



Tuition and Registration Fee Waiver Report

February 1, 2021

A Report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight
Committee

As Required by G.S. 115D-5(b2)

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
Tuition and Registration Fee Waiver Reporting for FY 2019-20

Background: G.S. 115D-5(b2) requires an annual report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on the number and type of tuition waivers granted.

Current Procedures: In the summer of 2017, the North Carolina Community College System released a software patch that allows colleges to generate a report with this data from their financial system and transmit it to the System Office. The information contained in the attached report is compiled from the data obtained in this fashion.

Scope: The report contains information about tuition that is waived pursuant to G.S. 115D-5, with the exception that there is no data for the following two groups, as these groups do not have tuition or registration fees charged and therefore have nothing to waive:

- persons not enrolled in elementary or secondary schools who are taking courses leading to a high school diploma or equivalent certificate; and
- trainees enrolled in courses conducted under the Customized Training Program

Although the State Board of Community Colleges is not required to report on tuition waivers granted under the authority of G.S. 115B-2, they have been included in this report. These waivers include waivers for survivors of a law enforcement officers, firefighters, volunteer firefighters, or rescue squad workers killed as a direct result of a traumatic injury sustained in the line of duty; spouses and children of such workers who become disabled as a direct result of a traumatic injury sustained in the line of duty; and wards of the State.

Executive Summary:

Tuition and registration fee waivers overall decreased 0.5% during FY2019-20 to \$111,801,214. Despite the overall decline, growth continues to be strong in the popular Career and College Promise program, which allows North Carolina's high school students to be dually enrolled in postsecondary courses while earning their high school diploma. This program represents 59.1% of all waivers during the fiscal year and increased 11.4% from prior year, further shifting the waiver volume away from the historic focus on continuing education to curriculum during the year. Training for emergency service workers, such as law enforcement, fire, EMS, rescue, emergency response, and lifesaving personnel decreased slightly to about \$36.2 million and dropped from 36.7% of the total to 32.3% due to the increase in Career and College Promise. Human resource development waivers contracted again this year by over five percent to \$6.4 million (5.7%), and the remaining \$3.2 million (2.9%) of waivers were for corrections employees, CPR courses for elementary and secondary education employees, the youth apprenticeship program, and the waivers granted under G.S. 115B-2, as described previously. The following table provides the amounts and student counts for each waiver type.



Finance and Operations Division 2019-20 Tuition Waiver Analysis

	\$ Waived	Waivers	Students
Fire department (volunteer)	\$ 9,747,144	129,165	25,322
Fire department (municipal, county, or state)	6,745,702	90,372	12,712
EMS or rescue and lifesaving departments (volunteer)	1,676,324	21,569	5,596
EMS or rescue and lifesaving departments (municipal, county, or state)	3,797,087	49,018	10,851
Law enforcement, fire, EMS & rescue/lifesaving entities as an eligible lake authority	840	12	8
Law enforcement agencies (municipal, county, or state)	13,998,316	145,161	38,836
Radio Emergency Associated Citizen Teams (REACT)	15,755	196	148
Division of Adult Correction (Department of Public Safety) employees	2,269,250	27,613	10,937
Division of Juvenile Justice (Department of Public Safety) employees	13,625	164	142
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians law enforcement, fire, EMS rescue/lifesaving programs	5,075	67	13
Fire, EMS, or rescue and lifesaving personnel whose duty station is on a NC military installation	182,575	1,988	454
Elementary and secondary school employees in first aid/CPR courses	389,340	5,588	5,523
Human resources development program (eligible enrollees)	6,396,206	50,767	35,536
High school students (Career and College Promise)	66,048,022	296,330	75,847
Youth Apprenticeship	466,642	1,419	371
Eligible survivor ¹	12,799	56	9
Eligible spouse ¹	1,957	11	1
Eligible child ¹	8,774	30	6
Ward of the State ¹	3,572	17	4
Basic Skills Plus (only for approved colleges)	22,210	106	75
Grand totals	\$ 111,801,214	819,649	222,391

¹ Authorized by NCGS §115B-2

Unless otherwise noted, all waivers are authorized by NCGS §115D-5

Note: Report realigned to reflect NCCCS Reporting Year: Summer, Fall and Spring. Prior reports reflected Fall, Spring and Summer.