

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
Tuition and Registration Fee Waiver Reporting for FY 2023-24

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.

Procedures: The North Carolina Community College System provides colleges with a program to generate a report of tuition waivers granted from their financial system and transmit it to the System Office. The information contained in the attached report was compiled from this data transmission.

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 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 increased 6.4% during FY2023-24 to \$126,199,829. Interest 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. There was an increase in the Career and College Promise program of \$6.5 million over the prior year. This program continues to represent the highest amount of all waivers with \$79.4 million (62.9%) of all waivers during the reporting year. Training for emergency service workers, such as law enforcement, fire, EMS, rescue, emergency response, and lifesaving personnel increased to \$39.5 million (31.3%) of total waivers. Human resource development waivers remained at the same level as last year with \$3.5 million (2.8%), and the remaining \$3.8 million (3.0%) of waivers consist of those 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 2023-24 Tuition Waiver Analysis

					\$ WAIVED	# WAIVERS	# STUDENTS
Fire department (volunteer)					\$ 10,294,325	124,551	25,094
Fire department (municipal, county, or state)					\$ 9,460,664	111,367	16,116
EMS or rescue and lifesaving departments (volunteer)					\$ 1,555,599	19,732	5,428
EMS or rescue and lifesaving departments (municipal, county, or state)					\$ 3,621,161	41,805	11,677
Law enforcement, fire, EMS & rescue/lifesaving entities as an eligible lake authority					\$ 630	9	3
Law enforcement agencies (municipal, county, or state)					\$ 14,275,284	152,866	42,038
Radio Emergency Associated Citizen Teams (REACT)					\$ 15,465	195	145
Division of Adult Correction (Department of Public Safety) employees					\$ 2,387,147	25,988	10,534
Division of Juvenile Justice (Department of Public Safety) employees					\$ 6,650	84	83
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians law enforcement, fire, EMS rescue/lifesaving programs					\$ 3,300	44	23
North Carolina Criminal Justice Fellows Program					\$ -	-	-
Fire, EMS, or rescue and lifesaving personnel whose duty station is on a NC military installation					\$ 225,079	2,835	807
Elementary and secondary school employees in first aid/CPR courses					\$ 514,599	7,347	7,211
Human resources development program (eligible enrollees)					\$ 3,512,662	28,580	20,759
High school students (Career and College Promise)					\$ 79,379,921	357,627	91,930
Youth Apprenticeship					\$ 906,254	3,850	711
Eligible survivor ¹					\$ 17,660	66	9
Eligible spouse ¹					\$ -	-	-
Eligible child ¹					\$ 10,349	49	6
Ward of the state					\$ -	-	-
Basic Skills Plus					\$ 13,080	63	44
					\$ 126,199,829	877,058	232,618
¹ Authorized by NCGS §115B-2							
Unless otherwise noted, all waivers are authorized by NCGS §115D-5							