officer or professional firefighter residing in the State of Nebraska.

To establish eligibility for this waiver as a legal dependent, the dependent student must also include the following:

- Verification of the parent law enforcement officer or professional firefighter’s satisfactory performance as a law enforcement officer or professional firefighter.
- Verification form from the State of Nebraska Department of Revenue.

Name of Parent Law Enforcement Officer/Professional Firefighter: _____
(Must be a parent on the FAFSA)

Student Name: _____ NUID: _____

I acknowledge and agree that I am eligible for the tuition waiver as a dependent of a law enforcement officer or professional firefighter in the State of Nebraska.

I further agree that if I receive a tuition waiver, I will remain a resident of the State of Nebraska for at least five years after I receive the tuition waiver and I will properly file a state tax return with the Department of Revenue for each of the five years as required under Nebraska Law.

I hereby grant the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska, its employees, officers, and agents, permission to disclose any personally identifiable information from my academic records to the Nebraska Department of Revenue as may be necessary or appropriate to comply with the provisions of Neb. Rev. Stat. § 85-2605, including academic records that may otherwise be protected under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

Student Signature

Date

Required documentation:

1. Nebraska Department of Revenue Verification form available at <https://revenue.nebraska.gov/about/forms> (availability of form pending).
2. Verification of Satisfactory Performance of the law enforcement officer or professional firefighter by their superior officer

Submit this application and supporting documentation via email to: finaid@unmc.edu or US Mail:

UNMC Office of Financial Aid
984265 Nebraska Medicine
Omaha, NE 68198-4265