



# **Tuition and Registration Fee Waiver Report**

**February 1, 2023**

**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 2021-22**

**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 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 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 2% during FY2021-22 to \$107,183,725. 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 a slight decrease in the Career and College Promise program of \$510 thousand less than the prior year. However, this program continues to represent \$64.5 million (60.3%) of all waivers during the reporting year. Training for emergency service workers, such as law enforcement, fire, EMS, rescue, emergency response, and lifesaving personnel slightly increased to \$36.2 million (33.7%) of total waivers. Human resource development waivers increased this year to \$3.2 million (3.0%), and the remaining \$3.2 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**  
**2021-22 Tuition Waiver Analysis**

	<b>\$ Waived</b>	<b># Waivers</b>	<b># Students</b>
Fire department (volunteer)	\$ 9,920,912	128,843	23,647
Fire department (municipal, county, or state)	7,821,781	103,704	13,626
EMS or rescue and lifesaving departments (volunteer)	1,441,731	18,005	5,085
EMS or rescue and lifesaving departments (municipal, county, or state)	3,788,884	48,362	10,486
Law enforcement, fire, EMS & rescue/lifesaving entities as an eligible lake authority	1,755	18	16
Law enforcement agencies (municipal, county, or state)	13,001,929	140,529	39,439
Radio Emergency Associated Citizen Teams (REACT)	20,315	247	197
Division of Adult Correction (Department of Public Safety) employees	2,143,535	25,919	10,395
Division of Juvenile Justice (Department of Public Safety) employees	12,505	170	149
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians law enforcement, fire, EMS rescue/lifesaving programs	3,500	39	18
Fire, EMS, or rescue and lifesaving personnel whose duty station is on a NC military installation	196,450	2,544	425
Elementary and secondary school employees in first aid/CPR courses	376,685	5,391	5,358
Human resources development program (eligible enrollees)	3,199,115	26,000	18,846
High school students (Career and College Promise)	64,535,351	291,671	75,012
Youth Apprenticeship	690,206	2,339	596
Eligible survivor <sup>1</sup>	7,220	29	5
Eligible spouse <sup>1</sup>	0	0	0
Eligible child <sup>1</sup>	2,660	13	3
Ward of the State <sup>1</sup>	0	0	0
Basic Skills Plus (only for approved colleges)	19,191	97	62
<b>Grand totals</b>	<b>\$ 107,183,725</b>	<b>793,920</b>	<b>203,365</b>

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

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