



Tuition and Registration Fee Waiver Report

February 1, 2022

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 2020-21

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 6.1% during FY2020-21 to \$105,006,272. Despite the overall decline, participation 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. Waivers for this program decreased 1.5% from the previous year; however currently represents 61.9% of total waivers during the fiscal year. Training for emergency service workers, such as law enforcement, fire, EMS, rescue, emergency response, and lifesaving personnel decreased slightly to \$36 million; however increased from 32.3% to 34.3% of total waivers. Human resource development waivers contracted again this year by over 65.1% from last year to \$2.2 million, representing 2.1% of total waivers. The remaining \$1.7 million or 1.6% of total 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 2020-21 Tuition Waiver Analysis

	\$ Waived	Waivers	Students
Fire department (volunteer)	\$ 10,423,156	137,821	23,766
Fire department (municipal, county, or state)	7,513,445	100,988	12,183
EMS or rescue and lifesaving departments (volunteer)	1,562,184	19,863	4,815
EMS or rescue and lifesaving departments (municipal, county, or state)	3,732,111	47,677	9,033
Law enforcement, fire, EMS & rescue/lifesaving entities as an eligible lake authority	1,595	22	14
Law enforcement agencies (municipal, county, or state)	12,580,210	136,216	36,518
Radio Emergency Associated Citizen Teams (REACT)	15,170	212	173
Division of Adult Correction (Department of Public Safety) employees	753,005	7,876	5,227
Division of Juvenile Justice (Department of Public Safety) employees	6,510	93	93
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians law enforcement, fire, EMS rescue/lifesaving programs	3,530	41	21
Fire, EMS, or rescue and lifesaving personnel whose duty station is on a NC military installation	200,295	2,474	480
Elementary and secondary school employees in first aid/CPR courses	281,293	4,076	4,066
Human resources development program (eligible enrollees)	2,229,730	18,244	13,105
High school students (Career and College Promise)	65,045,584	290,476	74,084
Youth Apprenticeship	613,037	1,829	485
Eligible survivor ¹	4,541	23	4
Eligible spouse ¹	-	-	-
Eligible child ¹	11,572	26	4
Ward of the State ¹	-	-	-
Basic Skills Plus (only for approved colleges)	29,304	142	76
Grand totals	\$ 105,006,272	768,099	184,147

¹ Authorized by NCGS §115B-2

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