60x30TX
Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Exemptions and Waivers Summary

Texas provides various programs that exempt or waive tuition, fees, and other expenses related to attending public colleges and universities. All exemption and waiver programs are authorized by the Texas Legislature and target specific populations. While many programs are **mandated** for all public institutions to implement, some programs are **optional,** and implementation is left to the discretion of the governing board at the institution.

- **Exemptions** allow special groups of Texas residents or nonresidents to enroll and pay a reduced amount of tuition or fees.
- **Waivers** allow special groups of nonresidents to enroll and pay the Texas resident tuition or fee rate.

➔ All exemption and waiver programs (mandatory/optional) apply only to courses for which an institution can receive **formula funding**.

- **Formula Funding:** is defined as the method used to allocate appropriated sources of funds among institutions of higher education. Formula-funded courses are those that do not depend solely on student tuition and fees to cover their costs.

➔ All exemption and waiver programs require a student to meet certain eligibility criteria. In addition to meeting the program criteria, a student's continued eligibility may be impacted by Texas Education Code (TEC) Section 54.2001. This section applies an excess hours' limitation for undergraduate students and Grade Point Average (GPA) requirement for both undergraduate and graduate students for exemption and waiver programs authorized under TEC, Section 54, Subchapter D.

The chart below identifies which programs are **Mandatory** or **Optional** and are impacted by TEC, Section 54.2001.

Table Legend

M = Mandatory
***M** = Mandatory if funding appropriated; otherwise not available
O = Optional
***O** = Optional if no funding available; otherwise Mandatory

Exempt = Program falls under Subchapter D of Chapter 54 but is listed as *exempt* in 54.2001(g).
Impacted = Program falls under Subchapter D of Chapter 54 and is *impacted* by 54.2001.
Excluded = Program does NOT fall under Subchapter D of Chapter 54 and is therefore *excluded* from 54.2001.

M = Mandatory or **O** = Optional	**E** = Exemption or **W** = Waiver	Program Name	Statute	TEC, Section 54.2001	THECB Rules
O	**E**	100 Mile Waiver	TEC 54.0601	Excluded	19 TAC, Section 21.2264
M	**W**	Academic Common Market Waiver	TEC 54.233	Exempt	N/A
O	**E**	Ad Valorem	TEC 130.0032	Excluded	N/A
M	**E**	Adopted	TEC 54.367	Exempt	N/A
M	**W**	Biomedical MD/PhD	TEC 54.214	Exempt	N/A
M	**W**	Border County/Parish	TEC 54.231(g)	Exempt	N/A

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M	**E**	Border States	TEC 54.231(a)	Impacted	N/A
M	**E**	Children of Disabled Firefighters/Law Enforcement Officers	TEC 54.351	Impacted	N/A
M	**E**	Children of Nurse Faculty	TEC 54.355	Impacted	19 TAC, Ch 21, Subch. I
M	**E**	Children of POWs and MIAs	TEC 54.343	Impacted	N/A
M	**W**	Citizens of Mexico (Pilot)	TEC 54.231(c)	Exempt	19 TAC, Ch. 21, Subch. BB
M	**W**	Citizens of Mexico in Border Counties	TEC 54.231(b)	Exempt	19 TAC, Ch. 21, Subch. BB
M	**W**	Citizens of Mexico Public Health	TEC 54.231(b)(4)	Exempt	N/A
M	**W**	College Teachers, Professors, etc.	TEC 54.211	Exempt	N/A
***O**	**E**	Combat Exemption	TEC 54.2031	Impacted	19 TAC, Ch 21, Subch. TT
O	**E**	Community College District Employees	TEC 130.0851	Excluded	N/A
O	**W**	Competitive Scholarship	TEC 54.213	Exempt	19 TAC, Ch 21, Subch. SS
M	**E**	Concurrent Enrollment / Min Tuition	TEC 54.011	Excluded	N/A
M	**E**	Deaf or Blind	TEC 54.364	Impacted	N/A
M	**E**	Dependents of Deceased Public Servants	TEC 54.354	Impacted	N/A
O	**E**	Designated Tuition Exemption	TEC 54.261	Impacted	N/A
M	**E**	Disabled Peace Officers and Firefighters	TEC 54.352	Impacted	N/A
O	**E**	Distance Learning Exemption from Fees	TEC 54.218	Impacted	N/A
O	**E**	Dual Enrollment - Junior Colleges	TEC 130.008	Excluded	19 TAC, Ch. 9, Subch. H
O	**E**	Dual Enrollment - All Institutions	TEC 54.216	Exempt	19 TAC, Ch. 4, Subch. D
M	**W**	Economic Development	TEC 54.222	Exempt	N/A
O	**E**	Educational Aide Exemption	TEC 54.363	Impacted	19 TAC, Ch. 21, Subch. II
M	**E**	Ex-Prisoners of War	TEC 54.342	Exempt	N/A
M	**E**	Firefighters taking Fire Science Courses	TEC 54.353	Impacted	19 TAC, Ch. 21, Subch. Z
M	**W**	Foreign Service Officer	TEC 54.206	Exempt	N/A
M	**E**	Foster Care/Texas Department Family Protective Services	TEC 54.366	Exempt	N/A
O	**E**	Fully Funded Courses	TEC 54.217	Impacted	N/A

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O	**E**	Good Neighbor Program	TEC 54.331	Impacted	19 TAC, Ch. 21, Subch. U
O	**E**	Governing Board Waivers	TEC 54.5035	Excluded	N/A
M	**E**	Hazlewood Dependents (Credit Hours)	TEC 54.341(b)(1)	Exempt	40 TAC, Ch. 461, Subch. A
M	**E**	Hazlewood Dependents (Non-Credit Hours)	TEC 54.341(b)(1)	Exempt	40 TAC, Ch. 461, Subch. A
M	**E**	Hazlewood Dependents Legacy Act	TEC 54.341(k)	Impacted	40 TAC, Ch. 461, Subch. A, Section 461.70
M	**E**	Hazlewood Spouse (Credit)	TEC 54.341(a-2)	Exempt	40 TAC, Ch. 461, Subch. A
M	**E**	Hazlewood Spouse (Non-Credit)	TEC 54.341(a-2)	Exempt	40 TAC, Ch. 461, Subch. A
M	**E**	Hazlewood Veteran (Credit Hours)	TEC 54.341(a)	Exempt	40 TAC, Ch. 461, Subch. A
M	**E**	Hazlewood Veteran (Non-Credit Hours)	TEC 54.341(a)	Exempt	40 TAC, Ch. 461, Subch. A
O	**E**	Highest Ranking HS Scholarship	TEC 54.301	Impacted	N/A
O	**E**	Inter-Institutional Academic Programs	TEC 54.368	Impacted	N/A
M	**W**	Military in Texas	TEC 54.241(b,c,f,g)	Exempt	N/A
M	**W**	Military in Texas, Intention to Stay in TX	TEC 54.241(d,i,k)	Exempt	N/A
O - Exemption and **M** - Waiver		Military in Texas, Radiology at MSU	TEC 54.241(h)	Impacted	N/A
M	**E**	National Guard Exemption	TEC 54.345	Impacted	N/A
O	**W**	National Student Exchange Program	TEC 51.930	Excluded	19 TAC, Ch 21, Subch. EE
M	**W**	NATO Members and Families	TEC 54.232	Exempt	N/A
O	**E**	Non-Semester-Length Developmental Education Courses	TEC 54.225	Impacted	N/A
O	**W**	Nursing Graduate Students Planning to Teach	TEC 54.251	Exempt	N/A
M	**W**	Olympic Programs Waiver	TEC 54.223	Exempt	N/A
M	**E**	Peace Officers Exemption	TEC 54.3531	Impacted	19 TAC, Ch 21, Subch. Q
M	**E**	Preceptors and their Children	TEC 54.356	Impacted	19 TAC, Ch 21, Subch. L
O	**E**	Prorated Fees for Term Length	TEC 54.5025	Excluded	N/A

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M	**W**	Reciprocal Educational Exchange Program (REEP)	TEC 54.231(d)(e)	Exempt	19 TAC, Ch. 21, Subch. BB
O	**E**	Reduced Tuition/Off Peak Hour Courses	TEC 54.061	Excluded	N/A
O	**E**	Senior Citizen 65+ for 6 hours free tuition	TEC 54.365 (c)	Impacted	N/A
O	**E**	Senior Citizen 65+ for Audit Hours	TEC 54.365 (b)	Impacted	N/A
O	**E**	Senior Citizen Lowered Tuition 55+	TEC 54.263	Impacted	N/A
O	**E**	Student Services Fee Exemption	TEC 54.262	Impacted	N/A
***O**	**E**	TANF Exemption	TEC 54.361	Impacted	N/A
M	**E**	Performers of "Taps"	TEC 54.344	Impacted	40 TAC, Part 15, Ch. 455
M	**W**	TAMU Nat'l Lab or Nat'l Lab Operator Employee/Dependent	TEC 54.369	Exempt	N/A
M	**W**	Teaching and Research Assistants	TEC 54.212	Exempt	N/A
O	**W**	Tech fee at UT Austin	TEC 54.221	Exempt	N/A
M	**E**	Texas Tomorrow Fund / Public Universities	TEC 54.624	Excluded	N/A
M	**W**	Texas Tomorrow Fund Contract	TEC 54.621	Excluded	N/A
O	**E**	Three-peat Penalty Hardship Waiver	TEC 54.014(f)	Excluded	N/A
O	**E**	Tuition Exemption	TEC 130.085	Excluded	N/A
O	**E**	Tuition Reduction for ≥ 15 Hour	TEC 54.010	Excluded	N/A
O	**E**	Workforce Continuing Education Courses	TEC 130.304	Excluded	19 TAC, Ch. 9, Subch. F