
OLR Bill Analysis

HB 6101

AN ACT CONCERNING TUITION WAIVERS FOR GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS AT PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

SUMMARY

Current law requires the Connecticut State University System (CSUS), UConn, and the regional community-technical colleges (CTCs) to waive tuition fees for certain veterans and other eligible students (see BACKGROUND). This bill codifies existing practice by requiring CSUS and UConn to waive both undergraduate and graduate degree program tuition fees for these students.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2023

BACKGROUND

Students Eligible for Tuition Waivers

By law, UConn, the CSUS, and the regional CTCs must generally waive tuition for the following students:

1. Connecticut residents who are dependent children of armed forces members who served after January 1, 1960, and were declared missing in action or prisoners of war;
2. veterans living in Connecticut who served in a time of war;
3. Connecticut residents age 62 or older, as long as there is a sufficient number of enrolled paying students and available space in the courses in which they enroll;
4. Connecticut State Police Academy students enrolled in a law enforcement program offered in coordination with a regional CTC;

5. active members of the Connecticut National Guard in good standing who were admitted to a degree-granting program on a full- or part-time basis (including graduate programs in the case of UConn and CSUS);
6. dependent children of a police officer, supernumerary, auxiliary police officer, firefighter, volunteer firefighter, municipal employee, or state employee killed in the line of duty;
7. state residents who are dependent children or surviving spouses of terrorist victims;
8. dependent children of state residents killed in a specific July 2005 car crash in the town of Avon; and
9. state resident dependent children or surviving spouses of a Connecticut resident killed in action while on active duty in the armed forces on or after September 11, 2001.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 22 Nay 0 (02/28/2023)