

26.99.99.R0.02 Non-Resident Tuition Exemption for Competitive Scholarship Recipients



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Procedure Summary

Texas A&M University-Commerce shall adhere to Texas Education Code, Sections 54.213, as well as Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Part 1, of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board guidelines, Chapter 21, Subchapter SS, Rule § 21.2263 when approving non-resident tuition exemptions to competitive scholarship recipients.

This procedure establishes the criteria for approving non-resident tuition waivers to recipients of competitive scholarships.

Procedures and Responsibilities

1 GENERAL

- 1.1 A non-resident student who holds a competitive university scholarship, or a combination of several university scholarships which combined are at least \$1,000 (or the amount required for eligibility by the Texas Education Code) for the academic year or summer for which the student is enrolled may be entitled to pay the fees and charges required of Texas residents.
- 1.2 A non-resident, online student is not charged statutory tuition therefore the non-resident out of state waiver is not applicable.
- 1.3 A non-resident student who is charged tuition at the bordering state interior county rate and is awarded a competitive scholarship is eligible for the non-resident tuition waiver.
- 1.4 Competitive scholarship funds are to come from funds whereby the university has control of the funds and the selection process. Funds from external grants which restrict the principal/university to specific use of the funds, thus where control of the funds rests on the grant guidelines, are not applicable to the non-resident tuition exemption.
- 1.5 The University defines the academic year to begin in the fall, continue through the spring, and end with the summer. The academic year does not exceed 12 months and no cross-over years are permissible.
- 1.6 The length of time the student has resided in Texas is not a factor under this provision.

- 1.7 The student must have competed with other students, including Texas residents, for the competitive scholarship and the competitive scholarship must be awarded by a scholarship committee officially recognized by the university administration and approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.
- 1.8 The total number of students at an institution paying resident tuition under this section for a particular semester may not be greater than 5% of the total number of students registered at the institution for the same semester of the prior year.

2 PROCESS

- 2.1 Non-resident students qualifying for in-state tuition must be selected to receive a scholarship(s) by a university, college, or department scholarship committee.
- 2.2 Scholarships where the recipients are selected by a donor or external committee are not eligible for this provision. In such instances, the donor or external committee may make a recommendation to the college or departmental scholarship committee only; the final decision rests with the college or departmental scholarship committee.
- 2.3 The length of time the academic competitive scholarship is awarded will determine the semester(s) for which the non-resident tuition waiver will be applied to the student's bill.
- 2.4 The following guidelines are applicable:
 - 2.4.1 A competitive scholarship awarded for an academic year:
 - 2.4.2 The non-resident tuition waiver will be applicable for the fall, spring, and summer of that academic year. (Mini terms, ex: Winter Mini, May Mini, within the same academic year are also included when an award is for an academic year.)
- 2.5 The non-resident tuition waiver does not apply retroactively from the semester of issuance even if the offer is for the academic year.
 - 2.5.1 Ex: A competitive scholarship is awarded in the spring semester for the academic year. The non-resident tuition waiver will apply to the spring semester when the offer was made and any other session after the spring semester to end in the summer of that academic year.
- 2.6 The non-resident tuition waiver does not apply retroactively if a student has a competitive scholarship of less than \$1,000 in one semester and the student should receive another competitive scholarship in a future semester whereby the combined total amount is at least \$1,000.

- 2.6.1 Ex: A student receives a total of \$750 in competitive scholarships in the fall. The non-resident tuition does not apply in the fall as the combined total is less than the \$1,000 minimum and the competitive scholarships are offered to fall only. The student receives in the spring semester another \$250 competitive scholarship in the spring even if the offer is for the academic year and the combined total for the academic year meets the minimum \$1,000, the non-resident tuition waiver does not apply.
- 2.6.2 Ex: A student received a total of \$750 in competitive scholarships in the fall. The offer indicated is for the academic year. In the spring semester another \$250 competitive scholarship is offered for the award year, the non-resident tuition waiver will apply starting with the spring but not retroactively for the fall semester.
- 2.7 A competitive scholarship awarded for only a specific term (semester) or Mini term will waive the non-resident tuition for that specific term (semester) Mini term as indicated:
 - 2.7.1 Fall only competitive scholarships waive the non-resident tuition for only that fall.
 - 2.7.2 Spring only competitive scholarships waive the non-resident tuition for only that spring.
 - 2.7.3 Summer only competitive scholarships waive the non-resident tuition for only that summer.
 - 2.7.4 Winter Mini only competitive scholarships waive the non-resident tuition for only that Winter Mini term.
 - 2.7.5 May Mini only competitive scholarships waive the non-resident tuition for only that May Mini term.
- 2.8 The scholarship announcement and the scholarship offer will include the duration of the academic competitive scholarship and the duration of the non-resident tuition waiver.
- 2.9 The Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships will certify the eligibility of the non-resident tuition waiver and apply the appropriate Fee Assessment Code for non-resident tuition waiver to the student's bill.

3 CANCELLATION OF NON-RESIDENT TUITION WAIVERS

- 3.1 Non-resident tuition waivers will be applied to student bills at the beginning of each term pending eligibility review. A student who does not meet the requirements of the competitive scholarship will lose the scholarship and consequently the eligibility for the non-resident tuition waiver. These requirements are scholarship specific and can result in the student losing the non-resident tuition waiver within the academic year it was offered.

- 3.2 A student who has a non-resident tuition waiver as a result of either an academic competitive scholarship or a non-academic competitive scholarship but receives an appointment to either a Graduate Teaching or Research Assistant in a semester, the latter appointment overrides the Fee Assessment Code of 3 or 11.
- 3.3 In the event the Graduate Teaching or Research Assistant is not renewed, the non-resident tuition waiver will no longer apply. The original conditions to receive a non-resident tuition waiver will no longer be applicable.
- 3.4 In instances where a combination of scholarships total \$1,000 and a student loses eligibility for scholarship(s) where the total no longer is at minimum \$1,000 the non-resident tuition waiver will no longer apply.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

Texas Education Code, § [54.213](#)

Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 21, Subchapter SS, Rule § [21.2263](#)

System Policy [26.01 Tuition and Fees](#)

System Policy [26.01.01 Chancellor's Delegation of Authority Related to Tuition and Fee Exemptions and Waivers](#)

Definitions

Academic year: Begins in the fall, continues through the spring, and ends in the summer. The academic year does not exceed 12 months.

Competitive Scholarship: Scholarship where the General Scholarship Application is completed by the applicant, reviewed by and recipients selected through the scholarship portal; except for music and athletic performance scholarships. These include non-academic competitive scholarships, which are scholarship selection done by the Athletic Department, Music Department, Art Department, or other entities not necessarily tied to academic departments.

Non-academic Competitive Scholarship: Scholarship selection done by Athletic Department, Music Department, Art Department, or other entities not necessarily tied to academic departments.

University Funds: Fund source permanently granted to or generated by the university. A&M-Commerce has fiduciary responsibility for administration of such funds.

External Grant Funds: Source of funds provided by an entity external to the university whereby the grant is the transfer of money or property from a sponsor to the institution that may require performance of specific duties such as research, budget reports, progress reports, and return of unused funds.

Indirect Costs: Costs within a department that are to be used for the operation of the department and/or grant. They are not to be issued as scholarship funds.

Fee Assessment Codes:

Athletic performance based scholarships: 11 = non-academic competitive scholarships

Music or Art performance based scholarships: 11 = non-academic competitive scholarships

Academic Competitive based scholarships: 03 = academic competitive scholarships

Contact Office

Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships

903.886.5096

FAO.Web@tamuc.edu