

MAINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

Section 707.2

SUBJECT: TUITION WAIVER AND REDUCTION PROGRAM FOR QUALIFIED HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FOR THE MDOE ASPIRATIONS PROGRAM, THE MCCS ON COURSE FOR COLLEGE OPTION, AND OTHER DUAL ENROLLMENT PROGRAMS AUTHORIZED BY A COLLEGE FOR A PARTICULAR HIGH SCHOOL(S)

PURPOSE: To provide an incentive and opportunity for high school students to enroll in higher education.

The Board of Trustees recognizes the importance of encouraging the aspirations of Maine high school students. To provide an incentive and opportunity for Maine high school students to enroll in higher education, the colleges of the MCCS will waive and reduce certain portions of the in-state tuition rate for such students and may allow enrollment in any course at the 100-level or above for which the student meets course prerequisites and “Student Qualifications” below:

A. Student Qualifications. To qualify for this waiver and reduction, each student must:

1. Be a high school junior or senior enrolled in a public or publicly-funded high school, or be enrolled in an approved public or publicly-funded high school completion or approved home school program; individual colleges may waive this requirement and allow otherwise qualified students to participate.
2. Have a minimum high school grade average of at least B; individual colleges may waive this requirement in special circumstances.
3. Obtain all necessary high school, parental and other appropriate approvals.
4. Satisfy all pre- and co-requisites for the course in which the student seeks to enroll.
5. Satisfy all other reasonable requirements imposed by the enrolling college.

B. Program Limitations. In addition to any other reasonable limitations imposed by the enrolling college, this tuition waiver and reduction applies only to:

1. Up to 50% of the cost of tuition; not to the cost of fees, room, board or other like college expenses; and

2. Up to six credit hours per student per semester.

C. Program Implementation. Each college will notify its local schools of the availability of these programs.

D. Billing Process.

1. **Aspirations Program:** For a student enrolled in up to six credit hours in a semester of the academic year and within the limitations outlined above, the college will bill the Maine Department of Education (MDoE) Aspirations Program at the reduced tuition rate for the six credit hours and may bill the student for all other applicable fees and charges.
2. **On-Course for College:** For a student enrolled in up to six credit hours (including credits under the Aspirations Program) in either semester of the academic year, and within its allotted number of courses/slots under this funding, the college will bill to the Maine Community College System (“MCCS”) Early College for ME Program at the reduced rate for those credits.
3. **College Option:** College establishes procedures for billing the funding source.

In rare and unusual situations the college president may choose to waive the student’s share of tuition for these programs. For example, the college has reasonable assurance that the Aspirations program would fund a specific number of slots, but the program runs out of funds before all bills are paid to institutions serving students under the program. In such instances, the college should record 100% of the tuition and fees, bill the appropriate funding source (MDoE or MCCS) and charge the waived income to the appropriate waiver account (e.g., 7390).

For a student enrolled in more than six credit hours per semester, or when courses/slots are not available from these programs, the student is responsible for payment of tuition, fees and/or charges.

REFERENCES: 20-A M.R.S.A. §4771-76; MCCS Policy 707

DATE ADOPTED: September 27, 1997

DATE(S) AMENDED: March 20, 2000; September 23, 2008; January 26, 2010; September 28, 2016