

Spokane Colleges

Waiver Information for 2025-26 *REVISED*

Spokane Colleges recognizes various tuition waivers and residency classifications that have been established by the state legislature and State Board for Community and Technical Colleges. This summary outlines the types of waivers that may be available to students. Specific eligibility will be determined at the time of admission or registration. These are only summaries of available waivers. For more detail, see the resources listed at the bottom of the page.

Mandatory Waivers

Mandatory waivers of tuition, services and activities fees and most other fees are available for:

- Children or spouses of deceased or disabled Law Enforcement Officers/Firefighters
- Children/eligible spouses of 100% disabled, deceased, or POW/MIA veterans or national guard members
- Wrongfully Convicted Persons (Felons), Children, Stepchildren & Adopted Children

SBCTC Mandatory Waivers

- Adult Basic Education, English as a Second Language, and GED® Preparation
- Apprenticeship

Resident Tuition Rates

Students who qualify in the following categories will be charged in-state resident tuition rates:

- Congressional Dependents
- High School Completion - Non-residents planning permanent residency
- Non-resident Higher Education Employees (at least half-time)
- International Student Exchange
- Refugees, Spouses and Dependents
- Active Duty Military and Dependents
- Native American
- In-State High School Graduates
- Spouses and Dependents of Active Duty Military Transferred out of WA
- E-3, H-1, L Visa Holders and Family Members (meeting criteria)
- Person, Spouse or Child Eligible for Veterans Administration education benefits (meeting criteria)

Non-Resident With Operating Fee Waiver Tuition Rates (Out-of-state US Citizens waiver of non-resident international rates)

The "Nonresident-Operating Fees only" waiver (RCW 28B.15.915) is available to students who are US citizens or eligible non-citizens, including but not limited to permanent residents, U.S. National or refugee Status students. The waiver reflects a discount from the full non-resident international operating fees portion of tuition; the waiver does not apply to the building and S&A fees portion of tuition. The operating fee waiver is locally determined and approved by the Board of Trustees. The waiver varies depending on a student's credit load, but in all cases the operating fees paid are less than rates paid by non-resident international students, and more than tuition charged to resident students. Total tuition charged, including operating fees, building fees, and S&A fees to these students reflects a discount of approximately 56.6% when compared to non-resident international student rates. The waiver is reviewed annually and adjusted for consistency across all credit levels. As noted previously, students eligible for this waiver pay Building and Services & Activities (S&A) fees at full non-resident rates.

Space-Available Waivers

Students 60 years of age or older may, on a space available basis, enroll in classes on an audit basis for up to two classes, at \$2.50 per class.

State employees employed half-time or more and certain instructional staff at public and common schools may enroll in state-support credit classes up to six credits per quarter, on a space available basis; students must pay registration fees and \$25.00 per class.

Community Colleges of Spokane employees employed half-time or more may enroll in state-support credit classes up to six credits per quarter, on a space available basis; students must pay registration fees and \$25.00 per class.

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Vocational Program Excess Credit Rates

Students enrolled exclusively in required courses in vocational preparatory programs will be charged a reduced rate for each credit hour in excess of eighteen credits.

Athletic Waivers

Students who meet and maintain eligibility requirements through Spokane Colleges Athletics Department may receive an Athletic Waiver. The waiver is established by the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, and waives \$411.26 of a student's tuition.

Running Start

Running Start students are not charged tuition for up to 15 enrolled college level credits (courses 100 and above) each quarter (including Summer), depending on the course load at their high school. They must pay certain mandatory, lab and course fees. For additional credits, they will be charged applicable tuition and fees. Students qualifying for a low-income waiver (students who qualify for "free or reduced price lunch" as documented by their high school) will receive a further waiver of most fees.

Military and Veterans Waivers

Active duty military and dependents; spouses and dependents of active duty military transferred out of Washington; and persons, spouses or children eligible for Veterans Administration education benefits will be charged in-state resident tuition rates. Certain restrictions apply. Consult the registrar's office for more information.

Active duty military enrolled under the Department of Defense Tuition Assistance program, which provides limited funding of tuition, will pay only the Operating Fee portion of the in-state resident tuition rate.

A veteran tuition rate (80% of resident tuition rates) is available to eligible veterans or National Guard members meeting certain eligibility criteria.

Waivers offered for lower division (associate/certificate) credit programs generally apply to upper division (baccalaureate) programs.

"Ungraded" and Course-Based Waivers

Students enrolled in Adult Basic Education, English as a Second Language, High School Equivalency preparation, Emergency Medical Technician and Paramedic Continuing Education, Farm Management and Small Business Management, Industrial First Aid, Journeyperson, Parent Education, and Retirement classes will be charged tuition according to State Board for Community and Technical College rates; see the Tuition Schedule for these rates. Ungraded courses are defined as "not categorized by level of instruction;" they may confer credit and assign letter grades.

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High School + (HS+) and HS+ College

The High School+ (HS+) program, is for adults 18-years-old and older who do not have a high school diploma. The HS+ program combines credit for previous experience, competency-based options, and high school courses. The HS+ program serves as a foundational component of the “Guided Pathways” framework. **HS+ College** is a component of HS+ which allows students to enroll in college-level, credit bearing courses to meet high school diploma requirements.

HS+ students are charged the Basic Skills – Basic Education for Adults (BEaA) quarterly tuition rate set by the SBCTC. The current Basic Skills tuition rate for BEaA programs is \$25.00 per quarter unless the student is granted a waiver.

To be eligible for the HS+ College waiver, students are enrolled in the HS+ program. Students are designated as HS+ students and receive support from college faculty and staff (e.g., counselors, pathway specialists, instructional faculty, etc.) throughout the program. College course options are designed to provide clear transition pathways for students while they are completing their high school diploma. The tuition and fees rate is \$0.00 per college level credit, for up to ten (10) cumulative college level credits in the HS+ College program.

For more information, see:

[State Board for Community and Technical Colleges Tuition Waivers \(http://www.sbctc.edu/colleges-staff/programs-services/tuition-fees/tuition-waivers/\)](http://www.sbctc.edu/colleges-staff/programs-services/tuition-fees/tuition-waivers/)

[Revised Code of Washington, College and University Fees \(http://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=28B.15\)](http://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=28B.15)

[Ungraded Courses \(http://app.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=131-28-026\)](http://app.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=131-28-026)