

University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Division of Academic Affairs
Subject: Veteran Non-Resident Tuition Waiver Program
Number: 3.1.7
Date Approved (Council of Deans): July 15, 2015
Last Review/Revision: NA – new policy
Effective Date: July 15, 2015¹

Purpose

In 2014, Congress enacted legislation that provides for in-state tuition to certain veterans, spouses and dependents (hereafter referred to as ‘veteran students’), who ordinarily would not qualify as state residents for tuition purposes. Arkansas’ 90th General Assembly passed companion legislation in 2015. Accordingly, UAMS establishes the Veteran Non-Resident Tuition Waiver for the following purposes:

1. To help defray rising educational costs for UAMS students who are veterans of the US military, or who are the children or spouse of a veteran, of the armed forces.
2. Meet State of Arkansas and US policies requiring that no veterans or their families pay out-of-state tuition.

Policy

Veteran students who present documentation of their service in any of the branches of the armed forces and who are legal residents of other states will be granted a waiver of the out-of-state amount of tuition.

Students who are veterans must pay all the applicable fees for the course of study that they have chosen.

The veteran student’s resident status (state of legal residence) will not be affected and will be categorized as out-of-state (non-resident) for admissions and all other classification purposes.

Eligibility

1. The veteran applicant must be accepted by, or enrolled in, a UAMS college or the Graduate School for the period for which he/she is applying for the tuition waiver.
2. Been honorably discharged or released from *at least 90 days of active service*.
3. Been honorably discharged less than three years before his/her date of enrollment in the applicable course/program.

¹ The date that the written policy became effective. The date that UAMS began awarding out of state tuition waiver to veterans was during the Fall term of 2014.

Application and Processing

1. The applicant must submit a completed Veteran Non-Resident Tuition Waiver Application to the Office of the Registrar by the published deadline for the term the applicant is requesting the waiver.
2. The applicant must provide an acceptable form of legal documentation regarding veteran status, which establishes eligibility (a minimum of 90 days of service and discharge within three years of expected date of enrollment).
3. The Registrar will verify the application and documentation.
4. The tuition waiver will be valid for every term in which the student enrolls until she/he completes or leaves the program, provided the student remains in good standing.
5. Amount of the waiver: The waiver will reduce the amount of tuition from the non-resident tuition rate to the resident tuition rate for the program to which the applicant has been accepted.
6. This tuition waiver cannot be used as cash or as a credit to a student's account, only as a reduction in the amount/debt payable to UAMS for tuition at the in-state rate.
7. No other tuition waiver programs can be applied at the same time to compound the tuition reduction².
8. Awards are not automatically transferrable from one program to another or from one college to another. However, a waiver granted by one program/college does not disqualify a student from being eligible to apply to a second program/college.

² Employee tuition discounts are not tuition waivers and can be applied to the post-waiver amount of tuition.