



# **Tuition and Registration Fee Waiver Report**

**February 1, 2020**

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 2018-19**

**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 G.S. 115D-5(b2) does not require a 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 increased 8.5% during FY2018-19 to \$112,394,826. The growth continues to be driven by 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 now represents over half (\$59.3 million or 52.7%) of all waivers during the fiscal year and increased by 16.5% 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 increased slightly to about \$41.2 million but still dropped from 39.0% of the total to 36.7% due to the increase in Career and College Promise. Human resource development waivers contracted again this year by over eight percent to \$8.0 million (8.5%), and the remaining \$3.9 million (3.4%) 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 2018-19 Tuition Waiver Analysis

	\$ Waived	Waivers	Students
Fire department (volunteer)	\$ 10,733,166	142,861	31,748
Fire department (municipal, county, or state)	6,885,712	91,954	15,960
EMS or rescue and lifesaving departments (volunteer)	2,122,855	27,539	6,924
EMS or rescue and lifesaving departments (municipal, county, or state)	4,318,038	56,115	12,787
Law enforcement, fire, EMS & rescue/lifesaving entities as an eligible lake authority	-	-	-
Law enforcement agencies (municipal, county, or state)	16,941,159	180,609	49,885
Radio Emergency Associated Citizen Teams (REACT)	21,465	276	195
Division of Adult Correction (Department of Public Safety) employees	2,935,420	35,825	13,276
Division of Juvenile Justice (Department of Public Safety) employees	18,150	242	207
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians law enforcement, fire, EMS rescue/lifesaving programs	4,460	59	11
Fire, EMS, or rescue and lifesaving personnel whose duty station is on a NC military installation	202,435	2,105	581
Elementary and secondary school employees in first aid/CPR courses	518,505	8,297	7,430
Human resources development program (eligible enrollees)	8,037,091	62,616	41,853
High school students (Career and College Promise)	59,283,085	266,676	63,478
Youth Apprenticeship	320,558	1,267	276
Eligible survivor <sup>1</sup>	7,600	37	5
Eligible spouse <sup>1</sup>	2,717	15	1
Eligible child <sup>1</sup>	3,404	11	4
Ward of the State <sup>1</sup>	3,800	20	3
Basic Skills Plus (only for approved colleges)	35,208	181	138
<b>Grand totals</b>	<b>\$ 112,394,826</b>	<b>876,705</b>	<b>244,762</b>

<sup>1</sup> Authorized by NCGS §115B-2

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