

Hope College/GLCA Tuition Waiver Program Policy Changes

7/10/06

The following is an overview of the policy changes that impact the eligibility criteria for the Hope College and GLCA Tuition Waiver Programs:

1. Coordination of Hope College Merit/National Merit Scholarships and Other External/Internal Gift Aid with the Hope/GLCA Tuition Waiver (TW) Benefit:

Previous policy:

- a. **For Full 100% Beneficiaries:** If the student was eligible for any non-need based Hope merit award, the dollar value of this award was limited to the student's actual charges for room/board/activity fee as incurred for the semester. The student was eligible to receive this Hope merit award in conjunction with the full Tuition Waiver benefit only if s/he resided in on-campus housing. If the student commuted from home, lived in off-campus housing, or enrolled in an off-campus program, s/he was ineligible to receive the Hope merit award.
- b. **For Partial Beneficiaries:** If the student was eligible for any non-need based Hope merit award, the dollar value of this award was first applied against his/her actual room/board/activity fee charges. Any merit award dollars in excess of these actual room/board/fee charges was applied against the student's tuition charges. The appropriate tuition waiver percentage was then applied against the student's net tuition charges (actual tuition minus any Hope merit award dollars not applied to room/board/fee charges minus any other gift assistance). If the student did not live in on-campus housing, his/her Hope merit award was fully applicable to tuition charges.
- c. **Treatment of other gift aid (excluding Hope merit scholarships as referenced above):** The TW benefit was calculated by applying the appropriate benefit percentage against the student's net tuition charges. Net tuition charges were those charges remaining after all other scholarships and grants (gift assistance) from both internal and external sources were applied against the student's total tuition charges.

New Policy:

- a. **For any Hope/GLCA TW beneficiary:** *All* internal and external gift assistance, including Hope merit scholarships and all other scholarships, grants, and benefits (with the exception of the Federal Pell Grant and the Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant) are considered applicable *only* to a student's tuition charges; such gift assistance is *not* applicable to a student's room/board/activity fee charges or expenses. The TW benefit is calculated by applying the appropriate benefit percentage against the student's net tuition charges. Net tuition charges are those charges remaining after **all** other gift aid awards (excluding Federal Pell/Supplemental Grants) are applied against the student's total tuition charges.

If, in any given award year, a student receives gift aid (i.e., scholarships and grants) from internal Hope sources and/or external sources that in combination exceed tuition, a beneficiary can choose to receive the greater amount of gift aid and thereby forfeit TW eligibility during the enrollment period s/he receives said gift aid.

- b. **Effective Date:** This policy takes effect in the 2008-09 award year and impacts all incoming first-time, degree-seeking TW beneficiaries eligible for Hope merit award consideration.

2. Tuition Waiver Benefit Duration

Previous Policy:

The only limitation was age related in that the student beneficiary (natural born or adopted) remained eligible to receive the TW until his/her 30th birthday.

New Policy:

TW beneficiaries are limited to ten (10) semesters of eligibility under this program (regardless of part-time/full-time enrollment). A summer term is not counted as a semester; however, once the 10-semester limit is reached, the student is ineligible to receive the TW for subsequent summer term enrollment. Any semester during which a student enrolls at Hope while dually enrolled in high school is not counted as a semester in monitoring this 10-semester limitation. The 30th birthday age limitation will still apply.

Effective Date: This policy takes effect in 2007-08. Any beneficiary who has already received 10 semesters of assistance under the Hope/GLCA Tuition Waiver program is ineligible to receive any further assistance in 2007-08 and beyond.

Notes:

1. This policy change does not impact spouses of faculty and staff.
2. This policy change does not alter the age limitation of 25 for step children. However, step children do fall under this 10 semester limitation.

3. Tuition Waiver Eligibility for Adjunct Faculty Members

Previous Policy:

Adjunct faculty members (and their families) received a tuition waiver of 100% of a pro-rated amount based on their average annual workload, using 24 credit hours per year as the full-time equivalent, over the latest 3-year period.

Other part-time faculty members (and their families) received 10% per year of service of a pro-rated amount based on their average annual workload using 24 credit hours per year as the full-time equivalent, over the latest 3-year period.

New Policy:

Any part-time faculty member hired after July 1, 2006, is ineligible to receive benefits through the Hope Tuition Waiver program. Only fulltime faculty (including fulltime adjunct faculty) are eligible to participate. (Fulltime faculty members are defined in Section B-2 of the *Faculty Handbook*.)

Note: This policy change does not impact either currently employed part-time or adjunct faculty members.