

POLICY ON OUT-OF-STATE TUITION WAIVERS

Effective Date: February 3, 2017

Full Policy Text

Out-of-State Tuition Waivers were established by the Board of Regents (BOR) to allow institutions to recruit the best students to their campuses and to help to retain them. In this context, "best" typically is defined in terms of academic achievement as measured by indicators such as Freshman Index (FI) or college GPA. In some cases, merit can be determined by special talents, including (but not limited to) athletic, musical, and artistic. In all cases, students who receive Out-of-State Tuition Waivers are expected to establish and to maintain strong academic records.

Out-of-State Tuition Waivers are one of the most valuable scholarship resources possessed by Georgia State University. The awards waive the differential between out-of-state and in-state tuition costs. Recipients of the waiver must pay in-state tuition and all applicable fees. Each waiver is granted for a specific period of time, ranging from a single semester to the designated length of a degree program, but maintaining a waiver always depends on a student's success in meeting certain specified criteria.

Please note: There are over a dozen waiver categories established by the BOR. This policy applies only to Presidential Out-of-State Tuition Waivers and Research and Comprehensive University Graduate Student Out-of-State Tuition Waivers. It does not, for instance, apply to waiver categories designated by the BOR for Graduate Assistantships, the Academic Common Market, non-Georgia military personnel, Economic Development, Study Abroad, and so forth. The Board of Regents strictly limits the total number of Out-of-State Tuition Waivers that any school in the University System of Georgia (USG) can award. In light of the intended purpose of the waiver and limits on its availability, the following guidelines are established.

Presidential Waivers

This category of Out-of-State Tuition Waiver is designated for high-achieving or highly accomplished domestic and international out-of-state students. Priority is given to students seeking degrees from Georgia State University. Students eligible for Presidential Waivers fall into the following categories:

1. **Academic Presidential Waivers:** Awarded to students who have demonstrated the potential to excel within a particular program of study offered by the institution as evidenced by scoring within the top half of students matriculating at the institution or the top half of students matriculating within the particular program of study to which the student has applied. Typically, the student's Freshman Index or transfer GPA will be used to establish standing within the matriculated class. In cases of students admitted because of their special talents (e.g. musicians, artists) determination of standing within the top half of the matriculated program of study will include an assessment of the quality of the students' special talents and their likely contributions to the Georgia State

University community. Continuing students who are performing at high-levels of academic achievement and accomplishment may also be considered for Academic Presidential Waivers.

2. Athletic Presidential Waivers: Awarded to students selected to participate in Georgia State's intercollegiate athletics program and who have demonstrated the potential to succeed within a particular program of study.
3. International Presidential Waivers: Awarded to support the internationalization of the university pursuant to the university's strategic plan (e.g., signed international cooperative agreements, international recruitment efforts) as defined in consultation with the Office of the Associate Provost for International Initiatives. The International Presidential Waiver is for non-citizen students who are not otherwise ineligible for a tuition differential waiver under this policy and who have demonstrated the potential to succeed within a particular program of study. Potential Recipients of International Presidential Waivers include degree-seeking international students; students who are part of 2+2 and 3+2 articulation agreements; sponsored students (e.g., Fulbright, Muskie, LASPAU, Rotary at both the graduate and undergraduate levels); and high-achieving international students facing severe economic hardship. (Note: this last group must apply through the Office of International Student and Scholar Services.)

Distribution of Presidential Waivers

By stipulation of the Board of Regents, the total number of Presidential Waivers at any one time cannot exceed 4% of the equivalent full-time (FTE) students at the institution in the fall term immediately preceding the term for which the out-of-state tuition waiver is to be applied. For waivers awarded in the spring and summer terms, availability will be based on 4% FTE of the fall term of the previous academic year.

The Georgia State's distribution of the Presidential waivers is as follows:

	Distribution
Academic Presidential Waivers	80% of total waivers available
Athletic Presidential Waivers	10% of total waivers available
International Presidential Waivers	10% of total waivers available

Based on specific academic criteria, Presidential Waivers may be assigned as full waivers of out-of-state tuition or as half waivers of out-of-state tuition. The proportionate percentage of out-of-state tuition waived shall be used when determining the number of waivers in effect such that a full waiver counts as one waiver, and a half waiver counts as .5 of a waiver.

The Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Success and Vice Provost will monitor the total number of Presidential Waivers assigned and, if necessary, draw a limit so that the total supply of waivers is not overly depleted in any given semester.

Awarding Presidential Waivers

In all cases, the awarding of Presidential Waivers will be made centrally by either the Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Success and Vice Provost or the Director of Athletics.

- Recommendations for the awarding of Academic and International Presidential Waivers are made to the Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Success and Vice Provost by a **Waiver Selection Committee**. Members of the committee include the Dean of the Honors College, the Associate Vice President for Undergraduate Admissions, the Associate Vice President for Student Success, the Director of International Student and Scholar Services, the Associate Provost for International Initiatives, the Associate Provost for Graduate Programs, and the chair of the Senate Committee on Admissions & Standards, or their designees.
- Current Criteria for Presidential Waivers: These criteria are subject to change based on the characteristics of the matriculated students from the most recent fall semester. Changes will be approved by a vote of the Waiver Selection Committee.

Academic Presidential Waivers:

Freshmen – Atlanta Campus	FI \geq 2900 or HSGPA = 3.6	100% waiver
	FI between 2899 and 2700 (with minimum of 1100 SAT or 26 ACT)	50% waiver
Freshmen – Perimeter College	HSGPA \geq 2.64	100% waiver
Transfers – Atlanta Campus	Transfer GPA \geq 3.3	100% waiver
	Transfer GPA between 3.29 and 3.0	50% waiver
International Waivers	GPA 3.0	100% waiver

- *Freshman transfers must meet both the freshman minimums and the transfer minimums.*
- *Fulbright, Rotary, and Goizueta Scholars receive 100% waivers.*
- *Requests for Academic or International Presidential Waivers not meeting the above requirements will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the Waiver Selection Committee.*

Athletic Presidential Waivers Consult with the Athletic Department

- Requests for Academic or International Presidential Waivers must be made by a University or departmental representatives on behalf of a student through the use of the Out-of-State Tuition Waiver Request Form. Requests submitted directly by a student will not be

considered. In cases of requests from colleges, the requests must bear the endorsement of the college dean or his or her designee.

- Because the resource is limited in number, units are asked to pursue the possibility of the student being awarded in-state residency status before requesting a waiver.
- A student may be eligible under multiple Presidential Waiver categories but may only be granted a waiver under one specific category.
- Students granted waivers must sign an Out-of-State Tuition Waiver Agreement and a copy must be provided to the Office of the Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Success and Vice Provost or to the Director of Athletics by the first day of classes for the semester in which the waiver is awarded. Failure to provide a signed copy of the agreement form by the specified date may jeopardize the waiver.
- Students who are unable to provide proof of lawful presence in the United States are not eligible to receive an Out-of-State Tuition Waiver.

Requirements for Maintaining Presidential Waivers:

- The Presidential waiver is valid for a maximum of the designed length of a degree program but may be designated for a shorter period of time.
- To receive the Presidential Waiver during the Fall or Spring semesters, undergraduate students must register for a minimum of 12 credit hours and graduate students must register for a minimum of 9 credit hours. For the Summer semesters, both undergraduate and graduate students must register for a minimum of 6 credit hours. Requirements for Athletic Presidential Waivers may differ; please consult the Athletics Department.
- If a student receives a waiver and does not register for the minimum number of semester hours of appropriate coursework by the initial tuition and fee payment deadline (typically, one week before the first day of the semester), the waiver may be forfeited.
- Students receiving an Academic or International Presidential Waiver must maintain 3.0 GPA (2.5 GPA for College of Law) calculated on a cumulative basis at the conclusion of each spring semester using the same GPA method used to calculate Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP).
- Students receiving all waivers, including the Athletic Presidential Waiver, must maintain SAP.
- Failure to maintain the specified level of academic performance at the conclusion of the spring semester shall result in the student losing the waiver or being placed on a two-semester probationary period for waiver purposes. Students on probation shall be eligible to maintain a waiver but shall be ineligible for the waiver if the student is not able to achieve the level of academic performance specified by the Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Success and Vice Provost. The student is eligible to regain the waiver if he/she achieves the specified level of academic performance.
- Students not remaining continuously enrolled will be reevaluated for the purpose of awarding the out-of-state tuition waiver at the time they reenroll. Exceptions to the continuous enrollment requirement may be granted for extraordinary circumstances that might include illness, injury or family situations that prevent a student from maintaining continuous enrollment.

- Requests for exceptions to these requirements must be made in writing to the Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Success and Vice Provost by the campus unit/office requesting the waiver.
- Requests arising from extraordinary circumstances that may justify the awarding of a Presidential Waiver under criteria not specified but consistent with the BOR policy's intent and in support of the institution's mission may require further approval, on a one-time or standing basis, from the Chief Academic Officer of the University System of Georgia.
- The Office of the Vice President of Enrollment Management and Student Success monitors whether students have met the waiver continuation requirements each term, communicates accordingly with students, places them on probation, and removes the waivers when needed.

Research and Comprehensive University Graduate Student Waivers

This category of waiver is assigned by the academic colleges (or college-level units) and used for new or continuing graduate students. Each research university in the USG is granted a set number of Research and Comprehensive University Graduate Student waivers. The Georgia State University allocation is 140, thus assigned waivers in this category cannot exceed 140 at any one time.

Current Distribution of Graduate Waivers by College

These distributions are subject to change based on the FTE graduate enrollments from the most recent fall semester. Changes will be approved by a vote of the Waiver Selection Committee.

College of Arts and Sciences	20
J. Mack Robinson College of Business	20
College of Education and Human Development	20
College of Law	15
Andrew Young School of Policy Studies	10
Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing and Health Professions	10
School of Public Health	10
College of the Arts	10
Institute for Biomedical Sciences	3
Additional waivers to request	22

Additional waivers may be awarded on a case-by-case basis by the Waiver Selection Committee.

- Because the resource is limited in number, colleges are asked to pursue the possibility of the student being awarded in-state residency status before assigning a waiver.
- Graduate students who receive waiver support from academic departments (e.g., GRA, GTA) should not be assigned Research and Comprehensive University Graduate Student waivers but should instead receive graduate assistant waivers which are typically equal to full tuition costs.
- Colleges may make barter agreements among themselves regarding the number of waivers assigned for any given semester.

Requirements for Awarding and Maintaining the Research and Comprehensive University Graduate Student Waiver

- Awards are made to graduate students according to each College’s own internal policy and procedures, but awards should fit within the intent of the BOR policy as outlined in the opening paragraphs of this document.
- These waivers may be assigned as full waivers of out-of-state tuition or as half waivers of out-of-state tuition. The proportionate percentage of out-of-state tuition waived shall be used when determining the number of waivers in effect such that a full waiver counts as one waiver, and a half waiver counts as .5 of a waiver.
- Student recipients of Research and Comprehensive University Graduate Student Waivers are required to sign the Out-of-State Waiver Agreement Form, and a copy must be provided to the Office of the Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Success and Vice Provost prior to the first day of classes for the semester for which the waiver is granted.
- The out-of-state tuition waiver agreement should specify the length of the award period and-the criteria for the student maintaining the waiver.
- Graduate students must register for a minimum of 9 credit hours during Fall and Spring semesters and 6 credit hours during Summer semester.
- A student may be eligible under multiple Out-of-State Tuition Waiver categories but may only be granted a waiver under one specific category.
- Students who are unable to provide proof of lawful presence in the United States are not eligible to receive the waiver.
- Students receiving Research and Comprehensive University Graduate Student Waivers must maintain a 3.0 GPA (2.5 GPA for the College of Law) calculated on a cumulative basis at the conclusion of each spring semester.
- Requests for exceptions to these requirements must be made in writing to the Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Success and Vice Provost by the campus unit requesting the waiver.
- Requests arising from extraordinary circumstances that may justify the awarding of a Presidential Waiver under criteria not specified but consistent with the BOR policy’s intent and in support of the institution’s mission may require further approval, on a one-time or standing basis, from the Chief Academic Officer of the University System of Georgia.

Policy Administration {all sections mandatory}	
Responsible Office(s) <small>(Office name, campus address, phone number)</small>	Enrollment Management & Student Success 75 Piedmont Avenue, Suite 1100 404-413-2580
Responsible Executive(s):	Timothy M. Renick

Policy Management {all sections mandatory}	
Policy History	<i>Approved by Administrative Council, August 4, 2015</i>
Approval Date:	<i>Updated with Perimeter College data post-consolidation, 6/30/2016</i>
Approving Body (if applicable):	<i>Revised version approved by Administrative Council, February 2, 2017</i>
Web Links {optional}	
Procedures and forms (url)	http://enrollment.gsu.edu/assistance/

Additional Information or Resources {optional}

Georgia State University's policy on Out-of-State Tuition Waivers is based on *The Policy Manual of the University System of Georgia, Section 7.34.1, approved September 9, 2014 and effective Fall 2015.*