



# OVERVIEW

## **Military Persons in Texas Public Institutions of Higher Education**

### **How many members of the military or veterans are enrolled in Texas public institutions of higher education?**

In general, students enrolled in college are not identified as being in the military or in some other way tied to the military. Therefore, we do not have information about all students in the military or those who are veterans and are enrolled in state institutions of higher education. However, enrollment data do allow us to identify two subsets of the military in our public institutions:

- a. Out-of-state students who are in the military (and their spouses/children) who are receiving waivers through one of the provisions of TEC 54.058; and
- b. Texas veterans who are receiving tuition and fee exemptions through the Hazlewood Act (TEC 54.203).

### **What are waivers and what conditions enable an individual to receive a waiver through TEC 54.058?**

Waivers are programs authorized through statute that enable certain out-of-state students to enroll in Texas public institutions and pay in-state resident tuition. Waivers can have a significant impact on the ability of an individual to afford to attend college.

At universities, the difference in FY 2008 between resident and nonresident tuition for a person taking 30 semester credit hours is \$8,100. At community colleges, the average difference is \$2,100.

Texas Education Code 54.058 includes several waiver provisions for members of the military and/or their dependents:

- a. TEC 54.058 (b) allows all military personnel stationed in Texas and their families to pay the resident tuition rate.
- b. TEC 54.058 (c) allows spouses and dependents to continue to pay the resident rate after the member is assigned to duty elsewhere if they reside continuously in Texas.
- c. TEC 54.058(j) allows members and their dependents to continue to pay the resident rate after being stationed here if they remain continuously enrolled in the same program of study.
- d. TEC 54.058(d) shortens the 12-month period for establishing residency for the spouse or dependent of members previously stationed in Texas under certain circumstances.

- e. TEC 54.058(f) allows the spouse and dependents of a non-Texas member killed in the line of duty to establish residency by relocating to Texas within 60 days of the member's death.
- f. TEC 54.058(g) allows the spouse and dependents to pay the resident tuition rate if a letter of intent to establish residency in Texas is provided to the institution of higher education.
- g. TEC 54.058(i) shortens the 12-month period for a person recently discharged from the service to establish residency under certain circumstances.

The following table shows the numbers of waiver recipients per type of institution. The dollar amounts reported below reflect the tuition and/or fee revenues students did not pay due to their waiver. The waived cost is absorbed by the institution.

**Military Waiver Recipients in FY 2007**  
(TEC 54.058)

|                             | <b>Recipients</b> | <b>Tuition Waived</b> |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Universities                | 1,578             | \$7,854,842           |
| Health-related Institutions | 203               | \$1,428,240           |
| Community Colleges          | 5,594             | \$6,728,078           |
| Technical Colleges          | 10                | \$17,246              |
| State Colleges              | 0                 | \$0                   |
| <b>Total</b>                | <b>7,385</b>      | <b>\$16,028,406</b>   |

**What is an exemption and what are the requirements for receiving an exemption through the Hazlewood Exemption Program (TEC 54.203)?**

In general, exemptions allow Texas residents to enroll in public institutions of higher education while paying a reduced amount of tuition and/or fees. The Hazlewood Act provides an exemption of tuition and fees other than deposit and student service fees for up to 150 semester credit hours.

In FY 2007, our most recent complete year, the average value of a Hazlewood exemption at a university was \$3,210. The average value at a community college was \$967.

The program is primarily for Texas veterans who have completed at least 180 days of active military duty and have honorable discharges or separations from service. However, if the Texas veteran is killed in the line of duty or has suffered injuries while on duty that cause him/her to be classified as 100 percent unemployable, the benefit can be received by the veteran's children. The inclusion of children of disabled veterans was authorized by HB 125, 80th Legislature. HB 125 and SB 1640 also authorized veterans to use their federal and state veterans' benefits at the same time, if the value of the federal benefits is less than the value of the state exemption. Prior to the passage of this legislation, veterans had to exhaust their federal benefits before they could use their state benefits. For this reason, Hazlewood

exemption statistics show a high use of Hazlewood benefits for upper level and/or graduate studies.

The following table shows the numbers of Hazlewood exemption recipients per type of institution. The dollar amounts reported below reflect the tuition and/or fee revenues students did not pay due to their exemption. The lost revenue losses are also absorbed by the institutions.

**Hazlewood Exemption Recipients in FY 2007**  
(TEC 54.203)

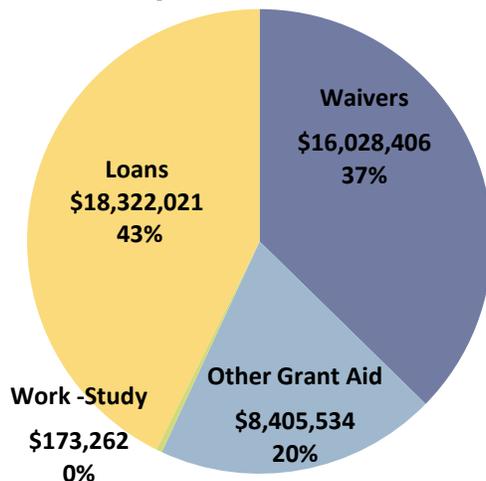
|                             | <b>Veteran Recipients</b> | <b>Tuition &amp; Fees Waived</b> | <b>Dependent Recipients</b> | <b>Tuition &amp; Fees Waived</b> |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Universities                | 4,549                     | \$14,603,308                     | 3                           | \$9,791                          |
| Health-Related Institutions | 166                       | \$779,784                        | 0                           | \$0                              |
| Community Colleges          | 4,194                     | \$4,055,472                      | 13                          | \$7,635                          |
| Technical Colleges          | 73                        | \$97,397                         | 0                           | \$0                              |
| State Colleges              | 114                       | \$97,774                         | 1                           | \$800                            |
| <b>Totals</b>               | <b>9,096</b>              | <b>\$19,633,735</b>              | <b>17</b>                   | <b>\$18,226</b>                  |

**Do the waiver and/or exemption recipients receive other types of financial aid as well?**

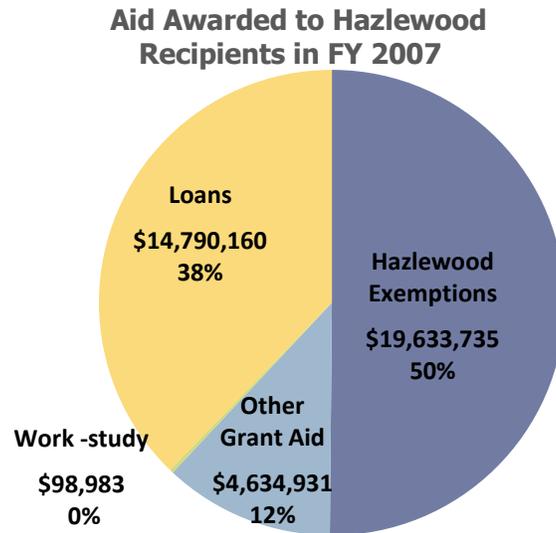
Recipients of waivers and exemptions qualify by being military members stationed in the state or by being eligible Texas veterans. Financial aid programs such as the TEXAS Grant program or the federal Pell Grant Program can only go to students with financial need – i.e., students whose financial resources are insufficient to meet the costs of attending college.

Of the students identified as receiving waivers in FY 2007, 4,317 also received some type of need-based assistance. The following chart reflects the value of the military waivers and other financial assistance received by the students.

**Aid Awarded To Military Waiver Recipients in FY 2007**



Of the students receiving Hazlewood exemptions in FY 2007, 2,627 also received some type of need-based assistance. The following chart reflects the value of the Hazlewood exemptions and the other aid received by the students.



It is important to note that waiver recipients are nonresidents – and state financial aid programs are generally open only to state residents. In addition, military persons stationed in Texas (other than spouses and dependents) are currently employed, which would affect the amount of need-based aid for which they are eligible.

**What is the average course load for persons receiving the military waiver or Hazlewood exemption?**

Most recipients of the waivers or exemptions are enrolled on a part-time basis. The following were the average annual course loads in FY 2007 for students who received a waiver or exemption:

**Average Annual Course Loads in FY 2007**

| Type Institution            | Average SCH Load Military Waiver | Average SCH Load Hazlewood Exemption |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Universities                | 16                               | 14                                   |
| Community Colleges          | 10                               | 11                                   |
| Health-related Institutions | 23                               | 20                                   |
| State Colleges              | 9                                | 13                                   |
| <b>Overall Average</b>      | <b>11</b>                        | <b>13</b>                            |

**Were the waiver or exemption recipients enrolled as undergraduates or as graduate students?**

The majority of the recipients were enrolled as undergraduates in FY2007, but only a few of them were enrolled as entering freshmen. This was particularly true for the Hazlewood exemption recipients, who in FY 2007 were required to use federal veterans' benefits first before they could gain access to state benefits. Therefore, only individuals who did not contribute towards federal benefits (and were therefore ineligible for them) could use Hazlewood as freshmen that year.

**Enrollment Patterns in FY 2007**

Military Waiver Recipients

|                             | <b>First-Time Undergrad</b> | <b>All Other Undergrad</b> | <b>Graduate</b> | <b>Professional</b> |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Universities                | 65                          | 1,095                      | 410             | 33                  |
| Community Colleges          | 323                         | 6,052                      | 0               | 0                   |
| Health-related Institutions | 0                           | 21                         | 148             | 14                  |
| State Colleges              | 0                           | 11                         | 0               | 0                   |
| <b>Total</b>                | <b>388</b>                  | <b>7,179</b>               | <b>558</b>      | <b>47</b>           |

Hazlewood Recipients

|                             | <b>First-Time Undergrad</b> | <b>All Other Undergrad</b> | <b>Graduate</b> | <b>Professional</b> |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Universities                | 6                           | 1,896                      | 1,578           | 81                  |
| Community Colleges          | 89                          | 2,517                      | 0               | 0                   |
| Health-related Institutions | 0                           | 45                         | 76              | 9                   |
| State Colleges              | 2                           | 69                         | 0               | 0                   |
| <b>Total</b>                | <b>97</b>                   | <b>4,527</b>               | <b>1,654</b>    | <b>90</b>           |

**How many members of the military or veterans graduate through these programs?**

Graduation rates are typically determined by tracking a given cohort of first time full-time entering freshmen through the state's institutions for four to six years. This approach causes problems for the waiver recipients since they are temporarily stationed in the state, and then reassigned to duty elsewhere. The approach is also problematic for the Hazlewood exemption recipients because until fall 2007 they had to exhaust their federal education benefits before they could use Hazlewood benefits. Therefore, the only entering freshmen to use Hazlewood were those limited number who did not contribute to, or qualify for federal benefits.

To measure the success of waiver and exemption recipients, we determined the number of persons receiving these benefits in FY 2007 and who received certificates, associate degrees, baccalaureate degrees, or graduate degrees:

### Certificates and Degrees Awarded in FY 2007

#### Military Waiver Recipients

|                             | <b>Certificate</b> | <b>Associate</b> | <b>Baccalau-<br/>reate</b> | <b>Masters/<br/>Doctoral</b> | <b>Professional</b> |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Universities                | 0                  | 1                | 193                        | 77                           | 33                  |
| Community Colleges          | 56                 | 194              | 0                          | 0                            | 0                   |
| Health-related Institutions | 3                  | 0                | 5                          | 55                           | 14                  |
| State Colleges              | 0                  | 0                | 0                          | 0                            | 0                   |
| <b>Total</b>                | <b>59</b>          | <b>195</b>       | <b>198</b>                 | <b>132</b>                   | <b>47</b>           |

#### Hazlewood Exemption Recipients

|                             | <b>Certificate</b> | <b>Associate</b> | <b>Baccalaureate</b> | <b>Masters/<br/>Doctoral</b> | <b>Professional</b> |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Universities                | 1                  | 0                | 482                  | 250                          | 81                  |
| Community Colleges          | 127                | 186              | 0                    | 0                            | 0                   |
| Health-related Institutions | 1                  | 0                | 17                   | 22                           | 9                   |
| State Colleges              | 0                  | 0                | 0                    | 0                            | 0                   |
| <b>Total</b>                | <b>129</b>         | <b>186</b>       | <b>499</b>           | <b>272</b>                   | <b>90</b>           |

**For more information:**

Office of External Relations  
 Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board  
[er@thecb.state.tx.us](mailto:er@thecb.state.tx.us)  
[www.thecb.state.tx.us/Agency/Topics.cfm](http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/Agency/Topics.cfm)  
 (512) 427-6111