



# TUITION WAIVERS

HIGHER EDUCATION  
STAFF: SPENCER PRATT

ISSUE BRIEF

## SUMMARY

Over the years, the Legislature has authorized a number of various tuition waivers through legislation. In FY 2014-15, the amount of tuition that was waived totaled nearly \$105 million, from a gross tuition amount of \$799.3 million. Institutions use scholarships and tuition waivers as incentives to attract students. In many cases, these waivers have bolstered FTE enrollments. Many of the recipients of the nonresident waivers are still paying the resident tuition portion, but would likely not attend a USHE institution or any higher education institution if those waivers were not in place.

## DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

### Waivers for Resident Students:

#### **Resident Waiver**

#### **53B-8-101(1)(a)**

The president of each institution may waive all or part of the tuition in behalf of meritorious or impecunious resident students to an amount not exceeding 10% of the total amount of tuition which, in the absence of the waivers, would have been collected from all Utah residents at the institution.

#### Tuition Waived:

University of Utah	\$9,794,787
Utah State University	7,094,309
Weber State University	6,165,318
Southern Utah University	2,887,638
Utah Valley University	6,681,297
Snow College	989,632
Dixie State University	2,086,909
Salt Lake Community College	2,007,960
Total	37,707,850

**National Guard**

**53B-8-101(1)(b)**

Two and a half percent of the waivers designated in Subsection (1)(a) shall be set aside for members of the Utah National Guard. Waivers shall be preserved by the student at least 60 days before the beginning of an academic term.

Tuition Waived:

University of Utah	\$163,079
Utah State University	166,843
Weber State University	126,241
Southern Utah University	70,116
Utah Valley University	143,769
Snow College	2,998
Dixie State University	29,388
Salt Lake Community College	21,286
Total	723,720

**Senior Citizens**

**53B-9-101(2)**

It is intended that an institution of higher education allow Utah residents who have reached 62 years of age to enroll at the institution, in classes for which they may be qualified, on the basis of surplus space in regularly scheduled classes and in accordance with this chapter and implementing rules. These persons are exempt from tuition and other charges, except for a quarterly registration fee established by the board.

Tuition Waived:

University of Utah	\$1,425,886
Utah State University	10,874
Utah Valley University	111,888
Dixie State University	64,196
Salt Lake Community College	177,620
Total	1,790,464

**Public School Teachers**

**53A-6-104(2)(b)(ii)**

An educator who is enrolling in a course of study at an institution within the state system of higher education to satisfy the professional development requirements of Subsection (2)(b)(i) is exempt from tuition, except for a semester registration fee established by the State Board of Regents.

Tuition Waived:

University of Utah	\$52,252
Total	52,252

**Mandarin Chinese****53A-15-101.5(5)**

Students who successfully complete the concurrent enrollment course offered under this section shall receive tuition reimbursement for a sequential Mandarin Chinese course they successfully complete at an institution within the state system of higher education under rules made by the State Board of Regents in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.

## Tuition Waived:

Total	0
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**Military Member Surviving Dependents (Scott B. Lundell)****53B-8-107**

A state institution of higher education shall waive undergraduate tuition for a dependent of a qualifying deceased military member under [certain] conditions

## Tuition Waived:

Utah State University	4,639
Utah Valley University	7,562
Salt Lake Community College	4,559
Total	16,760

**Surviving Spouses and Children of Police Officer and Firefighters****53B-8c-103(1)**

A state institution of higher education shall waive tuition for each child and surviving spouse of a Utah peace officer or Utah firefighter who has been killed or is killed in the line of duty.

## Tuition Waived:

Dixie State University	\$5,688
Total	5,688

**Wards of the State****53A-15-101.5(5)**

A state institution of higher education shall waive tuition for each ward of the state who meets [certain] requirements:

## Tuition Waived:

Total	0
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**Merit Non-Resident Undergraduate****53B-8-101(1)(a)**

A president of an institution of higher education listed in Subsections 53B-2-101(1)(a) through (h) may waive all or part of the nonresident portion of tuition for a meritorious nonresident undergraduate student.

## Tuition Waived:

University of Utah	\$2,800,294
Utah State University	7,593,534
Weber State University	2,272,869
Southern Utah University	1,955,717
Utah Valley University	4,082,754
Snow College	645,498
Dixie State University	336,862
Salt Lake Community College	22,489
Total	19,710,017

**Merit Non-Resident Graduate****53B-8-101(4)**

A president may waive all or part of the difference between resident and nonresident tuition in the case of meritorious graduate students.

## Tuition Waived:

Utah State University	\$3,691,291
Weber State University	524,251
Total	4,215,542

**Dixie Good Neighbor Waiver****53B-8-104**

Dixie State University may offer a good neighbor full waiver of nonresident differential in tuition rates charges to undergraduate students [under certain conditions].

## Tuition Waived:

Dixie State University	0
Total	0

**Border Waiver****53B-8-104**

The board may grant a scholarship for partial waiver of the nonresident portion of total tuition charged by public institutions of higher education to nonresident undergraduate students.

## Tuition Waived:

University of Utah	\$53,824
Utah State University	23,178
Weber State University	8,654
Southern Utah University	8,247
Dixie State University	142,728
Total	236,631

**Reciprocal Agreements**

**53B-8-103(1)**

The board may determine when to grant a full or partial waiver of the nonresident differential in tuition rates charged to undergraduate students pursuant to reciprocal agreements with other states.

Tuition Waived:

Dixie State University	272,956
Total	272,956

**WICHE/WUE**

**53B-8-103(1)**

The board may enter into agreements with other states to provide for a full or partial reciprocal waiver of the nonresident tuition differential charged to undergraduate students.

Tuition Waived:

University of Utah	\$2,989,399
Utah State University	1,155,815
Weber State University	631,299
Southern Utah University	2,378,679
Utah Valley University	2,293,875
Snow College	145,260
Dixie State University	704,304
Salt Lake Community College	181,138
Total	10,479,769

**Undocumented Utah High School Graduates**

**53B-8-106**

A student without lawful immigration status who has graduated from high school after attending a Utah high school for three or more years shall be exempt from paying the nonresident portion of total tuition.

Tuition Waived:

University of Utah	\$907,728
Utah State University	242,078
Weber State University	468,399
Southern Utah University	93,435
Utah Valley University	1,406,934
Salt Lake Community College	1,750,716
Total	4,869,290

**Foreign National Utah High School Graduates****53B-8-102(18)**

A foreign national student who is legally admitted to the United States who has graduated from high school after attending a Utah high school for three or more years shall be exempt from paying the nonresident portion of total tuition.

## Tuition Waived:

University of Utah	\$487,766
Utah State University	84,367
Weber State University	21,881
Utah Valley University	156,907
Salt Lake Community College	61,902
Total	812,823

**Nonresident Tuition Scholarships****53B-8-104.5**

The board may grant scholarships for a waiver of the nonresident portion of total tuition charged by public institutions of higher education to nonresident undergraduate students to assist in maintaining service levels, promote high academic aptitudes, and provide an effective transition to resident status.

## Tuition Waived:

University of Utah	\$205,016
Utah State University	20,514
Southern Utah University	293,798
Dixie State University	2,570,621
Total	3,089,949

**Alumni Legacy Scholarships 53B-8-103.5**

The president of an institution may waive an amount up to the full nonresident portion of tuition for alumni legacy nonresident scholarships. Students qualify if they enroll at a USHE institution for the first time and they have at least one parent or grandparent who graduated with an associate's degree or higher from the same institution.

## Tuition Waived:

University of Utah	\$135,000
Utah State University	12,892,845
Weber State University	333,171
Southern Utah University	259,739
Dixie State University	240,936
Total	13,861,691

**Total Waivers for Non-Resident Students** **\$62,804,263**

**Total Waivers** **\$104,813,665**

## TUITION WAIVERS

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In FY 2014-15, USHE institutions waived nearly \$105 million of tuition, which represents approximately 13.1% of the adjusted gross tuition. The amounts, by institution, are shown below. The percentage to the right of the amount of tuition waived represents the portion of that institution's adjusted gross tuition that was waived.

### Total Tuition Waived:

University of Utah	\$19,791,883	( 6.7%)
Utah State University	34,744,656	(21.8%)
Weber State University	11,855,110	(15.0%)
Southern Utah University	8,779,426	(19.5%)
Utah Valley University	16,209,171	(14.0%)
Snow College	2,136,493	(17.6%)
Dixie State University	6,673,680	(21.3%)
Salt Lake Community College	4,623,246	( 7.5%)
Total	104,813,665	(13.1%)