

SBCTC Tuition Waiver and Residency Classification Information

This document summarizes various tuition waivers and residency categories that may be applicable to students enrolling at Washington's community and technical colleges.

Waivers fall into three main groups; those required by law, those required by the State Board and those that colleges are allowed to offer, but are not required to do so (optional waivers). In addition, some waivers are subject to a limitation on the total amount that can be waived by the community and technical college system.

Per [RCW 28B.15.910](#), the amount waived for certain waivers cannot exceed 35% of the total amount of operating fees authorized to be collected by the community and technical college system. This is known as the 35% limit. Colleges may offer additional tuition waivers; however those are considered to be outside the 35% limit. In the summaries below, an additional notation of inside and outside the 35% limit is provided.

The definition of a resident or non-resident student is listed in statute. It is important to note that, under these definitions, some students are considered residents that may otherwise be considered non-residents. For the purposes of assessing tuition and fees properly, these students should be classified as residents rather than a non-resident receiving a non-resident differential waiver.

This document also summarizes information for the colleges regarding running start, residency classifications, and inactive tuition waivers.

STATUTORILY MANDATORY WAIVERS — Included in the 35 % Limit

Children and Spouse of Totally Disabled or POW/MIA or Deceased Eligible Veterans or National Guard Members (Fee Pay Status – 72) Statute - [RCW 28B.15.621 \(4\)](#)

Tuition Waiver: The Legislature established this waiver to honor active and reserve veterans, National Guard members and their dependents. This is a mandatory tuition waiver for the children and spouses or domestic partners of eligible veterans and National Guard members who are disabled, deceased or POW/MIA.

Summary: Community and technical colleges shall waive all tuition fees (operating and building fees) and services & activities fees, and all other fees incurred as a condition of a student's full participation in coursework and related activities for a:

- Child/spouse/domestic partner of an eligible veteran or National Guard member who became totally disabled during active military or naval service
- Child/spouse/domestic partner of an eligible veteran or National Guard member determined to be a prisoner of war or missing in action
- Child/spouse/domestic partner of an eligible veteran or National Guard member who lost his or her life during active military or naval service

Conditions for applying for this waiver include:

- Child is defined as a biological child, adopted child, or stepchild
- The child or spouse must be a Washington domiciliary
- Children must be between the age of 17 and 26
- A child's marital status does not affect eligibility
- Surviving spouses have 10 years from the date of the death, total disability, or federal determination of prisoner of war or missing in action status of the eligible veteran or national guard member to receive the waiver
- Surviving spouses are ineligible for the waiver upon remarriage or registration in a subsequent domestic partnership
- Each recipient's continued participation in the waiver program is subject to the colleges' satisfactory progress policy
- Total credits earned using this waiver may not exceed 250 quarter credits, or the equivalent semester credits

This waiver is included in the 35% legislative limit.

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Children and Spouses of Deceased or Disabled Law Enforcement Officers or Firefighters (Fee Pay Status – 04)

Statute: [RCW 28B.15.520\(2\)\(a\)-\(b\)](#)

Tuition Waiver: This waiver is for the children and surviving spouses of deceased or disabled law enforcement officers or firefighters.

Summary: Community and technical colleges shall waive all tuition fees (operating and building fees) and services & activities fees for the children or surviving spouses of deceased or disabled law enforcement officers, firefighters or state patrol officers. Eligible children must begin their course of study within ten years of high school graduation. The officers and firefighters must have died or become totally disabled in the line of duty while employed by a public law enforcement agency or a full-time or volunteer fire department. Totally disabled is defined as totally and permanently disabled for life by bodily injury or disease and thereby prevented from performing any occupation or gainful pursuit.

This waiver is included in the 35% legislative limit.

Wrongfully Convicted Person (Fee Pay Status 84) Statute: [RCW 28B.15.395](#)

Tuition Waiver: This waiver is for a wrongfully convicted person, their children and step children.

Summary: Community and technical colleges shall waive all tuition and fees for wrongfully convicted individuals, their children, step children and adopted children.

The following limitations apply:

- The wrongfully convicted person must be a Washington domiciliary to be eligible for the tuition waiver.
- A child must be a Washington domiciliary ages seventeen through twenty-six years. A child's marital status does not affect eligibility.
- Each recipient's continued participation is subject to the school's satisfactory progress policy.
- Recipients may attend full time or part time.
- Total credits earned using the waiver may not exceed two hundred quarter credits, or the equivalent of semester credits.

For this waiver:

- "Child" means a biological child, stepchild, or adopted child who was born of, became the stepchild of, or was adopted by a wrongfully convicted person before compensation is awarded under RCW 4.100.060.
- "Fees" include all assessments for costs incurred as a condition to a student's full participation in coursework and related activities at an institution of higher education.
- "Washington domiciliary" means a person whose true, fixed, and permanent house and place of habitation is the state of Washington. In ascertaining whether a wrongfully convicted person or child is domiciled in the state of Washington, public institutions of higher education must, to the fullest extent possible, rely upon the standards provided in RCW 28B.15.013.
- "Wrongfully convicted person" means a Washington domiciliary who has been charged, convicted and imprisoned in Washington for one or more felonies of which they are actually innocent and the person has been awarded damages under RCW 4.100.060.

This waiver is included in the 35% legislative limit.

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SBCTC MANDATORY WAIVERS — Included in the 35% Limit

Adult Basic Education, English as a Second Language and GED preparation (Fee Pay Status – Payments – 92, Waivers – 32)

Statute: [RCW 28B.15.069\(4\)](#) **Rule:** [WAC 131-28-026\(4\)\(a\)](#) **Board Resolution:** 04-03-03

Tuition Waiver: Tuition fees (operating and building fees) and services & activities fees for certain ungraded courses may be waived. Per WAC, the amount charged for Adult Basic Education, English as a Second Language, and GED Preparation is set by the State Board.

Summary: Adult Basic Education, English as a Second Language, and GED Preparation students pay \$25.00 per student per quarter. Colleges may waive the \$25 charge for students who are unable to pay.

This waiver is included in the 35% legislative limit.

Apprentice (Fee Pay Status – 91)

Statute: [RCW 28B.15.069\(4\)](#) **Rule:** [WAC 131-28-026\(4\)\(b\)](#) **Board Resolution:** 04-03-03

Tuition Waiver: Tuition fees (operating and building fees) and services & activities fees shall be reduced for qualifying apprenticeship students.

Summary: Colleges shall waive one-half of the standard per-credit tuition fees (operating and building fees) and services & activities fees. Students must be registered with the Washington State Apprenticeship Council or Federal Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training to be eligible.

This waiver is included in the 35% legislative limit.

COLLEGE OPTIONAL WAIVERS — Included in the 35% Limit

Eligible Veterans or National Guard Members (Fee Pay Status – 70) Statute: [RCW 28B.15.621\(2\)](#)

Tuition Waiver: The Legislature established this waiver to honor veterans and National Guard members. This is an optional tuition waiver for eligible veterans or National Guard members.

Summary: Community and technical colleges may waive all or a portion of tuition and fees for eligible veterans or National Guard members.

An eligible veteran or National Guard member is defined in [RCW 28B.15.621\(8\)\(b\)](#) as one who is:

- A Washington domiciliary
- Active or reserve member of military or naval forces or National Guard called to active duty
- Served in active federal duty under either Title 10 or Title 32 of the US Code
- In a war or conflict fought on foreign soil or in international waters, or served in support of those that were (serving on foreign soil or in international waters)
- If discharged, has received an honorable discharge, or any other discharge if the sole reason is due to gender or sexuality

This waiver is included in the 35% legislative limit.

High School Completion (Fee Pay Status – 12) Statute: [RCW 28B.15.520\(1\)](#)

Tuition Waiver: Waiver of tuition for students enrolled in a high school completion program.

Summary: Community and technical colleges may waive all or a portion of tuition fees (operating and building fees) and services & activities fees for students 19 years of age or older who are enrolled in a high school completion program. Students must be Washington State residents.

This waiver is included in the 35% legislative limit.

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Need Based (Fee Pay Status – 03) Statute: RCW [28B.15.740\(1\)](#) **Rule:** WAC [131-28-040](#)

Tuition Waiver: This waiver is available to students based on financial need.

Summary: Community and technical colleges may waive all or a portion of tuition fees (operating and building fees) and services & activities fees for financially needy students. Students must be eligible for resident tuition and fee rates to qualify for the waiver. Criteria for the waiver is established by each college.

This waiver is included in the 35% legislative limit.

COLLEGE OPTIONAL WAIVER OF NONRESIDENT TUITION DIFFERENTIAL — Included in the 35% Limit

Congressional Dependents (Fee Pay Status – 52) Statute: RCW [28B.15.014\(4\)](#)

Tuition Waiver: Waiver of nonresident tuition differential for congressional dependents.

Summary: Community and technical colleges may waive all or a portion of the nonresident differential for dependents of members of the U.S. Congress representing Washington State.

- Nonresident differential is the difference between resident tuition fees (operating and building fees) and nonresident tuition fees (operating and building fees).

This waiver is included in the 35% legislative limit.

High School Completion – Nonresident (Fee Pay Status – 20) Statute: [RCW 28B.15.520\(3\)\(a\)](#)

Tuition Waiver: Waiver of nonresident tuition differential for students enrolled in a high school completion program.

Summary: Community and technical colleges may waive all or a portion of the nonresident differential for nonresident students enrolled in a high school completion program. The waiver is only for those courses which lead to a high school diploma or certificate.

- Nonresident differential is the difference between resident tuition fees (operating and building fees) and nonresident tuition fees (operating and building fees).

This waiver is included in the 35% legislative limit.

Higher Education Employees (Fee Pay Status – 24) Statute: [RCW 28B.15.014\(2\)](#)

Tuition Waiver: Waiver of nonresident tuition differential for higher education employees.

Summary: Community and technical colleges may waive all or a portion of the nonresident differential for employees of public higher education institutions and their spouses and dependents. Employees must reside in the state and hold at least a half-time appointment.

- Nonresident differential is the difference between resident tuition fees (operating and building fees) and nonresident tuition fees (operating and building fees).

This waiver is included in the 35% legislative limit.

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International Student Exchange (Fee Pay Status – 38) Statute: [RCW 28B.15.527](#)

Tuition Waiver: Waiver of nonresidential tuition differential for foreign students.

Summary: Community colleges may waive all or a portion of the nonresident differential for foreign students. Participation is limited to 100 full-time students each year. Priority should be given to academic exchange students and students in special programs recognized by formal agreements between states, cities, or institutions. The number of waivers given shall not exceed the number of the college's own students enrolled in study abroad. Reciprocal placements are not required for up to 30 students participating in the Georgetown University scholarship program.

- Nonresident differential is the difference between resident tuition fees (operating and building fees) and nonresident tuition fees (operating and building fees).

This waiver is included in the 35% legislative limit.

Refugee (Fee Pay Status – 23) Statute: [RCW 28B.15.014\(3\)](#)

Tuition Waiver: Waiver of nonresident tuition differential for refugees, their spouse and dependents.

Summary: Community and technical colleges may waive all or a portion of the nonresident tuition differential for refugees, their spouse and dependents if the refugee is on parole status (allowed into the United States for humanitarian reasons), has received an immigrant visa or has applied for US citizenship.

- Nonresident differential is the difference between resident tuition fees (operating and building fees) and nonresident tuition fees (operating and building fees).

This waiver is included in the 35% legislative limit.

COLLEGE OPTIONAL UNGRADED/COURSE BASED WAIVERS — Included in the 35% Limit

Ungraded Courses – Emergency Medical Technician and Paramedic Continuing Education, Farm Management and Small Business Management, First Aid, Journeyperson, Retirement, and Parent Education (Fee Pay Status – EMT & Paramedic Continuing Ed – 93, Farm Management & Small Business Management – 96, First Aid – 94, Journeyperson – 90, Retirement – 97, Parent Education–95)

Statute: [RCW 28B.15.069\(4\)](#) **Rule:** [WAC 131-28-02501](#) **Rule:** [WAC 131-28-026\(3\)](#)

Tuition Waiver: Community and technical colleges may waive tuition fees (operating and building fees) and services & activities fees for qualifying ungraded courses. Those courses include:

- Emergency Medical Technician and Paramedic Continuing Education
- Farm Management and Small Business Management
- First Aid
- Journeyperson
- Retirement
- Parent Education

Summary: Community and technical colleges may waive all or a portion of tuition fees (operating and building fees) and services & activities fees for students enrolled in Emergency Medical Technician and Paramedic Continuing Education, Farm Management and Small Business Management, First Aid, Journeyperson, Retirement and Parent Education courses. The fee collected from students for ungraded courses is operating fee.

NOTE: In 2012 Parent Education was changed from a mandatory to optional waiver.

This waiver is included in the 35% legislative limit.

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OTHER WAIVERS INCLUDED IN THE 35% LIMIT

Over 18 Credit Exemption for Vocational Students – Resident and Nonresident (Fee Pay Status – Resident – 18, Nonresident – 17) Statute: [RCW 28B.15.100\(3\)](#)

Tuition Waiver: This waiver is for vocational students registering for more than 18 credits (Resident and Nonresident).

Summary: Community and technical colleges may waive all or a portion of the additional operating fee charged for each credit hour in excess of eighteen for students registered exclusively for required courses in vocational preparatory programs.

This waiver is included in the 35% legislative limit.

OPTIONAL WAIVERS NOT INCLUDED IN THE 35% LIMIT

Nonresident – Operating Fees Only (Fee Pay Status – 29 or 31) Statute: [RCW 28B.15.915](#)

Tuition Waiver: Waiver of nonresident operating fee differential.

Summary: Community colleges may waive all or part of the nonresident operating fee differential; but not the building fee differential. The amount and/or conditions of the waiver are set by local boards of trustees.

This waiver is NOT subject to the 35% legislative limit.

Residency requirement: Students must be U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens, including but not limited to permanent residents, U.S. National or refugee status students.

This waiver is NOT included in the 35% Legislative limit.

**Athletic Waiver – Resident and Nonresident
(Fee Pay Status – Resident – 63, Nonresident – 64, Nonresident/Op Fee Differential – 68)
Statute: [RCW 28B.15.915](#) Resolution: 06-06-22**

Tuition Waiver: Waiver of a portion of the operating fee for student athletes (Resident and Nonresident)

Summary: Colleges may waive up to 25 percent of the State Board established resident 15 credit tuition and fee rate. The waiver is available to grant-in-aid-eligible resident and nonresident student athletes. This waiver is in addition to the colleges' nonresident student tuition waiver policy.

Community colleges have the option to implement this waiver, following adoption of the waiver by each community college's board of trustees.

NOTE: While the amount of waiver is calculated as a percentage of tuition and fees, the waiver itself is applied to the operating fee only.

This waiver is NOT included in the 35% legislative limit.

**Building Fee and S&A Fee Waiver for DoD Tuition Assistance Program participants (Fee Pay Status – 75)
Statute: [RCW 28B.15.622](#)**

Tuition Waiver: Optional waiver of Building and S&A fees.

Summary: For military service members that are eligible to participate in the Department of Defense Tuition Assistance Program, community and technical colleges may waive all or a portion of the Building Fees and Services & Activity Fees not covered by that program.

NOTE: This waiver was implemented following passage of HB 1706 during the 2015 Legislative session.

This waiver is NOT included in the 35% Legislative limit.

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Other Military or Naval Veterans (Fee Pay Status – 71) Statute: [RCW 28B.15.621\(3\)](#)

Tuition Waiver: The legislature established this waiver to honor veterans.

Summary: Community and technical colleges may waive all or a portion of tuition and fees for military or naval veterans who did not serve on foreign soil or in international waters or in support of those that did. Military or naval veterans must be a Washington domiciliary to qualify for this waiver.

This waiver is NOT included in the 35% Legislative limit.

FOR CLARIFICATION: This category includes ONLY military or naval veterans. It does NOT include National Guard members.

SPACE AVAILABLE WAIVERS — NOT INCLUDED IN THE 35% LIMIT

Senior Citizens – Audit/Credit (Fee Pay Status – Audit – 10, Credit – 56) Statute: [RCW 28B.15.540](#)

Tuition Waiver: Waiver for students sixty years or older (Audit and Credit)

Summary: Community and technical colleges may waive all or a portion of tuition fees (operating and building fees) and services & activities fees for students sixty years or older who are enrolled for credit. Students enrolling under this waiver shall register for no more than two courses per quarter. Students shall be enrolled on a space available basis and must be Washington state residents. The waiver is not available to students using the course credits for increasing credentials or salary schedule increases.

For students enrolled on an audit basis, a nominal fee, not to exceed five dollars per quarter, is to be charged

These students are NOT to be included in state enrollment counting.

This waiver is NOT included in the 35% legislative limit.

State Employees (Fee Pay Status – 51) Statute: [RCW 28B.15.558](#)

Tuition Waiver: This waiver is for eligible state employees and teachers and other certificated staff.

Summary: Community and technical colleges may waive all or a portion of tuition (operating and building fees) and services and activities fees for state employees as defined below:

- Permanent employees in classified service under RCW 41.06 (State Civil Service Law).
- Permanent employees governed by RCW 41.56 (Public Employees Collective Bargaining)
- Permanent classified employees and exempt paraprofessional employees of technical colleges.
- Faculty, counselors, librarians and exempt professional/administrative employees at institutions of higher education.
- Teachers and other certificated instructional staff at public common and vocational schools.
- Classified staff employed at public common schools, when the employee is taking courses relevant to their work assignment or coursework that is part of a teacher preparation program.

Students shall be charged a registration fee of not less than five dollars. Students shall be enrolled on a space available basis.

Colleges may give preference to employees of the college before considering waivers for eligible persons not employed by the college. If a college participates in this waiver, it shall include all eligible state employees in the pool of those eligible to participate. Equal treatment must be given to those employed full-time and those employed half-time or more.

These students are NOT to be included in state enrollment counting.

This waiver is NOT included in the 35% legislative limit.

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Unemployed/Underemployed (Fee Pay Status – Unemployed – 21, Underemployed 22) Statute: [RCW 28B.15.522](#)

Tuition Waiver: This tuition waiver is for qualified unemployed and underemployed students.

Summary: Community and technical colleges may waive all or a portion of tuition fees (operating and building fees) and services & activities fees for students 21 years of age or older who have not attended college for the previous six months, are not receiving or entitled to unemployment compensation and are at or below the need standard established by the Department of Social and Health Services. Students shall be enrolled on a space available basis. Students must meet the requirements to be classified as a resident student.

These students are NOT to be included in state enrollment counting.

This waiver is NOT included in the 35% legislative limit.

RUNNING START PROGRAM — Separate from Reportable Tuition Waivers

Running Start (Fee Pay Status – multiple, R# or S#) Statute: [RCW 28A.600.310](#)

Tuition Waiver: The Running Start program is available for eligible 11th and 12th grade students. This waiver does NOT include other mandatory fees charged by the colleges.

Summary: Eleventh and twelfth grade students or students who have not yet received the credits required for a high school diploma and are eligible to be in the eleventh or twelfth grades may apply and enroll in courses or programs. The courses and programs must also be open for registration to matriculated students at the participating college. There is no charge to the student, up to a combined 1.2 FTE between high school and college classes. Running Start students must pay mandatory fees as established by the college, prorated based upon credit load.

FTEs are counted as contract enrollments.

NEW IN 2009: Colleges may charge Running Start students fees, except for tuition and S&A fees.

Running Start (Fee Pay Status – multiple, M# or N#) Statute: [RCW 28A.600.310\(3\)](#)

Fee Waiver: A fee waiver is available for low-income students enrolled in the Running Start Program.

Summary: Fee waivers are available for low-income Running Start students. To be considered low-income, a Running Start student must provide proof that s/he is qualified to receive free or reduced-price lunch, or some other type of documentation as determined by the college.

NEW IN 2009: Colleges may waive fees charged to low-income Running Start students.

Running Start (Fee Pay Status – S9 or N9) Statute: [RCW 28A.600.310\(2\)](#)

Fee Waiver: A fee waiver is available for Running Start students taking 10 credits at a community college.

Summary: Community colleges shall waive tuition and fees (operating, building and S&A fee) for the 10th credit taken by Running Start students, when their 10th credit takes them over the total amount which may be claimed for state basic education funding under Running Start (WAC 392-121-136).

FOR CLARIFICATION: Only a Running Start student who is eligible for exactly 9 tuition-free Running Start credits and registers for exactly 10 credits is eligible for the “10th credit waiver” of tuition. Any student eligible for exactly 9 Tuition Free Running Start credits who registers for MORE than 10 credits is not eligible to have the 10th credit waived.

This waiver is new in FY 2012 because of the funding limit imposed in the 2011-13 Appropriations Act (2ESHB 1087).

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RESIDENCY CLASSIFICATIONS — Separate from Reportable Tuition Waivers

Residency classifications are mandatory and colleges must charge students the resident tuition rates if they meet the residency criteria

Active Duty Military, Spouses and Dependents; Washington National Guard, Spouses and Dependents (who live in Washington)

(Fee Pay Status – 09) Statute: [RCW 28B.15.012\(2\)\(g\)-\(o\), \(r\), \(s\)](#)

Residency Classification: This classification defines residency for current and former active duty military and their spouses and dependents, as well as members of the Washington National Guard and their spouses and dependents.

Summary: The state of Washington has established definitions for residency the following students:

- 1 - Active duty military and WA National Guard stationed in-state, and their spouse/domestic partner and dependents;
- 2 - Active duty military and WA National Guard stationed out-of-state, who entered service as a resident of Washington and has maintained Washington as their domicile. Eligibility also includes their spouse/domestic partner and dependents;
- 3 - Active duty military, reassigned out-of-state, who are admitted to college prior to the transfer and stay continuously enrolled, or enroll within three years of reassignment. Eligibility also includes their spouse/domestic partner and dependents;
- 4 - Those separated from the uniformed services, with at least ten years of honorable service, and at least ninety days of active duty and have enrolled in a college within three years of separation. Eligibility also includes their spouse/domestic partner, or child under the age of 26;
- 5 - Student who is eligible for VA educational assistance or rehabilitation benefits under Title 38 U.S.C. or educational assistance under Title 10 U.S.C Chapter 1606;
- 6 - A student who is defined as a covered individual in 38 U.S.C. Section 3679(c)(2). Please refer to WSAC for additional guidance and details;
- 7 - Students discharged from uniformed services due to sexual orientation;
- 8 - Active duty military residing in-state and stationed in Washington Border Counties. Eligibility also includes their spouse/domestic partner and dependents;

These residency classifications are mandatory and colleges must charge these students resident tuition rates.

American Indian (Fee Pay Status – 25) Statute: [RCW 28B.15.012\(2\)\(o\)](#) and [RCW 28B.15.0131](#)

Residency Classification: This residency classification is available for eligible American Indian students.

Summary: Members of federally recognized tribes or tribes granted reserved lands within Washington state shall be coded as residents if they have been domiciled in Idaho, Oregon, Montana or Washington for one year prior to enrollment.

Students paying resident tuition fees (operating and building fees) under this classification and not domiciled in Washington for at least one year prior to enrollment shall NOT be included in state enrollment counting.

High School Graduates Seeking Permanent Residency

Statute: [RCW 28B.15.012\(2\)\(e\)](#)

Residency Classification: This residency classification is available for qualifying high school graduates seeking permanent residency.

Summary: High school graduates meeting the requirements listed below shall be coded as residents and charged resident tuition rates.

Residency requirements:

- 1 - Student has obtained a high school diploma or its equivalent.
- 2 - Has continuously lived in Washington at least a year, for purposes other than postsecondary education, before being admitted to college
- 3 - Provides an affidavit indicating intent to file an application to become a permanent resident and a willingness to engage in activities in activities necessary to acquire citizenship.

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In-State High School Graduates (Fee Pay Status – 36) Statute: [RCW 28B.15.012\(2\)\(d\)](#)

Residency Classification: This residency classification is for high school graduates who have spent a qualifying amount of time in the state.

Summary: High school graduates who spent at least 75 percent of both their junior and senior years in high school in the state and whose parents or legal guardians have been domiciled in the state for at least one year within the five year period before the student graduates from high school shall be coded as residents. Students must enroll in college within six months of high school graduation and remain continuously enrolled for three quarters.

Foreign Nationals with an E-3, H-1 or L Visa and Family Members Statute: [RCW 28B.15.012\(2\)\(f\)](#)

Residency Classification: This residency classification is available for foreign nationals who have lived in Washington, primarily for purposes other than postsecondary education, for at least one year and hold either an E-3, H-1, or L visa. The spouse or child of a person holding an E-3, H-1, or L Visa also qualifies as a resident student if the spouse or child holds lawful nonimmigrant status. Persons who hold or have previously held such lawful nonimmigrant status pursuant to an E-3, H-1, or L visa and who have filed an application for a green card are also included in this definition of resident student.

Border County (Fee Pay Status – 30) Statute: [RCW 28B.76.685](#) and [RCW 28B.15.0139](#)

Residency Classification: This residency classification is available for students from eligible Oregon border counties enrolled at specific community colleges. Under the Border County Project, Columbia Basin College, Clark College, Lower Columbia College, Grays Harbor College, and Walla Walla Community College may enroll at resident tuition rates, students who reside in or have relocated from Oregon border counties.

Summary: Colleges participating in the Border County Project may offer resident tuition rates to students who meet the following conditions:

- The student resides in Columbia, Gilliam, Hood River, Multnomah, Clatsop, Clackamas, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Wasco, or Washington county; or
- The student is currently domiciled in Washington, but was domiciled in the above-mentioned border counties for at least 90 days immediately before relocating to Washington.

Domicile is defined in RCW [28B.15.012\(5\)](#) and [28B.15.013](#).

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INACTIVE WAIVERS

Reciprocity – Oregon (Fee Pay Status – 06) Statute: RCW 28B.15.730

Tuition Waiver: Waiver of nonresident tuition differential for Oregon residents.

Summary: Community colleges may waive all or a portion of the nonresident tuition differential for Oregon residents attending their colleges to the extent permitted by an agreement between the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges and appropriate officials and agencies in Oregon granting similar waivers for residents of the state of Washington.

Nonresident differential is the difference between resident tuition (operating and building fees) and nonresident tuition (operating and building fees).

New in 2012 by ESSHB 2483: The authority to enter into an agreement with Oregon now resides with the SBCTC instead of the HECB. All CTCs can offer this waiver upon completion of an agreement by the SBCTC.

This waiver is included in the 35% legislative limit.

Reciprocity – Idaho (Fee Pay Status – 07) Statute: RCW 28B.15.750

Tuition Waiver: Waiver of nonresident tuition differential for Idaho residents.

Summary: Community and technical colleges may waive all or a portion of the nonresident tuition differential for Idaho residents attending their colleges to the extent permitted by an agreement between the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges and appropriate officials and agencies in Idaho granting similar waivers for residents of the state of Washington.

Nonresident differential is the difference between resident tuition (operating and building fees) and nonresident tuition (operating and building fees).

New in 2012 by ESSHB 2483: The authority to enter into an agreement with Idaho now resides with the SBCTC instead of the HECB. All CTCs can offer this waiver upon completion of an agreement by the SBCTC.

This waiver is included in the 35% legislative limit.

Reciprocity – Idaho and Oregon (Fee Pay Status – 26) Statute: [RCW 28B.15.100\(2\)](#)

Tuition Waiver: Waiver of nonresident tuition differential for qualified Idaho and Oregon residents attending Walla Walla Community College enrolled part-time.

Summary: Walla Walla Community College may waive all or a portion of the nonresident differential for Idaho and Oregon residents enrolled for six credits or less, based upon a declaration by the Office of Student Assistance (a part of the Washington Student Achievement Council) that it finds Washington residents from the Walla Walla district are afforded substantially equivalent treatment by Idaho and Oregon.

- Nonresident differential is the difference between resident tuition fees (operating and building fees) and nonresident tuition fees (operating and building fees).

NOTE: As of 2010, there is not a reciprocal agreement with the state of Idaho.

This waiver is included in the 35% legislative limit.

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Reciprocity – British Columbia (Fee Pay Status – 39) Statute: RCW 28B.15.756

Tuition Waiver: Waiver of nonresident tuition differential for residents of British Columbia.

Summary: Community and technical colleges may waive all or a portion of the nonresident tuition differential for British Columbia residents attending their colleges to the extent permitted by an agreement between the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges and appropriate officials and agencies in British Columbia that provides Washington residents the opportunity to enroll without payment of tuition or fees in excess of those charge to residents of British Columbia.

Nonresident differential is the difference between resident tuition (operating and building fees) and nonresident tuition (operating and building fees).

New in 2012 by ESSHB 2483: The authority to enter into an agreement with British Columbia now resides with the SBCTC instead of the HECB. All CTCs can offer this waiver upon completion of an agreement by the SBCTC.

This waiver is included in the 35% legislative limit.

Natural Resource – Resident and Nonresident (Fee Pay Status – Resident – 58, Nonresident – 59)

Statute: [RCW 28B.50.259](#)

Tuition Waiver: This waiver is available for qualified dislocated forest products workers or their unemployed spouses.

Summary: Community and technical colleges may waive all or a portion of tuition fees (operating and building fees) and services & activities fees for dislocated forest products workers or their unemployed spouse in depressed economic communities if enrolled for 10 or more credits for a maximum of six quarters within a two year period. Approval from the SBCTC will be sent to the Job Service Center and the college.

This waiver is included in the 35% legislative limit.

Deaf Students (Fee Pay Status – 37) Statute: [RCW 28B.15.520\(3\)\(b\)](#)

Tuition Waiver: Waiver of nonresident tuition differential for deaf students attending community college.

Summary: Community and technical colleges may waive all or a portion of the nonresident differential for up to 40 percent of the students enrolled in the deaf program at the college, subject to federal funding of such program.

- Nonresident differential is the difference between resident tuition fees (operating and building fees) and nonresident tuition fees (operating and building fees).

This waiver is included in the 35% legislative limit.

SBCTC Tuition Waiver and Residency Classification Information

REPEALED WAIVERS

Washington Award for Vocational Excellence (Fee Pay Status – 19) Statute: [RCW 28B.15.545](#)

Since 1995, students receiving the Washington Award for Vocational Excellence have been eligible for a grant from the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board instead of a waiver. In 2015, HB 1961 eliminated all language related to the waiver.

Tuition Waiver: For recipients of the Washington Award for Vocational Excellence (WAVE). Since 1995, WAVE participants have received a grant through the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board.

Summary: The Legislature established the Washington Award for Vocational Excellence to recognize and honor students who have distinguished themselves by their outstanding performance in their occupational training programs. Colleges must waive tuition (operating and building fees) and services and activities fees for recipients of the Washington Award for Vocational Excellence who received their awards before June 20, 1994. Each recipient shall not receive a waiver for more than six quarters and must enter college within three years of receiving the award. A minimum grade point of 3.0 is required in the first year to qualify for the second year waiver.

This waiver was included in the 35% legislative limit.

Washington Scholars (Fee Pay Status – 40) Statute: [RCW 28B.15.543](#)

Since 1995, students receiving the Washington Scholars Award have been eligible for a grant from the Office of Student Financial Assistance instead of a waiver. In 2015, HB 1961 eliminated all language related to the waiver.

Tuition Waiver: This waiver – the Washington Scholars program. Since 1995, Washington Scholars participants have received a grant through the Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Summary: The Legislature established the Washington Scholars program to recognize three seniors graduating from high schools in each legislative district in the state who have distinguished themselves academically among their peers. Colleges must waive tuition (operating and building fees) and services and activities fees for recipients of the Washington Scholars Award who received their awards before June 20, 1994. Each recipient shall not receive a waiver for more than 12 quarters and must enter college within three years of receiving the award. A minimum grade point of 3.3 is required in the first year or the student may petition to establish a probationary period.

This waiver was included in the 35% legislative limit.