



Larry Hogan
Governor

Boyd K. Rutherford
Lt. Governor

Mary Pat Seurkamp, Ph.D.
Chair

James D. Fielder, Jr., Ph. D.
Secretary

August 17, 2022

The Honorable Bill Ferguson
President
Senate of Maryland
H-107 State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

The Honorable Adrienne A. Jones
Speaker
Maryland House of Delegates
H-101 State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Report on Maryland Foster Care Tuition
Waiver and Maryland Unaccompanied
Homeless Youth recipients
MSAR #13222

Dear President Ferguson and Speaker Jones:

In accordance with Education Article §15-106.1(f)(3), the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) presents the information below on Maryland Foster Care Tuition Waiver¹ recipients and Maryland Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Tuition Waiver recipients. The statute requires the collection of the number of enrolled students who (1) received the specified tuition exemption during the prior academic year²; (2) received the specified tuition exemption at any point during their enrollment at the institution; and (3) earned a bachelor's degree, associate degree, or certificate from the institution during the prior academic year. Statute further requires that institutions report specific disaggregated information regarding recipients, applicants, and denials. Institutional submissions include these data in both an aggregated (all students) format and disaggregated by specific demographic groups. Enclosed with this report are disaggregated data for the Maryland Foster Care Tuition Waiver and Maryland Unaccompanied Homeless Youth. All public postsecondary institutions are required to provide this information.

The following data are an aggregation of submissions provided by all public postsecondary institutions in the State.³

¹ Tuition waiver and tuition exemption are used interchangeably in report.

² For the purposes of reporting these data, the academic year is the fiscal year (July 1 to June 30).

³ Segment and statewide totals represent a summation of institution-level data; individual students may have an award from more than one institution.

Foster Care Tuition Waiver			
	Currently Enrolled Students Who Received Tuition Exemption in FY 2021	Currently Enrolled Students Who Received Tuition Exemption at Any Point of Enrollment (FY2014 – FY2021)	Students Who Received Tuition Exemption at Any Point of Enrollment (FY2014 – FY2021) Who Earned a Degree or Certificate in FY2021
Public Community Colleges	225	313	19
Public Four-Year Institutions	96	100	17
Totals	321	398	36

As reported to MHEC, 27 public postsecondary institutions (16 community colleges and 11 public four-year institutions) awarded the Foster Care Tuition Waiver to students from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.⁴

Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Tuition Waiver			
	Currently Enrolled Students Who Received Tuition Exemption in FY 2021	Currently Enrolled Students Who Received Tuition Exemption at Any Point of Enrollment (FY2014 – FY2021)	Students Who Received Tuition Exemption at Any Point of Enrollment (FY2014 – FY2021) Who Earned a Degree or Certificate in FY2021
Public Community Colleges	97	146	26
Public Four-Year Institutions	143	132	19
Totals	240	278	45

As reported to MHEC, 20 public postsecondary institutions (11 community colleges and 9 public four-year institutions) awarded the Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Waiver to students from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

Institutions were additionally responsible for identifying reasons students did not receive an award if they were eligible or had received it in prior years.⁵ Institutions reported that all students demonstrating eligibility for the award received it; the students who did not receive it were not identified as at risk (Foster Care) or unaccompanied (Unaccompanied Homeless Youth), or did not provide other required evidence of eligibility.

⁴ Morgan State University was non-compliant with the reporting requirement and is excluded from all data contained in this report.

⁵ Bowie State University and Coppin State University were non-compliant with the statutory requirement to provide detail on the reasons why students who previously received the waiver did not receive it during the reporting year; therefore, the list in this report may not be fully representative.

There were several reasons why students who had received a waiver in previous years did not receive it in the reporting year. These include:

- The student received alternate forms of financial aid, making the award unnecessary;
- The student did not complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA);
- The student did not enroll or withdrew;
- The student did not apply for the waiver during the reporting year;
- The student was no longer homeless or at risk of homelessness (applies to Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Tuition Waiver only);
- The student lost eligibility due to aging out; and
- The student was a graduate student ineligible for the award.

As indicated above, disaggregated data by the following demographics are enclosed with this report:⁶

- (1) Age;
- (2) Race/Ethnicity;
- (3) Gender Identity; and
- (4) Sexual Orientation.

While this informational report has been required since 2017, SB 155/HB 216 of 2021 expanded the reporting requirements to require institutions to provide data on additional measures pertaining to Foster Care Tuition Waiver and the Homeless Youth Tuition Waiver recipients. This represents the first reporting cycle in which this demographic information has been required, and several institutions had minor inconsistencies within their data. We have developed a revised data collection instrument for the 2023 cycle, with the intention of mitigating or eliminating these issues.

If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me or Dr. Barbara Schmertz, Director of Research & Policy Analysis at barbara.schmertz@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,



Dr. James D. Fielder, Jr.
Secretary

⁶ Some institutions do not collect some information required by this report, particularly data on students' sexual orientation and gender identity.



**Report on Maryland Foster Care Tuition Waiver and Maryland Unaccompanied Homeless Youth recipients
Aug-22
MSAR #13222
Maryland Higher Education Commission
Disaggregated Data**

In accordance with Education Article § 15-106.1(f)(3) , the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) presents these data on Maryland Foster Care Tuition Waiver recipients and Maryland Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Tuition Waiver recipients. The statute requires that all community colleges and public four-year colleges and universities report on the number of enrolled students who (1) received the specified tuition exemption during the prior academic year; (2) received the specified tuition exemption at any point during their enrollment at the institution; and (3) earned a bachelor's degree, associate degree, or certificate from the institution during the prior academic year.

Statute further requires that institutions report specific disaggregated information regarding recipients, applicants, and denials. Institutional submissions include these data in both an aggregated (all students) format and disaggregated by specific demographic groups.

This Excel workbook includes a compilation of institution-level data disaggregated by the following groups, in accordance with the statutory requirements of Education Article §15-106.1(d), as defined in the "Data Definitions" section below:

- (1) Age;
- (2) Race/Ethnicity;
- (3) Sexual orientation; and
- (4) Gender Identity

Notes:

These data represent students enrolled in the 2020-2021 academic year.

Data are reported at the institution level and aggregated; students may have received an award at multiple institutions.

Some institutions do not collect some information required by this report, particularly sexual orientation and gender identity. Data regarding these categories is thus incomplete, and thus should be interpreted with caution.

While this informational report has been required since 2017, SB 155/HB 216 of 2021 expanded the reporting requirements substantially to require institutions to provide data on additional measures pertaining to Foster Care Tuition Waiver and the Homeless Youth Tuition Waiver recipients. This represents the first reporting cycle in which this demographic information has been required, and several institutions had minor inconsistencies within their data. The Commission has developed a revised data collection instrument for the 2023 cycle, which might be expected to reduce or eliminate these issues.

Some small cell sizes (n<10) are included in this report. The risk to student privacy when reporting at the segment level is sufficiently minimal that they are included due to their informational value.

Data Definitions

Age : age at which the student first received the award during the academic year. Students identified as ONLY having received the award in prior years are reported in the age category during the current reporting year.

Race/Ethnicity : Race/Ethnicity is reported in accordance with National Center for Education Statistics requirements. Individuals reporting Hispanic ethnicity are always reported as Hispanic regardless of any racial category identified. Individuals identifying as non-citizens are always reported as foreign/non-resident alien regardless of any race/ethnicity identified.

Sexual Orientation : Sexual orientation is reported based upon information collected by the institution, where known. The "Other" category is used to identify all individuals with known sexual orientations not included in the "Heterosexual or Straight", "Gay or Lesbian", or "Bisexual" categories.

Gender Identity : Gender identity is based upon information available to the institution. The "Other" gender identity category includes all students with a known gender identity not included in the male/female categories. This may include, but is not limited to: transgender male, transgender female, genderqueer, and gender non-conforming.

Source:

Institutional Foster Care and Homeless Youth Tuition Waivers Survey (S-30) submissions



Community College Foster Care Tuition Waiver Recipients

Item	Age Group					Race/Ethnicity										Sexual Orientation				Gender Identity			
	16 and Under	17-19	20-22	23-24	25 and Up	American Indian/Alaska Native	Asian	Black	Hispanic/Latino	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	White	Two or More Races	Unknown	Foreign/Non-Resident Alien	Heterosexual or Straight	Gay or Lesbian	Bisexual	Other	Male	Female	Transgender	Other Gender Identity	
1	Received tuition waiver in the reporting year	1	73	96	26	29	2	4	124	23	0	48	18	2	4	0	0	0	0	51	152	0	2
2	Applied for and did not receive tuition waiver in the reporting year	0	2	4	2	0	0	0	2	2	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	7	0	0
3	Previously received a tuition exemption at any point during their enrollment at the institution but did not receive during the reporting year	0	57	104	59	61	1	7	169	37	2	41	16	5	3	0	0	0	0	82	73	0	0
4	Received tuition waiver at any point during enrollment at the institution and earned a bachelor's degree, an associate's degree, or a vocational certificate from the institution during the reporting year	0	2	8	3	6	0	0	9	1	0	7	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	5	13	0	0

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Community College Homeless Youth Tuition Waiver Recipients

Item	Age Group					Race/Ethnicity								Sexual Orientation				Gender Identity				
	16 and Under	17-19	20-22	23-24	25 and Up	American Indian/Alaska Native	Asian	Black	Hispanic/Latino	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	White	Two or More Races	Unknown	Foreign/Non-Resident Alien	Heterosexual or Straight	Gay or Lesbian	Bisexual	Other	Male	Female	Transgender	Other Gender Identity
1 Received tuition waiver in the reporting year	1	23	55	13	5	1	2	40	10	0	28	10	2	4	0	0	0	0	38	59	0	0
2 Applied for and did not receive tuition waiver in the reporting year	0	2	3	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	0	0
3 Previously received a tuition exemption at any point during their enrollment at the institution but did not receive during the reporting year	0	17	44	23	16	1	5	43	22	0	16	6	2	5	0	0	0	0	18	31	0	0
4 Received tuition waiver at any point during enrollment at the institution and earned a bachelor's degree, an associate's degree, or a vocational certificate from the institution during the reporting year	0	0	7	4	3	0	1	3	4	0	4	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	3	8	0	0

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Public Four-Year Institution Foster Care Tuition Waiver Recipients

Item	Age Group					Race/Ethnicity								Sexual Orientation				Gender Identity					
	16 and Under	17-19	20-22	23-24	25 and Up	American Indian/Alaska Native	Asian	Black	Hispanic/Latino	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	White	Two or More Races	Unknown	Foreign/Non-Resident Alien	Heterosexual or Straight	Gay or Lesbian	Bisexual	Other	Male	Female	Transgender	Other Gender Identity	
1	Received tuition waiver in the reporting year	0	46	80	17	0	0	6	68	14	0	37	15	2	1	24	0	0	1	50	92	1	0
2	Applied for and did not receive tuition waiver in the reporting year	0	12	18	8	0	0	0	19	1	0	11	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	28	0	0
3	Previously received a tuition exemption at any point during their enrollment at the institution but did not receive during the reporting year	0	18	33	9	2	1	2	25	3	0	16	9	0	0	12	0	0	0	21	35	0	0
4	Received tuition waiver at any point during enrollment at the institution and earned a bachelor's degree, an associate's degree, or a vocational certificate from the institution during the reporting year	0	0	14	5	0	0	1	5	1	0	5	6	1	0	3	0	0	0	6	13	0	0

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Public Four-Year Institution Homeless Youth Tuition Waiver Recipients

Item		Age Group					Race/Ethnicity									Sexual Orientation				Gender Identity			
		16 and Under	17-19	20-22	23-24	25 and Up	American Indian/Alaska Native	Asian	Black	Hispanic/Latino	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	White	Two or More Races	Unknown	Foreign/Non-Resident Alien	Heterosexual or Straight	Gay or Lesbian	Bisexual	Other	Male	Female	Transgender	Other Gender Identity
1	Received tuition waiver in the reporting year	0	25	48	15	7	0	3	52	12	0	17	8	3	0	8	0	0	0	22	73	0	0
2	Applied for and did not receive tuition waiver in the reporting year	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
3	Previously received a tuition exemption at any point during their enrollment at the institution but did not receive during the reporting year	0	105	71	18	27	1	5	170	5	0	12	6	19	0	12	0	0	0	67	150	0	1
4	Received tuition waiver at any point during enrollment at the institution and earned a bachelor's degree, an associate's degree, or a vocational certificate from the institution during the reporting year	0	0	9	4	4	0	2	7	2	0	4	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	3	14	0	0

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September 2022

In accordance with Education Article §15-106.1(f)(2), the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) is to collect documents and other materials used by institutions in association with administering the Maryland Foster Care Tuition Waiver and Maryland Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Tuition Waiver. In accordance with Education Article §15-106.1(f)(3), the Maryland Higher Education Commission is to compile these materials and publish them on the agency webpage.

For the 2022 reporting cycle (reflecting the 2021 fiscal year reporting year), MHEC did not collect these application materials and other associated documents. This has been rectified with the 2023 reporting cycle, and it is anticipated that materials will be published on the agency website in Fall 2023.