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AN ACT

RELATING TO THE LEGISLATIVE LOTTERY TUITION SCHOLARSHIP;  
DECOUPLING SCHOLARSHIP AWARD AMOUNTS FROM TUITION COSTS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. Section 21-21N-4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2014,  
Chapter 80, Section 4, as amended) is amended to read:

"21-21N-4. TUITION SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT--FUND.--

A. Prior to June 1 of each year, based on the  
amount appropriated by the legislature from the fund and on  
the projected enrollment at all public post-secondary  
educational institutions, the department shall:

(1) determine the total amount of money  
available for all tuition scholarships for qualified  
students;

(2) determine the award amount for research  
institutions, comprehensive institutions and community  
colleges; and

(3) notify all public post-secondary  
educational institutions of the determinations made pursuant  
to Paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection.

B. In determining distribution and award amounts  
for the tuition scholarship program, the department shall:

(1) maintain the minimum fund balance  
pursuant to Section 21-21N-5 NMSA 1978;

1                   (2) distribute to all public post-secondary  
2 educational institutions an amount not to exceed the  
3 remaining balance in the fund; and

4                   (3) subject to the provisions of Paragraphs  
5 (1) and (2) of this subsection, distribute to each public  
6 post-secondary educational institution an amount based on:

7                   (a) the projected enrollment at each  
8 four-year public post-secondary educational institution of  
9 qualified students in their first through seventh program  
10 semesters, including qualified students in their fourth  
11 through seventh program semesters who transferred from  
12 community colleges;

13                   (b) the projected enrollment at each  
14 community college of qualified students in their first  
15 through third program semesters; and

16                   (c) an award for each scholarship  
17 recipient distributed in amounts as follows: 1) one thousand  
18 five hundred dollars (\$1,500) per scholarship per program  
19 semester for a student enrolled at a research institution;  
20 2) one thousand twenty dollars (\$1,020) per scholarship per  
21 program semester for a student enrolled at a comprehensive  
22 institution; and 3) three hundred eighty dollars (\$380) per  
23 scholarship per program semester for a student enrolled at a  
24 community college.

25                   C. If the total amount available pursuant to

1 Paragraph (1) of Subsection A of this section is less than  
2 the amount calculated in Subsection B of this section, the  
3 department shall decrease the scholarship award amounts in a  
4 manner that maintains the distribution in the same  
5 proportions as provided in Subparagraph (c) of Paragraph (3)  
6 of Subsection B of this section.

7 D. If the total amount available pursuant to  
8 Paragraph (1) of Subsection A of this section is more than  
9 the amount calculated in Subsection B of this section, the  
10 department shall increase the scholarship award amounts in a  
11 manner that maintains the distribution in the same  
12 proportions as provided in Subparagraph (c) of Paragraph (3)  
13 of Subsection B of this section."

14 SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the  
15 provisions of this act is July 1, 2018. \_\_\_\_\_

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