

**2021 SENATE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**SB 2225**

# 2021 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

## Government and Veterans Affairs Committee Room JW216, State Capitol

SB2225  
1/29/2021

<b>Relating to the definition of a dependent for tuition waiver purposes.</b>
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**Chair Vedaa** opened the hearing at 10:00 a.m. with Sen Vedaa, Sen Meyer, Sen Elkin, Sen K Roers, Sen Wobbema, Sen Weber, and Sen Marcellais.

### Discussion Topics:

- Veteran dependents
- Disability percentages
- Fiscal note

**Sen Dever, Dist 32** introduced the bill.

**Mark Landis - Burleigh County Veterans Service Officer** testified in favor #4075

**Lamar Kruckenberg** testified in favor

**Tammy Dolan** testified opposed #4165, #5412

### Additional Testimony:

**Jim Nelson - ND Veterans Legislative Council – support #3623**

**Sen Marcellais – in support #2494**

Adjourned at 10:39 a.m.

*Pam Dever, Committee Clerk*

## **SENATE BILL 2225**

### **Testimony before the North Dakota Senate Government and Veterans Affairs Committee**

**By**

**Mark Landis  
Burleigh County Veterans Service Officer**

**January 29, 2021**

Mister Chairman, members of the committee, good morning. My name is Mark Landis. I have been the veterans service officer in Burleigh County for 17 years and currently serve as president of the Professional Veterans Advocates of North Dakota.

I am here to support Senate Bill 2225, which would change the definition of qualifying dependents of veterans for tuition waiver purposes. Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony. I would also like to thank Senator Dever for bringing this bill forward.

Under current law, dependents may qualify for waiver of tuition at state institutions of higher education if the veteran has a combined 100% service-connected disability rating from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). If this bill is passed, the disability threshold would be lowered to 50%. There are good and sufficient reasons to support this legislation.

Disability ratings are assigned according to reduced average earning capacity. A veteran with a 50% disability rating may also experience a 50% reduction of earning capacity. VA compensation does not typically replace all of the income that is lost as a result of not being able to pursue a robust and fulfilling career.

Most parents provide some level of financial support to their college age children. In fact, it has become an expectation in today's society. That is very difficult to do with limited income. Passage of this bill not only benefits students. It benefits disabled veterans by preserving their subsistence level of income. In a broader perspective, it also benefits society by encouraging more people to pursue higher education.

The State of North Dakota has established precedent in this regard. The state has recognized 50% is a very significant level of disability by approving benefits such as a property tax credit, free annual passes to state parks, and reduced fees for fishing licenses. We are not asking the legislature to establish a new benefit program; rather, simply to establish consistency in the application of state benefits for veterans.

I respectfully request you to vote "do pass" on this bill.

This concludes my prepared remarks. I will stand for your questions.

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**Senate Bill 2225**

Government & Veterans Affairs Committee

January 29, 2021

Tammy Dolan, Vice Chancellor for Administrative Affairs

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Good morning Chair Vedaa and members of the committee. My name is Tammy Dolan, and I serve as the Vice Chancellor for Administrative Affairs for the North Dakota University System (NDUS). I am here to testify in opposition to SB2225, solely because of the significant fiscal impact to the NDUS institutions.

The colleges and universities of the NDUS are proud to support and cultivate the skills that military students bring to the classroom, all while helping them achieve their personal and professional goals. Further, the NDUS recognizes veterans and service members as a valuable, talented, and skilled workforce. To that end the NDUS is committed in our support of recognizing the learning and experience that veterans and servicemembers bring to our institutions. Each NDUS college and university has staff designated to assist military members and their families navigate not only the educational benefits but also the array of support services available to them. These support staff are engaged in planning and organizing meaningful programs that foster awareness and recognition of student veterans and service members.

More recently, the NDUS led statewide efforts to review over 130 military courses for inclusion in the General Education Requirement Transfer Agreement (GERTA) Guide. The Guide serves as a formal agreement among the 17 public, private, and tribal institutions of higher education in ND, assuring students of greater transferability of specific military courses that have been mapped to general education categories in the areas of arts and humanities, communications, mathematics, science, social sciences, and technology.

The NDUS also supports veterans, service members and their families through tuition waivers. North Dakota Century Code (NDCC) contains two mandatory tuition waivers for veterans, service members and/or their families. NDCC 15-10-18.2 & 15-10-18.3 waives full tuition & fees at a ND public institutions of higher education for the surviving dependents of veterans who were prisoners of war, missing in action, killed in action or died from service-related causes, or have a 100% service-related disability rating. NDCC 37-07.1-03 waives 35% of tuition & fees for National Guard members attending a NDUS institution, which is in addition to other military education benefits provided by the National Guard. In the last two years, the NDUS institutions have provided more than \$3.0 million in tuition & fee waiver benefits to over 1,200 qualifying military members & dependents. Waiver costs have increased dramatically in recent years, as shown on the following table.

		2017-18		2018-19		2019-20	
		#	Amount	#	Amount	#	Amount
<b>POW /KIA / Service-related death or disability</b>	100% Tuition & fees	100	\$537,145	130	\$682,396	120	\$764,099
<b>National Guard</b>	35% tuition (25% prior to 7/1/2019)	414	483,477	469	587,815	519	1,006,559
<b>Total Military Waivers</b>		<b>514</b>	<b>\$1,020,622</b>	<b>599</b>	<b>\$1,270,211</b>	<b>639</b>	<b>\$1,770,658</b>
<b>Increase from prior year</b>					<b>+24%</b>		<b>+39%</b>

This bill relates only to the waivers for dependents of veterans with a service-related disability rating. The Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) indicates that there are 1,213 veteran dependents in ND that meet the current 100%-disability rating criterion. In the 2019-20 academic year, the NDUS provided 120 waivers (10% of total eligible) to the eligible dependents at a cost of \$764,099 in waiver benefits.

SB2225 would expand this tuition waiver to dependents of veterans with a 50% or greater service-connected disability. Using DVA data, the dependents of another 4,910 individuals would become eligible for the waiver benefit. Assuming the same 10% usage rate, the NDUS expects at least another 486 individuals would utilize the waiver. Using 2019-20 tuition rates, this expanded waiver would cost \$6.8 million per biennium. If the tuition waiver enticed another 5% of the eligible students to enroll, the estimated cost increases to more than \$10 million.

On average, the State of ND provides about 25% of the funding required to operate our institutions. Tuition revenue covers another 25%, while grants, contracts and other local funds cover the remaining 50 percent. Waivers reduce the tuition revenue portion because institutions must provide the educational services without charging tuition & fees. Educational expenses such as faculty salaries that would normally be covered by tuition revenue end up being spread across other students or result in budget cuts.

In light of the 20% cut to state funding in 2017, increased expenses incurred due to COVID and enrollment uncertainties due to the pandemic and current economy, the institutions simply cannot absorb the significant cost of this proposed tuition waiver. If the Legislative Assembly chooses to increase the education benefits for veterans, service members and their families, the NDUS suggests that it be in form of funded scholarships rather than tuition waivers. We respectfully request a \$6.8 million general fund appropriation be amended into SB2225 to cover the cost increases.

This concludes my testimony for SB2225, and I will stand for questions from the committee.

# North Dakota University System

## Tuition Waiver Report Academic Year 2019-20

#5412



**December 2020**

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# **North Dakota University System (NDUS)**

## **Tuition Waiver Report**

### **Academic Year 2019-20**

The 2019-20 Tuition Waiver Report reflects waivers issued to students for coursework taken during fall 2019, spring 2020 and summer 2020. Data in this report reflects degree-seeking student tuition waivers. Continuing education or other non-degree-seeking student waivers are excluded, except for Tables 1 and 7. Waivers are categorized as North Dakota Resident, In-Country Non-Resident, or International, as well as by waiver category and ethnicity.

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- During the 2019-20 academic year, 42,830 degree-seeking students were enrolled in the North Dakota University System (NDUS). ND resident students comprised 22,860 (53.4%) of total students. In-country non-resident students totaled 17,669 (41.3%), and international students 2,301 (5.4%). [Table 3]
- Of the degree-seeking students enrolled in 2019-20, 8,898 (20.8%) received waivers totaling \$32.9 million. The number of students receiving waivers increased by 1,302 from the prior year, while the total cost increased by \$3.5 million. [Tables 2 & 3]
- Statutory or SBHE required waivers are \$5.6 million, or 16.8% of total waiver costs. Remaining waivers are institutional discretionary. [Table 1]
- International student waivers accounted for just 1.3% of total waiver dollars in 2019-20. Graduate assistant waivers are still the largest group at 37.3%. Institutional waivers rank 2<sup>nd</sup> at 35%. [Charts 1.1 – 1.3 and Chart 2]
- Students receiving tuition waivers paid campuses \$77.2 million in tuition, housing and meal plans, and mandatory fees, which is more than twice the value of waivers received. [Table 2, 6]
- ND resident students received 49.6% of the 8,898 waivers awarded; In-country non-residents received 39.6% (3,526); and international students received 10.8% (963). [Table 3]
- As a percentage of total degree-seeking enrollment, all residency categories saw an increase in tuition waivers in 2019-20. ND resident students increased from 15.7% of total enrollment to 19.3%; in-country non-residents from 16.6% to 20%; international students from 38.2% to 41.9%. [Chart 3]
- At all eleven NDUS campuses, undergraduate ND resident students who received a tuition waiver paid less tuition on average than did in-country non-resident, or international students. [Chart 4.0]
- At the institutions that offer graduate or professional programs, ND residents who received a tuition waiver paid less tuition on average than all in-country non-resident students. [Chart 4.1]
- International students receiving a waiver show a steady drop from a high of 59.6% in 2009-10 to 41.9% in 2019-20.



## **TUITION WAIVERS BY CATEGORY**

Tuition waivers fall into one of three categories: state mandated; State Board of Higher Education (SBHE) required; and institutional discretion.

### State Mandated by ND Century Code:

Full tuition waivers are provided for dependents of POW/MIA Veterans who were killed in action, died of service-related causes, were prisoners of war, have a 100% service-connected disability, or who were declared missing in action. National Guard members receive a 35% tuition waiver, while state funding provided to the Adjutant General covers the remainder of the Guard-member's tuition. A 100% tuition waiver is available to the surviving spouse and children (biological, adopted or step) of ND firefighters or peace officers killed in the line of duty. The child must be under the age of 21 at the time of the incident. Effective 7/1/2017, a 25% waiver of tuition and fees is provided for law enforcement officers (LEO). The ND Attorney General's Office determines eligibility of the LEO for the waiver through an application process.

State-mandated waivers totaled \$1.8 million, or 5.3% of the total waiver dollars, in 2019-2020. This was an increase of \$.5 million from the prior year.

### SBHE Required:

SBHE policy requires limited tuition waivers for benefited employees, 100% waiver for the SBHE student member, senior citizen waivers, and a 50% spouse and dependent waiver.

SBHE required waivers totaled \$3.8 million, or 11.5% of total waiver dollars, in 2019-2020. This was an increase of \$.4 million from the prior year.

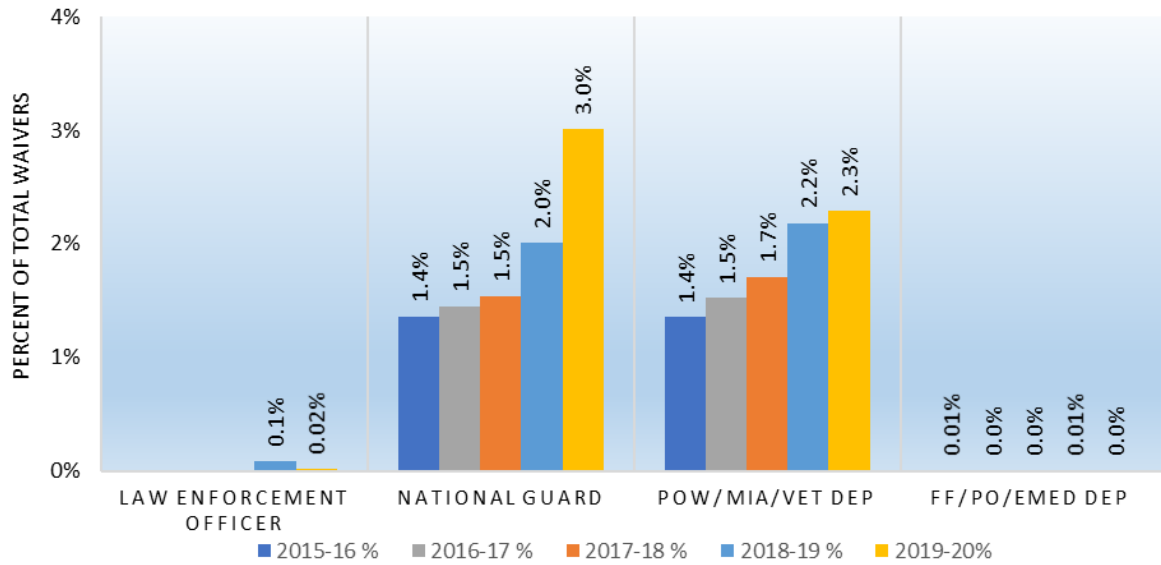
### Institutional Discretion:

Institutions may offer tuition waivers for graduate assistants (teaching and research), international students, cultural diversity, WICHE, and other purposes that meet the mission of the institution. International student waivers continue to trend downward, from \$1.6 million in 2017-18 to just over \$.4 million in 2019-20. 2019-20 cultural diversity waivers declined by \$100,000 from the prior year. WICHE waivers were \$.3 million, which is consistent with prior years. Graduate assistant waivers increased by \$1.0 million from \$11.5 million to \$12.5 million, while other institutional waivers increased from \$9.8 million in 2018-19 to \$11.7 million in 2019-20.

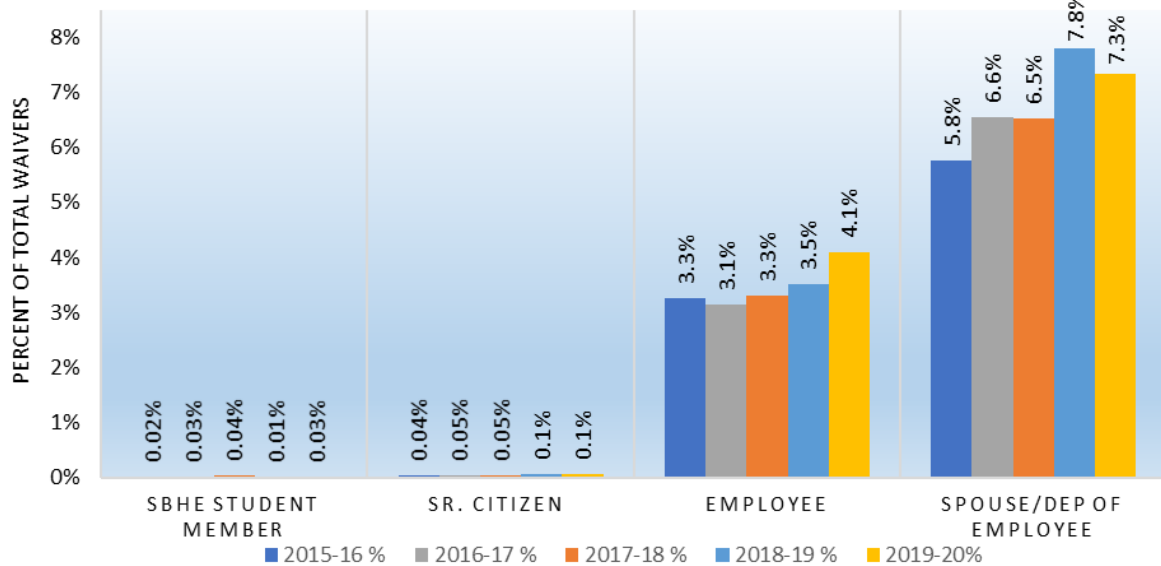
Waivers made at the institution's discretion totaled \$27.8 million, or 83.2% of total waiver dollars, in 2019-2020. This was a \$2.7 million increase from the prior year.

A five-year history of the percent of total waiver dollars by waiver type and category is displayed in charts 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 on the next page.

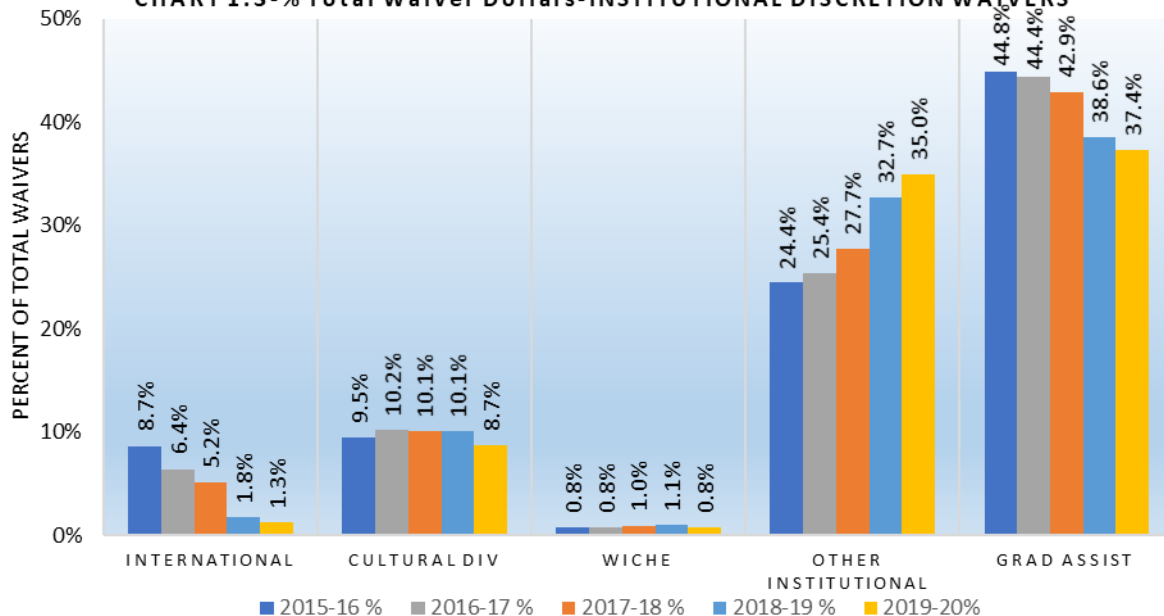
**CHART 1.1 - % of Total Waiver Dollars - STATE MANDATED WAIVERS**



**CHART 1.2 - % of Total Waiver Dollars - SBHE REQUIRED WAIVERS**



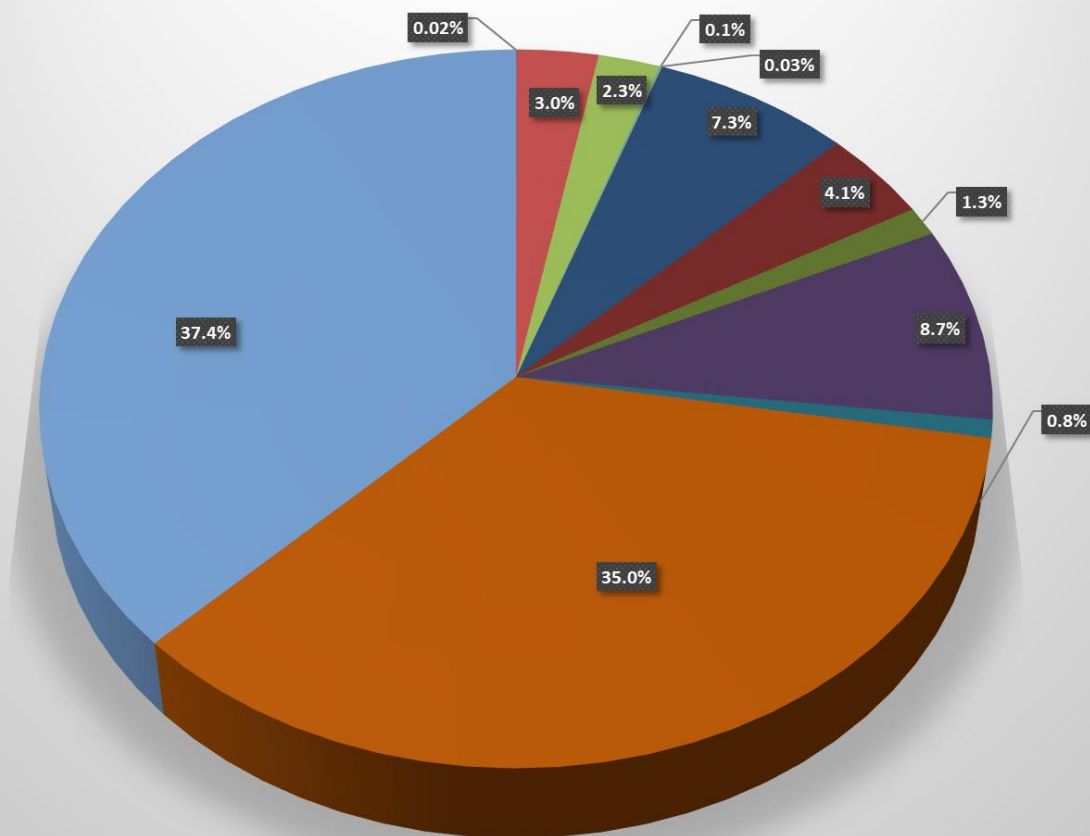
**CHART 1.3 - % Total Waiver Dollars- INSTITUTIONAL DISCRETION WAIVERS**



Most waiver categories saw little change from the prior year. The waiver with the greatest increase was other institutional waivers. This waiver under the institutional discretion category, increased from 32.7% of total dollars to 35%. The waiver with the greatest decrease was cultural diversity, which fell from 10.1% to 8.7%. Even though it showed a slight decline, the largest waiver continues to be graduate assistant at 37.4%. Chart 2 below details the 2019-20 waivers by category as a percentage of total dollars, and Table 1 that follows provides the detail for each waiver represented. Both reflect waivers for both degree-seeking and non-degree seeking students. Total dollars awarded were \$33,424,372.

Chart 2

2019-20 Waiver Category by % of Total Dollars



Law Enforcement Officer (0.02%)  
 Senior Citizen (0.1%)  
 Employee (4.1%)  
 WICHE (0.8%)

National Guard (3.0%)  
 SBHE Student Member (0.03%)  
 International (1.3%)  
 Other Institutional (35%)

POW/Vet/Dep (2.3%)  
 Spouse/Dep (7.3%)  
 Cultural Diversity (8.7%)  
 Grad Assistant (37.4%)

Campus	STATUTORILY REQUIRED					SBHE POLICY REQUIRED					INSTITUTIONAL DISCRETION						Duplicated Total	Unduplicated HC Total (from Table 2)
	Law Enforcement Officer	National Guard	POW/MIA/Vet Dep Waiver	FF/PO/Emed Dep	Subtotal	Sr Citizen	SBHE Student Mbr	Spouse/Dep Waiver	Employee Waiver	Subtotal	International Student	Cultural Diversity <sup>3</sup>	WICHE	Other Institutional <sup>1</sup>	Subtotal	Grad Assistant		
<b>BSC</b>																		
# Of Students	1	51	15	0	67	2	0	36	17	55	3	7	0	84	94	0	216	187
Dollars	\$346	\$48,385	\$53,027	\$0	\$101,758	\$1,329	\$0	\$43,603	\$12,895	\$57,827	\$9,701	\$12,242	\$0	\$94,786	\$116,729	\$0	\$276,314	
<b>DCB</b>																		
# Of Students	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	5	9	14	1	27	0	24	52	0	68	54
Dollars	\$0	\$178	\$3,558	\$0	\$3,736	\$0	\$0	\$1,696	\$5,337	\$7,033	\$3,558	\$32,068	\$0	\$61,299	\$96,925	\$0	\$107,694	
<b>DSU</b>																		
# Of Students	0	6	2	0	8	2	0	41	14	57	0	4	0	205	209	0	274	253
Dollars	\$0	\$12,466	\$16,806	\$0	\$29,272	\$3,010	\$0	\$174,489	\$23,160	\$200,659	\$0	\$4,527	\$0	\$352,743	\$357,270	\$0	\$587,201	
<b>LRSC</b>																		
# Of Students	2	17	5	0	24	1	0	21	3	25	10	29	0	68	107	0	156	108
Dollars	\$816	\$11,232	\$12,354	\$0	\$24,402	\$2,991	\$0	\$23,390	\$2,219	\$28,600	\$57,613	\$57,444	\$0	\$146,372	\$261,430	\$0	\$314,432	
<b>MaSU</b>																		
# Of Students	0	9	6	0	15	0	0	11	15	26	2	26	0	117	145	0	186	161
Dollars	\$0	\$13,518	\$36,540	\$0	\$50,058	\$0	\$0	\$18,467	\$26,312	\$44,778	\$8,690	\$36,100	\$0	\$268,287	\$313,077	\$0	\$407,913	
<b>MISU</b>																		
# Of Students	5	19	12	0	36	8	0	51	23	82	1	51	0	980	1,032	0	1,150	843
Dollars	\$5,511	\$29,404	\$70,517	\$0	\$105,433	\$6,088	\$0	\$118,880	\$52,986	\$177,954	\$3,044	\$90,189	\$0	1,249,002	\$1,342,235	\$0	\$1,625,622	
<b>NDSCS</b>																		
# Of Students	0	32	11	0	43	0	0	38	5	43	0	5	0	572	577	0	663	477
Dollars	\$0	\$33,058	\$43,396	\$0	\$76,454	\$0	\$0	\$42,573	\$3,784	\$46,357	\$0	\$2,400	\$0	\$295,689	\$298,089	\$0	\$420,899	
<b>NDSU</b>																		
# Of Students	0	239	27	0	266	9	0	255	198	462	91	163	0	2,869	3,123	1,048	4,899	4,667
Dollars	\$0	\$569,282	\$221,075	\$0	\$790,357	\$5,340	\$0	\$967,071	\$479,691	\$1,452,102	\$324,295	\$1,217,023	\$0	\$5,365,808	\$6,907,127	\$9,167,630	\$18,317,215	
<b>UND</b>																		
# Of Students	1	133	35	0	169	1	1	278	241	521	0	229	14	868	1,111	368	2,169	1,962
Dollars	\$622	\$271,943	\$283,326	\$0	\$555,891	\$513	\$8,617	\$1,010,820	\$743,842	\$1,763,792	\$0	1,282,060	\$271,188	\$3,739,894	\$5,293,141	\$3,297,516	\$10,910,339	
<b>VCSU</b>																		
# Of Students	1	12	5	0	18	1	0	31	6	38	11	79	0	44	134	4	194	149
Dollars	\$566	\$17,093	\$22,751	\$0	\$40,410	\$196	\$0	\$50,041	\$12,461	\$62,698	\$34,300	\$104,450	\$0	\$38,045	\$176,795	\$18,919	\$298,822	
<b>WSC</b>																		
# Of Students	0	0	1	0	1	3	0	6	4	13	0	18	0	15	33	0	47	37
Dollars	\$0	\$0	\$750	\$0	\$750	\$710	\$0	\$3,168	\$2,850	\$6,728	\$0	\$80,414	\$0	\$70,029	\$150,443	\$0	\$157,920	
<b>TOTAL<sup>2</sup></b>																		
# Of Students	10	519	120	0	649	27	1	773	535	1,336	119	638	14	5,846	6,617	1,420	10,022	8,898
Dollars	\$7,861	\$1,006,559	\$764,099	\$0	\$1,778,519	\$20,177	\$8,617	\$2,454,196	\$1,365,536	\$3,848,527	\$441,201	\$2,918,918	\$271,188	\$11,681,954	\$15,313,261	\$12,484,064	\$33,424,372	

Students may be duplicated in the count because a student may be receiving more than one category of waiver (e.g. both a national guard and misc. waiver) and would be counted more than once.

<sup>1</sup>Institutional waivers are a broad category, however, Table 1 reflects waivers that have paid only tuition charges.

<sup>2</sup>The tuition and tuition waivers reported in table 1 and table 7 include both degree seeking and non-degree seeking students. The remaining charts in the Tuition Waiver Report only include information on degree seeking students which may cause amounts to vary. The total student count for the Cultural Diversity category on table 1 will not match table 7 in which the student count is duplicated if a student changed their enrollment status between terms (i.e. a student is full-time one semester and part-time another semester.)

<sup>3</sup>Table 1 reports the unduplicated count of students for Cultural Diversity.

## Total Collections (Net of Waivers)

As reflected in Table 2 below, 20.8% of the 42,830 degree-seeking students, or 8,898, received some type of tuition waiver, totaling \$32.9 million. This is an increase from 2018-19, wherein 7,596 students received waivers totaling \$29.3 million. During 2019-20, students with a tuition waiver still paid institutions \$77.1 million. This came from tuition of \$44.3 million, housing/meal plans of \$21.7 million, and mandatory fees of \$11 million. Overall, net collections of tuition, housing/meal plans and mandatory fees totaled \$403 million for all students, both those with and without a waiver.

	BSC	DCB	DSU	LRSC	MaSU	MiSU	NDSCS	NDSU	UND	VCSU	WSC	NDUS Total
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
Annual degree-seeking headcount (HC) enrollment	3,426	641	1,312	1,005	1,054	2,956	2,147	13,563	14,397	1,383	946	42,830
1 Duplicated number of HC students receiving waiver (Table 1 campus total)	216	68	274	156	186	1,150	663	4,899	2,169	194	47	10,022
2 Unduplicated number of HC students receiving tuition waiver <sup>1</sup>	187	54	253	108	161	843	477	4,667	1,962	149	37	8,898
3 FY gross tuition charged, all students	\$11,718,279	\$2,209,769	\$7,895,499	\$3,089,460	\$5,452,522	\$15,140,085	\$7,828,293	\$118,052,156	\$136,856,453	\$6,464,833	\$2,818,225	\$317,525,573
4 FY total tuition waivers, all students	\$263,350	\$105,651	\$571,273	\$295,383	\$404,509	\$1,604,752	\$369,336	\$18,159,821	\$10,637,176	\$287,201	\$153,860	\$32,852,311
5 FY tuition charged, net of waivers, all students (Q3 - Q4)	\$11,454,929	\$2,104,118	\$7,324,225	\$2,794,077	\$5,048,013	\$13,535,333	\$7,458,957	\$99,892,336	\$126,219,277	\$6,177,632	\$2,664,365	\$284,673,262
6 FY tuition charged, net of tuition waivers, to students receiving a tuition waiver	\$430,425	\$160,588	\$1,300,421	\$188,013	\$765,346	\$3,169,610	\$1,825,181	\$24,678,410	\$11,181,323	\$594,813	\$25,758	\$44,319,887
7 % of net tuition charged to students receiving a tuition waiver (Q6/Q5)	3.8%	7.6%	17.8%	6.7%	15.2%	23.4%	24.5%	24.7%	8.9%	9.6%	1.0%	15.6%
8 FY room & board charged, net of waivers, all students	\$2,168,587	\$914,690	\$1,212,510	\$908,023	\$1,054,111	\$2,424,207	\$5,325,823	\$25,003,127	\$22,188,660	\$2,118,976	\$1,184,779	\$64,503,492
9 FY room & board charged, net of waivers, to students receiving a tuition waiver	\$133,742	\$242,819	\$436,408	\$332,784	\$330,748	\$1,280,285	\$2,374,907	\$12,644,976	\$3,463,631	\$350,719	\$137,215	\$21,728,233
10 % of total net room & board charged to students receiving a waiver (Q9/Q8)	6.2%	26.5%	36.0%	36.6%	31.4%	52.8%	44.6%	50.6%	15.6%	16.6%	11.6%	33.7%
11 FY mandatory student fees charged, net of waivers, all students	\$3,488,149	\$765,062	\$1,855,715	\$723,769	\$1,257,143	\$3,800,142	\$2,642,993	\$15,854,955	\$20,120,845	\$2,080,397	\$1,372,548	\$53,961,719
12 FY mandatory student fees, net of waivers, charged to students receiving a tuition waiver	\$172,930	\$46,507	\$337,971	\$98,748	\$207,178	\$1,173,422	\$583,380	\$5,517,670	\$2,566,972	\$256,865	\$60,919	\$11,022,561
13 % of total net mandatory student fees charged to students receiving a tuition waiver (Q12/Q11)	5.0%	6.1%	18.2%	13.6%	16.5%	30.9%	22.1%	34.8%	12.8%	12.3%	4.4%	20.4%
14 FY total net tuition, room and board, and mandatory fees charged, all students (Q5 + Q8 + Q11)	\$17,111,665	\$3,783,871	\$10,392,450	\$4,425,869	\$7,359,267	\$19,759,682	\$15,427,773	\$140,750,417	\$168,528,781	\$10,377,005	\$5,221,693	\$403,138,473
15 FY total net tuition, room and board, and mandatory fees charged to students receiving a tuition waiver (Q6 + Q9 + Q12)	\$737,097	\$449,914	\$2,074,799	\$619,545	\$1,303,272	\$5,623,317	\$4,783,468	\$42,841,056	\$17,211,926	\$1,202,397	\$223,891	\$77,070,681
16 % of total net charges to students receiving a tuition waiver (Q15/Q14)	4.3%	11.9%	20.0%	14.0%	17.7%	28.5%	31.0%	30.4%	10.2%	11.6%	4.3%	19.1%

<sup>1</sup> Student total counts are unduplicated and include students who receive more than one type of waiver.

<sup>2</sup> Tuition & waivers reflect degree-seeking students with the exception of table 1 and 7, which include all degree and NDS waivers. Amts may vary slightly from those reported in the remainder of the report. No significant impact on overall results.

Note: Amts rounded to the nearest dollar; Net tuition charged to students with 100% waiver in Table 2 varies from Tables 4-6 due to how NDUS Report 176 rounds when calculating percentages (one student with 100% waiver shows a small balance of \$71.)

### TUITION WAIVERS BY RESIDENCY

Students can receive full or partial tuition waivers ranging between 1% and 99%. Over the past 10 years, ND resident students and in-country non-resident students receiving a waiver has been steady, although increasing in the past few years. International students receiving a waiver show a steady drop from a high of 59.6% in 2009-10 to 41.9% in 2019-20. In 2019-20, waivers to international students increased slightly from the prior year.

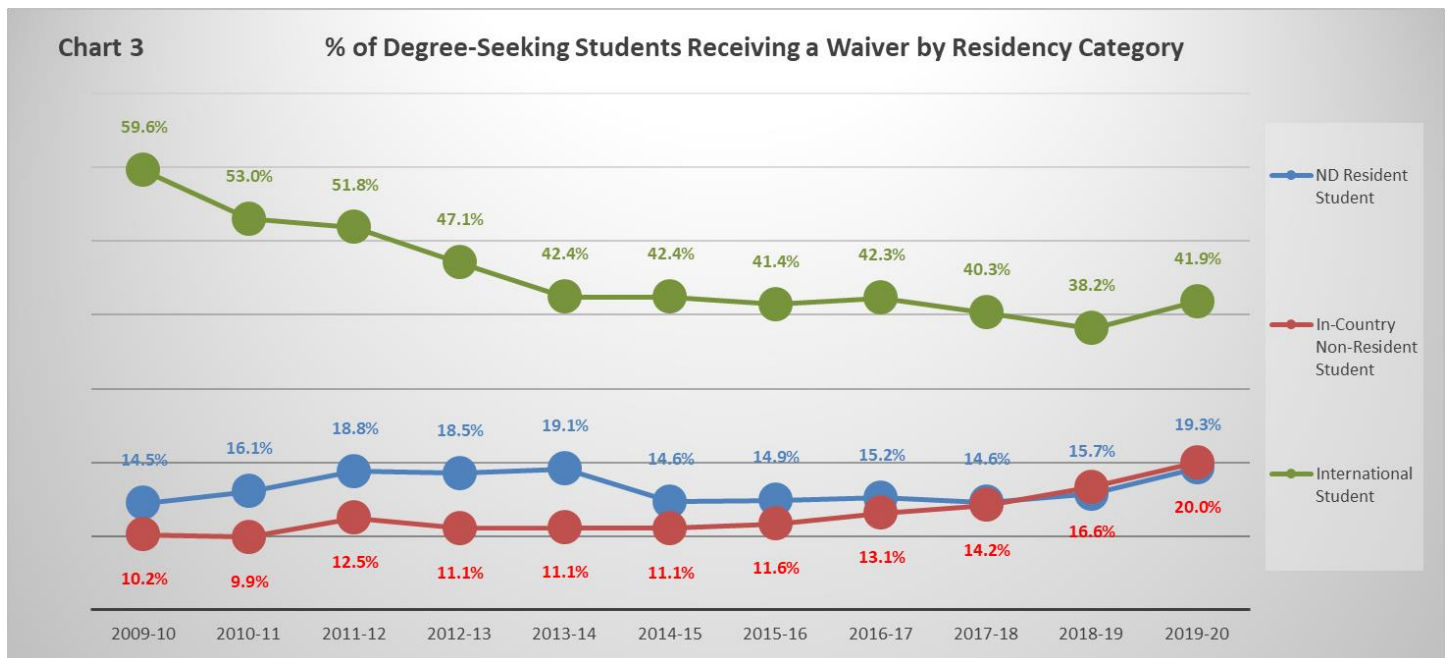


Table 3 details student waivers by residency. Total students receiving waivers increased from 7,596 in 2018-19 to 8,898 in 2019-20. The following summarizes the 2019-20 student waivers.

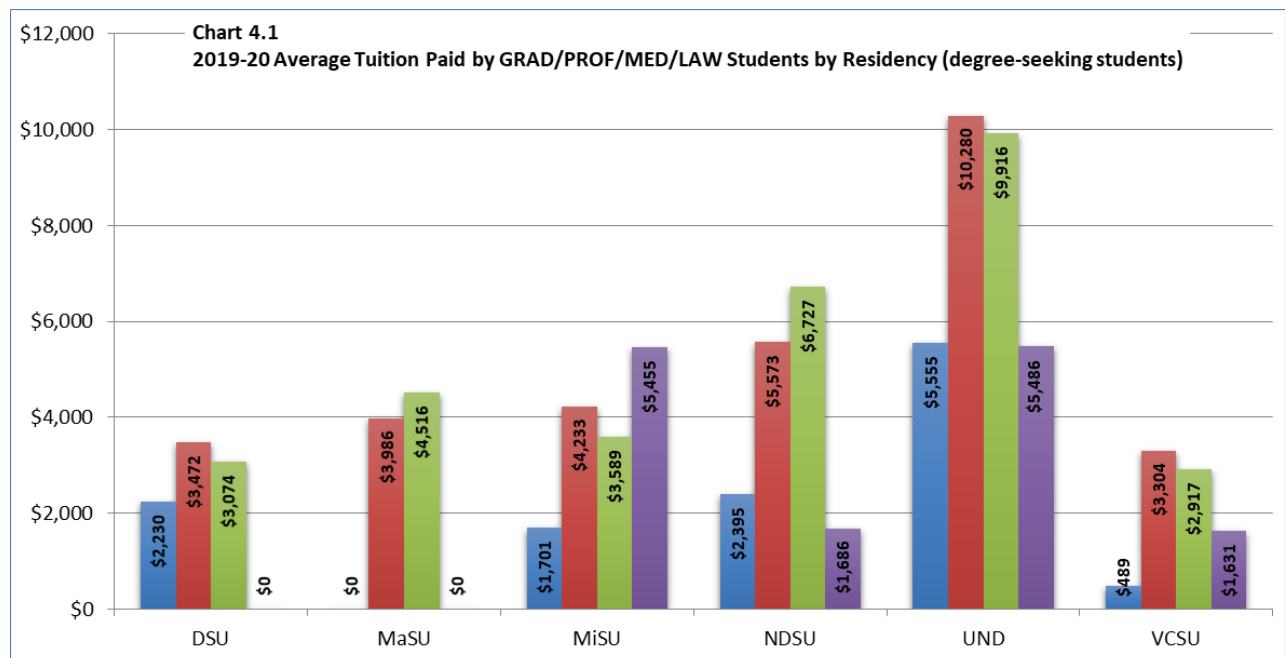
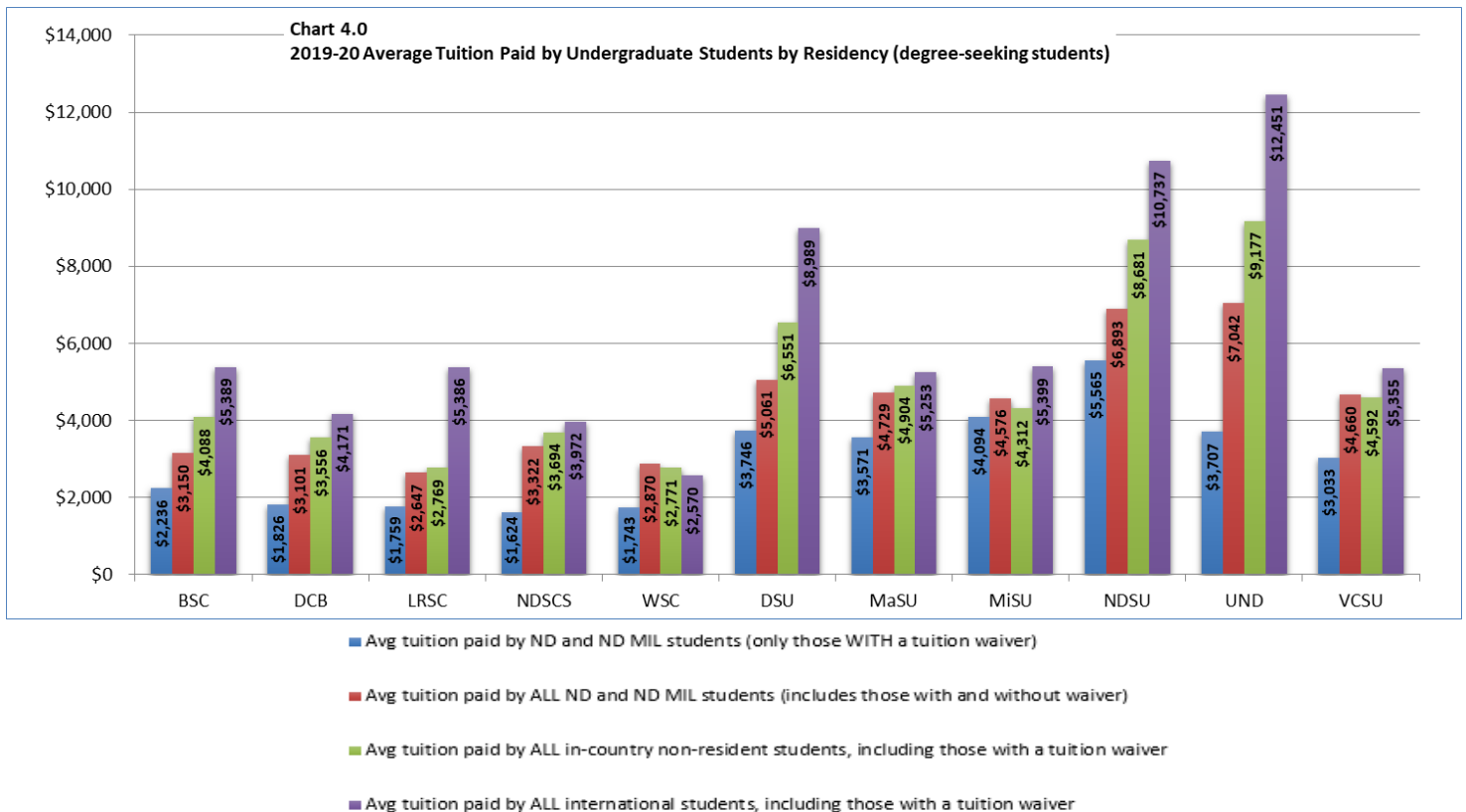
- 20.8% of degree-seeking students received a waiver in 2019-20.
- 1,756 (4.1% of degree-seeking) received full waivers. This number is down by 3.8% from the prior year.
- 7,142 (16.7% of degree-seeking) received partial waivers, an increase of 23.8% from the prior year.
- 2019-20 waivers saw a significant shift to smaller waivers between 1%-49%.
  - Partial waivers from 1%-49% accounted for 63.2% of all waivers issued in 2019-20, compared with 55.8% in 2018-19.
  - Waivers from 50%-99% accounted for 17.1% of all waivers issued in 2019-20, compared with 20.2% in 2018-19.
  - Full waivers accounted for 19.7% of all waivers issued in 2019-20, compared with 24% in 2018-19.
- Majority of waivers were issued to ND resident students, who received 49.6% of all tuition waivers issued. This is also an increase over 2018-19, which was 47.7%.
- In-country, non-resident students received 39.6% of all tuition waivers issued.
- International students received 10.8% of all tuition waivers issued.

Table 3		2019-20 Tuition Waiver by Level of Tuition Waiver and Residency																							
		BSC		DCB		DSU		LRSC		MaSU		MiSU		NDSCS		NDSU		UND		VCSU		WSC		NDUS Total	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X
A. ND and ND MIL students																									
1	No waiver received	2,551	93.4%	425	97.3%	756	86.2%	773	93.0%	589	91.6%	1,383	72.6%	1,220	95.0%	4,096	66.0%	5,314	81.4%	795	92.1%	549	98.7%	18,451	80.7%
	Partial waiver received																								
2	1-24%	52	1.9%	4	0.9%	53	6.0%	5	0.6%	21	3.3%	269	14.1%	3	0.2%	844	13.6%	257	3.9%	18	2.1%	2	0.4%	1,528	6.7%
3	25-49%	72	2.6%	1	0.2%	28	3.2%	16	1.9%	13	2.0%	136	7.1%	26	2.0%	516	8.3%	235	3.6%	19	2.2%	0	0.0%	1,062	4.6%
4	50-74%	29	1.1%	1	0.2%	1	0.1%	24	2.9%	10	1.6%	74	3.9%	24	1.9%	261	4.2%	325	5.0%	18	2.1%	2	0.4%	769	3.4%
5	75-99%	8	0.3%	1	0.2%	0	0.0%	1	0.1%	1	0.2%	8	0.4%	1	0.1%	123	2.0%	108	1.7%	3	0.3%	1	0.2%	255	1.1%
6	Full waiver received	18	0.7%	5	1.1%	39	4.4%	12	1.4%	9	1.4%	36	1.9%	10	0.8%	368	5.9%	286	4.4%	10	1.2%	2	0.4%	795	3.5%
7	Total ND students	2,730		437		877		831		643		1,906		1,284		6,208		6,525		863		556		22,860	53.4%
B. In-country non-resident																									
8	No waiver received	683	99.3%	131	78.9%	257	66.9%	100	76.3%	300	78.3%	437	64.6%	438	52.0%	4,608	69.5%	6,442	92.8%	427	85.9%	320	97.0%	14,143	80.0%
	Partial waiver received																								
9	1-24%	2	0.3%	11	6.6%	74	19.3%	2	1.5%	34	8.9%	64	9.5%	398	47.2%	1172	17.7%	194	2.8%	39	7.8%	0	0.0%	1,990	11.3%
10	25-49%	1	0.1%	16	9.6%	47	12.2%	9	6.9%	31	8.1%	81	12.0%	5	0.6%	441	6.6%	129	1.9%	26	5.2%	1	0.3%	787	4.5%
11	50-74%	2	0.3%	4	2.4%	3	0.8%	7	5.3%	9	2.3%	59	8.7%	0	0.0%	49	0.7%	59	0.9%	2	0.4%	2	0.6%	196	1.1%
12	75-99%	0	0.0%	2	1.2%	0	0.0%	2	1.5%	8	2.1%	18	2.7%	0	0.0%	80	1.2%	43	0.6%	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	154	0.9%
13	Full waiver received	0	0.0%	2	1.2%	3	0.8%	11	8.4%	1	0.3%	17	2.5%	2	0.2%	282	4.3%	72	1.0%	3	0.6%	6	1.8%	399	2.3%
14	Total in-country non-resident students	688		166		384		131		383		676		843		6,632		6,939		497		330		17,669	41.3%
C. International																									
15	No waiver received	5	62.5%	31	81.6%	46	90.2%	24	55.8%	4	14.3%	293	78.3%	12	60.0%	192	26.6%	679	72.8%	12	52.2%	40	66.7%	1,338	58.1%
	Partial waiver received																								
16	1-24%	0	0.0%	2	5.3%	2	3.9%	1	2.3%	7	25.0%	46	12.3%	1	5.0%	66	9.1%	32	3.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	157	6.8%
17	25-49%	0	0.0%	2	5.3%	2	3.9%	4	9.3%	10	35.7%	17	4.5%	7	35.0%	21	2.9%	24	2.6%	10	43.5%	0	0.0%	97	4.2%
18	50-74%	3	37.5%	2	5.3%	0	0.0%	4	9.3%	6	21.4%	13	3.5%	0	0.0%	34	4.7%	28	3.0%	1	4.3%	2	3.3%	93	4.0%
19	75-99%	0	0.0%	1	2.6%	0	0.0%	2	4.7%	1	3.6%	5	1.3%	0	0.0%	24	3.3%	19	2.0%	0	0.0%	2	3.3%	54	2.3%
20	Full waiver received	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	2.0%	8	18.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	386	53.4%	151	16.2%	0	0.0%	16	26.7%	562	24.4%
21	Total international	8		38		51		43		28		374		20		723		933		23		60		2,301	5.4%
D. Waiver status																									
22	No waiver received	3,239	94.5%	587	91.6%	1,059	80.7%	897	89.3%	893	84.7%	2,113	71.5%	1,670	77.8%	8,896	65.6%	12,435	86.4%	1,234	89.2%	909	96.1%	33,932	79.2%
	Partial waiver received																								
23	1-24%	54	1.6%	17	2.7%	129	9.8%	8	0.8%	62	5.9%	379	12.8%	402	18.7%	2,082	15.4%	483	3.4%	57	4.1%	2	0.2%	3,675	8.6%
24	25-49%	73	2.1%	19	3.0%	77	5.9%	29	2.9%	54	5.1%	234	7.9%	38	1.8%	978	7.2%	388	2.7%	55	4.0%	1	0.1%	1,946	4.5%
25	50-74%	34	1.0%	7	1.1%	4	0.3%	35	3.5%	25	2.4%	146	4.9%	24	1.1%	344	2.5%	412	2.9%	21	1.5%	6	0.6%	1,058	2.5%
26	75-99%	8	0.2%	4	0.6%	0	0.0%	5	0.5%	10	0.9%	31	1.0%	1	0.0%	227	1.7%	170	1.2%	3	0.2%	4	0.4%	463	1.1%
27	Full waiver received	18	0.5%	7	1.1%	43	3.3%	31	3.1%	10	0.9%	53	1.8%	12	0.6%	1,036	7.6%	509	3.5%	13	0.9%	24	2.5%	1,756	4.1%
28	Subtotal partial + full waivers	187	5.5%	54	8.4%	253	19.3%	108	10.7%	161	15.3%	843	28.5%	477	22.2%	4,667	34.4%	1,962	13.6%	149	10.8%	37	3.9%	8,898	20.8%
29	Campus total degree-seeking HC	3,426		641		1,312		1,005		1,054		2,956		2,147		13,563		14,397		1,383		946		42,830	

Degree-seeking headcount enrollments used for calculation purposes are based on end of term data for all students charged tuition and mandatory fees in the academic year. These numbers will not align with official beginning of term enrollment, however, neither will cause a substantial change in the reported data.

## TUITION AMOUNTS PAID BY STUDENTS RECEIVING WAIVERS

Tuition waiver amounts reported in the NDUS Tuition Waiver Report are based on waivers applied to tuition charges. Individual campus processes of applying waivers may vary, with some being applied to tuition and/or fees, causing some reporting differences. Certain programs may have fees bundled into tuition, resulting in the appearance of higher average tuition paid. Additionally, depending on the program of study, programs within an institution may also have varied tuition rates. This report does not differentiate the costs of each program. Tuition paid by residency data is represented in Charts 4.0 and 4.1 below, and tables 4 - 6 that follow provide additional detail.





Campus		ND & ND MIL Students	% ND and ND MIL	In-country Nonres. Students	% In-country Nonres. Students	Intl/Non-USA Students	% Intl/Non-USA Students	Total Students with 100% Waiver	Total Tuition Waived	Net Room & Board Collections	Net Mandatory Fee Collections	Total Net Collections
		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	BSC	18	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	18	\$58,422	\$0	\$1,323	\$1,323
2	DCB	5	71.4%	2	28.6%	0	0.0%	7	\$12,707	\$7,831	\$1,355	\$9,186
3	DSU											
	Undergrad	34	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	34	\$179,845	\$27,120	\$35,186	\$62,307
	Grad	5	55.6%	3	33.3%	1	11.1%	9	\$33,181	\$0	\$1,012	\$1,012
	DSU Total	39	90.7%	3	7.0%	1	2.3%	43	\$213,027	\$27,120	\$36,199	\$63,319
4	LRSC	12	38.7%	11	35.5%	8	25.8%	31	\$144,309	\$116,253	\$23,764	\$140,017
5	MaSU	9	90.0%	1	10.0%	0	0.0%	10	\$37,899	\$17,142	\$2,984	\$20,125
6	MiSU											
	Undergrad	24	92.3%	2	7.7%	0	0.0%	26	\$116,049	\$6,459	\$10,865	\$17,324
	Grad	12	44.4%	15	55.6%	0	0.0%	27	\$109,673	\$5,952	\$16,146	\$22,098
	MiSU Total	36	67.9%	17	32.1%	0	0.0%	53	\$225,722	\$12,411	\$27,011	\$39,422
7	NDSCS	10	83.3%	2	16.7%	0	0.0%	12	\$39,472	\$10,711	\$725	\$11,436
8	NDSU											
	Undergrad	79	82.3%	1	1.0%	16	16.7%	96	\$648,127	\$144,052	\$48,706	\$192,758
	Grad / Prof	289	30.7%	281	29.9%	370	39.4%	940	\$8,037,384	\$979,346	\$782,603	\$1,761,949
	NDSU Total	368	35.5%	282	27.2%	386	37.3%	1,036	\$8,685,512	\$1,123,398	\$831,309	\$1,954,707
9	UND											
	Undergrad	120	90.9%	12	9.1%	0	0.0%	132	\$881,220	\$152,000	\$45,403	\$197,403
	Grad	166	44.0%	60	15.9%	151	40.1%	377	\$3,401,401	\$634,055	\$311,318	\$945,373
	UND Total	286	56.2%	72	14.1%	151	29.7%	509	\$4,282,621	\$786,054	\$356,721	\$1,142,775
10	VCSU											
	Undergrad	5	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	\$20,201	\$0	\$1,046	\$1,046
	Grad	5	62.5%	3	37.5%	0	0.0%	8	\$28,052	\$0	\$5,125	\$5,125
	VCSU Total	10	76.9%	3	23.1%	0	0.0%	13	\$48,254	\$0	\$6,171	\$6,171
11	WSC	2	8.3%	6	25.0%	16	66.7%	24	\$119,746	\$103,608	\$34,759	\$138,367
12	TOTAL	795	45.3%	399	22.7%	562	32.0%	1,756	\$13,867,689	\$2,204,528	\$1,322,319	\$3,526,847

		ND & ND MIL Students	% ND and ND MIL	In-country Nonres. Students	% In-country Nonres. Students	Intl/Non-USA Students	% Intl/Non-USA Students	Total Students with Partial Waiver	Total Tuition Waived	Net Tuition Collections	Net Room & Board Collections	Net Mandatory Fee Collections	Total Net Collections
Campus		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
1	BSC	161	95.3%	5	3.0%	3	1.8%	169	\$204,928	\$430,425	\$133,742	\$171,607	\$735,774
2	DCB	7	14.9%	33	70.2%	7	14.9%	47	\$92,944	\$160,588	\$234,988	\$45,152	\$440,728
3	DSU												
	Undergrad	80	38.6%	123	59.4%	4	1.9%	207	\$354,804	\$1,279,481	\$409,287	\$298,576	\$1,987,344
	Grad	2	66.7%	1	33.3%	0	0.0%	3	\$3,442	\$20,940	\$0	\$3,197	\$24,136
	DSU Total	82	39.0%	124	59.0%	4	1.9%	210	\$358,247	\$1,300,421	\$409,287	\$301,772	\$2,011,480
4	LRSC	46	59.7%	20	26.0%	11	14.3%	77	\$151,074	\$188,013	\$216,531	\$74,984	\$479,528
5	MaSU	45	29.8%	82	54.3%	24	15.9%	151	\$366,610	\$765,346	\$313,607	\$204,194	\$1,283,147
6	MiSU												
	Undergrad	474	63.4%	217	29.0%	57	7.6%	748	\$1,306,477	\$3,065,454	\$1,263,937	\$1,116,199	\$5,445,590
	Grad	13	31.0%	5	11.9%	24	57.1%	42	\$72,554	\$104,157	\$3,937	\$30,212	\$138,306
	MiSU Total	487	61.6%	222	28.1%	81	10.3%	790	\$1,379,030	\$3,169,610	\$1,267,874	\$1,146,411	\$5,583,895
7	NDSCS	54	11.6%	403	86.7%	8	1.7%	465	\$329,864	\$1,825,181	\$2,364,196	\$582,654	\$4,772,032
8	NDSU												
	Undergrad	1,497	47.0%	1,624	51.0%	65	2.0%	3,186	\$7,328,538	\$21,995,826	\$11,161,435	\$4,231,832	\$37,389,094
	Grad / Prof	247	55.5%	118	26.5%	80	18.0%	445	\$2,145,771	\$2,682,584	\$360,143	\$454,528	\$3,497,255
	NDSU Total	1,744	48.0%	1,742	48.0%	145	4.0%	3,631	\$9,474,309	\$24,678,410	\$11,521,578	\$4,686,361	\$40,886,349
9	UND												
	Undergrad	528	62.9%	279	33.3%	32	3.8%	839	\$3,246,915	\$5,001,880	\$2,299,469	\$1,428,233	\$8,729,583
	Grad/Law/Med	397	64.7%	146	23.8%	71	11.6%	614	\$3,107,639	\$6,179,372	\$378,107	\$782,018	\$7,339,498
	UND Total	925	63.7%	425	29.2%	103	7.1%	1,453	\$6,354,555	\$11,181,252	\$2,677,577	\$2,210,251	\$16,069,080
10	VCSU												
	Undergrad	55	41.7%	66	50.0%	11	8.3%	132	\$232,097	\$587,963	\$350,719	\$247,504	\$1,186,186
	Grad	3	75.0%	1	25.0%	0	0.0%	4	\$6,850	\$6,850	\$0	\$3,190	\$10,040
	VCSU Total	58	42.6%	67	49.3%	11	8.1%	136	\$238,947	\$594,813	\$350,719	\$250,694	\$1,196,226
11	WSC	5	38.5%	4	30.8%	4	30.8%	13	\$34,114	\$25,758	\$33,607	\$26,160	\$85,524
12	TOTAL	3,614	50.6%	3,127	43.8%	401	5.6%	7,142	\$18,984,621	\$44,319,816	\$19,523,705	\$9,700,242	\$73,543,763

		ND & ND MIL Students	% ND and ND MIL	In-country Nonres. Students	% In-country Nonres. Students	Intl/Non-USA Students	% Intl/Non-USA Students	Total Students with 100% or Partial Waiver	Total Tuition Waived	Net Tuition Collections	Net Room & Board Collections	Net Mandatory Fee Collections	Total Net Collections
Campus		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
1	BSC	179	95.7%	5	2.7%	3	1.6%	187	\$263,350	\$430,425	\$133,742	\$172,930	\$737,097
2	DCB	12	22.2%	35	64.8%	7	13.0%	54	\$105,651	\$160,588	\$242,819	\$46,507	\$449,914
3	DSU												
	Undergrad	114	47.3%	123	51.0%	4	1.7%	241	\$534,649	\$1,279,481	\$436,408	\$333,762	\$2,049,651
	Grad	7	58.3%	4	33.3%	1	8.3%	12	\$36,624	\$20,940	\$0	\$4,209	\$25,149
	DSU Total	121	47.8%	127	50.2%	5	2.0%	253	\$571,273.05	\$1,300,420.95	\$436,408	\$337,971	\$2,074,799.35
4	LRSC	58	53.7%	31	28.7%	19	17.6%	108	\$295,383	\$188,013	\$332,784	\$98,748	\$619,545
5	MaSU	54	33.5%	83	51.6%	24	14.9%	161	\$404,509	\$765,346	\$330,748	\$207,178	\$1,303,272
6	MiSU												
	Undergrad	498	64.3%	219	28.3%	57	7.4%	774	\$1,422,526	\$3,065,454	\$1,270,396	\$1,127,064	\$5,462,914
	Grad	25	36.2%	20	29.0%	24	34.8%	69	\$182,226	\$104,157	\$9,889	\$46,358	\$160,404
	MiSU Total	523	62.0%	239	28.4%	81	9.6%	843	\$1,604,752	\$3,169,610	\$1,280,285	\$1,173,422	\$5,623,317
7	NDSCS	64	13.4%	405	84.9%	8	1.7%	477	\$369,336	\$1,825,181	\$2,374,907	\$583,380	\$4,783,468
8	NDSU												
	Undergrad	1,576	48.0%	1,625	49.5%	81	2.5%	3,282	\$7,976,666	\$21,995,826	\$11,305,487	\$4,280,539	\$37,581,852
	Grad / Prof	536	38.7%	399	28.8%	450	32.5%	1,385	\$10,183,155	\$2,682,584	\$1,339,489	\$1,237,131	\$5,259,204
	NDSU Total	2,112	45.3%	2,024	43.4%	531	11.4%	4,667	\$18,159,821	\$24,678,410	\$12,644,976	\$5,517,670	\$42,841,056
9	UND												
	Undergrad	648	66.7%	291	30.0%	32	3.3%	971	\$4,128,136	\$5,001,880	\$2,451,469	\$1,473,636	\$8,926,985
	Grad/Law/Meds	563	56.8%	206	20.8%	222	22.4%	991	\$6,509,040	\$6,179,372	\$1,012,162	\$1,093,336	\$8,284,870
	UND Total	1,211	61.7%	497	25.3%	254	12.9%	1,962	\$10,637,176	\$11,181,252	\$3,463,631	\$2,566,972	\$17,211,855
10	VCSU												
	Undergrad	60	43.8%	66	48.2%	11	8.0%	137	\$252,298	\$587,963	\$350,719	\$248,550	\$1,187,232
	Grad	8	66.7%	4	33.3%	0	0.0%	12	\$34,902	\$6,850	\$0	\$8,315	\$15,165
	VCSU Total	68	45.6%	70	47.0%	11	7.4%	149	\$287,201	\$594,813	\$350,719	\$256,865	\$1,202,397
11	WSC	7	18.9%	10	27.0%	20	54.1%	37	\$153,860	\$25,758	\$137,215	\$60,919	\$223,891
12	TOTAL	4,409	49.6%	3,526	39.6%	963	10.8%	8,898	\$32,852,311	\$44,319,816	\$21,728,233	\$11,022,561	\$77,070,610

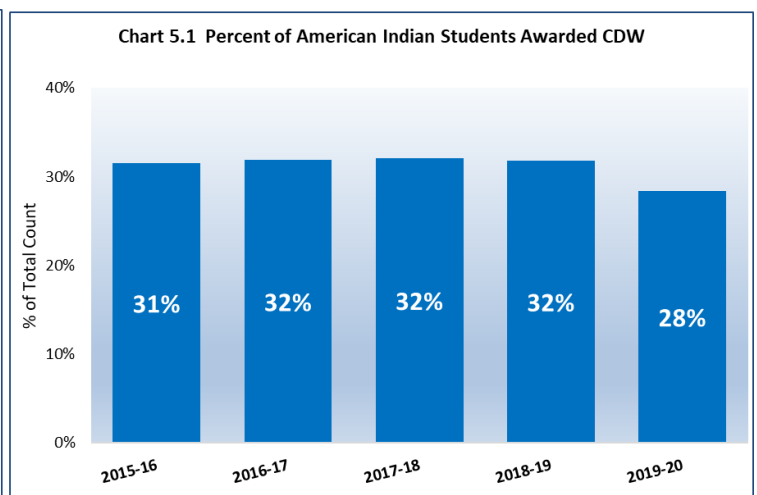
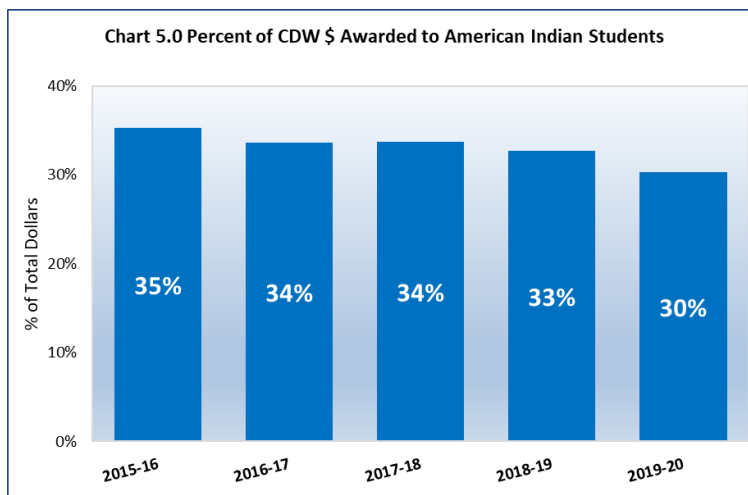
## CULTURAL DIVERSITY WAIVERS (CDW)

NDUS institutions offer full or partial CDW to enhance diversity on campus. In 2019-20, 8.7% of all waiver dollars were issued under this waiver type. This is down from 10.1% in 2018-19.

Table 7 shows total waivers to both degree-seeking and non-degree seeking students. Student counts are duplicated if they received waiver as both a full time and a part-time student.

Campus	Total CULTURAL DIVERSITY - <i>all ethnic groups</i> Waivers Given	Part-time Enrollment CULTURAL DIVERSITY - AMERICAN INDIAN Waiver	Full-time Enrollment CULTURAL DIVERSITY - AMERICAN INDIAN Waiver
<b>BSC</b>			
# of Students	8	0	2
Dollars	\$12,242	\$0	\$3,043
<b>DCB</b>			
# of Students	27	0	4
Dollars	\$32,068	\$0	\$6,302
<b>DSU</b>			
# of Students	5	0	3
Dollars	\$4,527	\$0	\$3,677
<b>LRSC</b>			
# of Students	30	1	13
Dollars	\$57,444	\$1,539	\$25,231
<b>MaSU</b>			
# of Students	28	0	2
Dollars	\$36,100	\$0	\$1,200
<b>MISU</b>			
# of Students	52	1	8
Dollars	\$90,189	\$1,522	\$16,501
<b>NDSCS</b>			
# of Students	6	0	1
Dollars	\$2,400	\$0	\$400
<b>NDSU</b>			
# of Students	184	17	52
Dollars	\$1,217,023	\$58,566	\$379,938
<b>UND</b>			
# of Students	244	7	67
Dollars	\$1,282,060	\$16,361	\$346,894
<b>VCSU</b>			
# of Students	81	4	11
Dollars	\$104,450	\$3,000	\$15,450
<b>WSC</b>			
# of Students	19	0	1
Dollars	\$80,414	\$0	\$3,530
<b>TOTAL</b>			
# of Students	684	30	164
Dollars	\$2,918,918	\$80,988	\$802,166

Over the past 5 years, 1,218 American Indian students received a CDW, which is 31.2% of the total. These waivers equate to \$5.1 million, or one-third total CDW dollars. CDW awards to American Indian students, while steady for several years, declined slightly in 2019-20.



The North Dakota Veterans Legislative Council is in support of this legislation and urges your yes vote Thank you



## NORTH DAKOTA SENATE

STATE CAPITOL  
600 EAST BOULEVARD  
BISMARCK, ND 58505-0360



### Senator Richard Marcellais

District 9  
301 Laite Loop NE  
Belcourt, ND 58316-3877

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### COMMITTEES:

Education  
Government and Veterans Affairs

## ***SB 2225 Testimony***

### ***Senate Government Veteran Affairs Committee***

### ***JW216***

*Chairwomen Vedaa members of the Senate Government Veteran Affairs Committee for the record my name is Senator Richard Marcellais, District 9, Rolette County.*

*Relating to the definition of a dependent for tuition waiver purposes.*

*I appear before you in favor of HB 2225.*

# 2021 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Government and Veterans Affairs Committee**  
Room JW216, State Capitol

SB 2225  
2/4/2021

<b>Relating to the definition of a dependent for tuition waiver purposes.</b>
---

**Chair Vedaa** called to order at 11:27 a.m. with Sen Vedaa, Meyer, Elkin, K Roers, Wobbema, Weber and Marcellais present.

**Discussion Topics:**

- Committee Work
- Work on amendment

Adjourned at 11:38 a.m.

*Pam Dever, Committee Clerk*

# 2021 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

## Government and Veterans Affairs Committee Room JW216, State Capitol

SB 2225  
2/5/2021

<b>Relating to the definition of a dependent for tuition waiver purposes.</b>
---

**Chair Vedaa** called to order at 11:29 a.m. with Sen Vedaa, Meyer, Elkin, K Roers, Wobbema, Weber, and Marcellais present

**Discussion Topics:**

- Amendment 21.0572.01001

**Sen K Roers:** I move the amendment 21.0572.01001

**Sen Marcellais:** I second.

**VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN. Motion Passed**

**Sen K Roers:** I move a **Do Pass as Amended** and rerefer to Approps.

**Sen Marcellais:** I second.

**Roll Call Vote: 7 -- YES    0 -- NO    -0- ab    Motion Passed**

Senators	Vote
Senator Shawn Vedaa	Y
Senator Scott Meyer	Y
Senator Jay R. Elkin	Y
Senator Richard Marcellais	Y
Senator Kristin Roers	Y
Senator Mark F. Webber	Y
Senator Michael A. Wobbema	Y

**Sen K Roers will carry the bill.**

Adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

*Pam Dever, Committee Clerk*



February 4, 2021

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182

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 2225

Page 1, line 1, after "A BILL" replace the remainder of the bill with "for an Act to create and enact section 15-10-18.6 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to providing reduced tuition and fee charges in North Dakota institutions of higher education for dependents of disabled veterans; and to provide an appropriation.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

**SECTION 1.** Section 15-10-18.6 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

**15-10-18.6. Reduced tuition in North Dakota institutions of higher education.**

1. As used in this section:
  - a. "Dependent" means a child, stepchild, spouse, widow, or widower of a resident veteran, as "veteran" is defined in section 37-01-40, who:
    - (1) Has a service-connected disability rating of at least fifty percent but no more than ninety-nine percent, as determined by the department of veterans' affairs; or
    - (2) Has an extra-schedular rating to include individual unemployability that brings the veteran's total disability rating to at least fifty percent but not more than ninety-nine percent, as determined by the department of veterans' affairs.
  - b. "Resident veteran" has the same meaning as provided under section 15-10-18.2.
2. Any dependent upon being duly accepted for enrollment into any undergraduate degree or certificate program of a North Dakota state institution of higher education is entitled to obtain a bachelor's degree or certificate of completion, for so long as the dependent is eligible, at reduced tuition and fee charges provided the bachelor's degree or certificate of completion is earned within a forty-five-month or ten-semester period or its equivalent. For purposes of this section, tuition and fee charges do not include costs for aviation flight charges or expenses.
3. A dependent is entitled to the following reduction in tuition and fees under subsection 2:
  - a. A fifty percent reduction if the resident veteran has a service-connected disability rating of at least fifty percent but not more than fifty-nine percent;

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- b. A sixty percent reduction if the resident veteran has a service-connected disability rating of at least sixty percent but not more than sixty-nine percent;
- c. A seventy percent reduction if the resident veteran has a service-connected disability rating of at least seventy percent but not more than seventy-nine percent;
- d. An eighty percent reduction if the resident veteran has a service-connected disability rating of at least eighty percent but not more than eighty-nine percent; or
- e. Ninety percent reduction if the resident veteran has a service-connected disability rating of at least ninety percent but not more than ninety-nine percent.

**SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$3,800,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the state board of higher education for the purpose of providing reduced tuition and fees to a dependent of a disabled resident veteran, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2023."

Renumber accordingly

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**SB 2225: Government and Veterans Affairs Committee (Sen. Vedaa, Chairman)** recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** and **BE REREFERRED** to the **Appropriations Committee** (7 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2225 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 1, after "A BILL" replace the remainder of the bill with "for an Act to create and enact section 15-10-18.6 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to providing reduced tuition and fee charges in North Dakota institutions of higher education for dependents of disabled veterans; and to provide an appropriation.

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    - (2) Has an extra-schedular rating to include individual unemployability that brings the veteran's total disability rating to at least fifty percent but not more than ninety-nine percent, as determined by the department of veterans' affairs.
  - b. "Resident veteran" has the same meaning as provided under section 15-10-18.2.
2. Any dependent upon being duly accepted for enrollment into any undergraduate degree or certificate program of a North Dakota state institution of higher education is entitled to obtain a bachelor's degree or certificate of completion, for so long as the dependent is eligible, at reduced tuition and fee charges provided the bachelor's degree or certificate of completion is earned within a forty-five-month or ten-semester period or its equivalent. For purposes of this section, tuition and fee charges do not include costs for aviation flight charges or expenses.
3. A dependent is entitled to the following reduction in tuition and fees under subsection 2:
  - a. A fifty percent reduction if the resident veteran has a service-connected disability rating of at least fifty percent but not more than fifty-nine percent;
  - b. A sixty percent reduction if the resident veteran has a service-connected disability rating of at least sixty percent but not more than sixty-nine percent;
  - c. A seventy percent reduction if the resident veteran has a service-connected disability rating of at least seventy percent but not more than seventy-nine percent;

- d. An eighty percent reduction if the resident veteran has a service-connected disability rating of at least eighty percent but not more than eighty-nine percent; or
- e. Ninety percent reduction if the resident veteran has a service-connected disability rating of at least ninety percent but not more than ninety-nine percent.

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Renumber accordingly

**2021 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS**

**SB 2225**

# 2021 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

## **Appropriations Committee** Roughrider Room, State Capitol

SB 2225  
2/12/2021  
Senate Appropriations Committee

Relating to providing reduced tuition and fee charges in North Dakota institutions of higher education for dependents of disabled veterans.
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**Senator Holmberg** opened the hearing at 9:09 a.m.

Senators present: **Holmberg, Krebsbach, Wanzek, Bekkedahl, Poolman, Erbele, Dever, Oehlke, Rust, Davison, Hogue, Sorvaag, Mathern, and Heckaman.**

### **Discussion Topics:**

- Current Status for Disabled Veterans
- NDUS Impact

**Senator Dever, District 32**, introduced the bill.

**Mark Landis, Veterans Service Officer, Burleigh County**, testified in favor and submitted testimony #6434.

**Tammy Dolan, North Dakota University System**, testified in opposition and submitted testimony #6390.

**Chairman Holmberg** closed the hearing at 9:36 a.m.

*Skyler Strand, Committee Clerk*

**SENATE BILL 2225****Testimony before the North Dakota Senate  
Appropriations Committee****By****Mark Landis  
Burleigh County Veterans Service Officer****February 12, 2021**

Good morning mister Chairman and members of the committee. My name is Mark Landis. I am the Burleigh County veterans service officer.

I appear today in support of Senate Bill 2225, which would change the definition of qualifying dependents of veterans for tuition waiver purposes. Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony. I would also like to thank Senator Dever for bringing this bill forward.

Under current law, dependents may qualify for waiver of tuition at state institutions of higher education if the veteran has a combined 100% service-connected disability rating from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). If this bill is passed as amended, the disability threshold would be lowered to 50% and tuition would be reduced according to disability level. There are good and sufficient reasons to support this legislation.

Disability ratings are assigned according to reduced average earning capacity. A veteran with a 50% disability rating may also experience a 50% reduction of earning capacity. VA compensation does not typically replace all of the income that is lost as a result of disability. Eight other states currently offer some form of tuition reduction for dependents based on disability ratings less than 100%.

Most parents provide some level of financial support to their college age children. In fact, it has become an expectation in today's society. That is very difficult to do with limited income. Passage of this bill not only benefits students. It benefits disabled veterans by preserving their subsistence level of income. In a broader perspective, it also benefits society by encouraging more people to pursue higher education.

The State of North Dakota has established precedent in this regard. The state has recognized 50% is a very significant level of disability by approving benefits such as a property tax credit, free annual passes to state parks, and reduced fees for fishing licenses. We are not asking the legislature to establish a new benefit program; rather, simply to establish consistency in the application of state benefits for veterans.

The higher education system has expressed concerns regarding the cost of this legislation. While I respect those concerns, it is apparent that the amendment addresses the vast majority of the cost, and some flexibility would be appreciated. Please keep in mind the students that would be affected still pay for room and board, books, and other expenses associated with college education.

I respectfully request you to vote "do pass" on this bill as amended.

This concludes my prepared remarks. I will stand for your questions.

**Engrossed Senate Bill 2225**

Senate Appropriations Committee

February 12, 2021

Tammy Dolan, Vice Chancellor for Administrative Affairs

701.328.4116 | [tammy.dolan@ndus.edu](mailto:tammy.dolan@ndus.edu)

Good morning Chair Holmberg and members of the committee. My name is Tammy Dolan, and I serve as the Vice Chancellor for Administrative Affairs for the North Dakota University System (NDUS). I am here to testify in opposition to Engrossed SB2225, solely because of the significant fiscal impact to the NDUS institutions.

The colleges and universities of the NDUS are proud to support and cultivate the skills that military students bring to the classroom, all while helping them achieve their personal and professional goals. Further, the NDUS recognizes veterans and service members as a valuable, talented, and skilled workforce. To that end the NDUS is committed in our support of recognizing the learning and experience that veterans and servicemembers bring to our institutions. Each NDUS college and university has staff designated to assist military members and their families navigate not only the educational benefits but also the array of support services available to them. These support staff are engaged in planning and organizing meaningful programs that foster awareness & recognition of student veterans and service members.

More recently, the NDUS led statewide efforts to review over 130 military courses for inclusion in the General Education Requirement Transfer Agreement (GERTA) Guide. The Guide serves as a formal agreement among the 17 public, private, and tribal institutions of higher education in ND, assuring students of greater transferability of specific military courses that have been mapped to general education categories in the areas of arts and humanities, communications, mathematics, science, social sciences, and technology.

The NDUS also supports veterans, service members and their families through tuition waivers. North Dakota Century Code (NDCC) contains two mandatory tuition waivers for veterans, service members and/or their families. NDCC 15-10-18.2 & 15-10-18.3 waives full tuition & fees at a ND public institutions of higher education for the surviving dependents of veterans who were prisoners of war, missing in action, killed in action or died from service-related causes, or have a 100% service-related disability rating. NDCC 37-07.1-03 waives 35% of tuition & fees for National Guard members attending a NDUS institution, which is in addition to other military education benefits provided by the National Guard. In the last two years, the NDUS institutions have provided more than \$3.0 million in tuition & fee waiver benefits to over 1,200 qualifying military members & dependents. Waiver costs have increased dramatically in recent years, as shown on the following table.



		2017-18		2018-19		2019-20	
		#	Amount	#	Amount	#	Amount
<b>POW /KIA / Service-related death or disability</b>	100% Tuition & fees	100	\$537,145	130	\$682,396	120	\$764,099
<b>National Guard</b>	35% tuition (25% prior to 7/1/2019)	414	483,477	469	587,815	519	1,006,559
<b>Total Military Waivers</b>		<b>514</b>	<b>\$1,020,622</b>	<b>599</b>	<b>\$1,270,211</b>	<b>639</b>	<b>\$1,770,658</b>
<b>Increase from prior year</b>					<b>+24%</b>		<b>+39%</b>

This bill relates only to the waivers for dependents of veterans with a service-related disability rating. The Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) indicates that there are 1,213 veteran dependents in ND that meet the current 100%-disability rating criterion. In the 2019-20 academic year, the NDUS provided 120 waivers (10% of total eligible) to the eligible dependents at a cost of \$764,099 in waiver benefits.

Engrossed SB2225 would expand this tuition waiver to dependents of veterans with a 50% or greater service-connected disability. DVA data indicate the dependents of another 4,910 individuals would become eligible for the waiver benefit. Assuming the same 10% usage rate, the NDUS expects at least another 491 individuals would utilize the waiver.

Waiver rates would be equivalent to the individual's disability rating. For example, dependents of a veteran with a 60% disability rate would receive a 60% waiver. Using 2019-20 tuition rates, this redesigned waiver would cost \$6.5 million per biennium, which is a 400% increase from current levels. Of this amount, \$1.7 million is related to the current 100% tuition waiver. The expanded waivers will cost \$4.8 million per biennium. Engrossed SB2225 includes a \$3.8 million general fund appropriation, leaving a \$2.7 million unfunded mandate for the NDUS institutions.

On average, the State of ND provides about 25% of the funding required to operate our institutions. Tuition revenue covers another 25%, while grants, contracts and other local funds cover the remaining 50 percent. Waivers reduce the tuition revenue portion because institutions must provide the educational services without charging tuition & fees. Educational expenses such as faculty salaries that would normally be covered by tuition revenue end up being spread across other students or result in budget cuts.

In light of the 20% cut to state funding in 2017, increased expenses incurred due to COVID and enrollment uncertainties due to the pandemic and current economy, the institutions simply cannot absorb a \$2.7 million tuition revenue reduction. If the Legislative Assembly chooses to increase the education benefits for veterans, service members and their families, the NDUS respectfully requests that the appropriation be increased to cover the total cost of the waivers.

This concludes my testimony for Engrossed SB2225, and I will stand for questions from the committee.

# 2021 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

## Appropriations Committee Roughrider Room, State Capitol

SB 2225  
2/18/2021  
Senate Appropriations Committee

A BILL for an Act to create and enact section 15-10-18.6 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to providing reduced tuition and fee charges in North Dakota institutions of higher education for dependents of disabled veterans; and to provide an appropriation

**Chairman Holmberg** opened the hearing at 9:03 a.m.

Senators present: Holmberg, Krebsbach, Wanzek, Bekkedahl, Poolman, Erbele, Dever, Oehlke, Rust, Davison, Hogue, Sorvaag, Mathern, and Heckaman.

**Senator Dever** moved DO NOT PASS

**Senator Davison** seconded the motion

<i>Senators</i>		<i>Senators</i>	
<i>Senator Holmberg</i>	Y	<i>Senator Hogue</i>	Y
<i>Senator Krebsbach</i>	Y	<i>Senator Oehlke</i>	Y
<i>Senator Wanzek</i>	Y	<i>Senator Poolman</i>	Y
<i>Senator Bekkedahl</i>	Y	<i>Senator Rust</i>	Y
<i>Senator Davison</i>	Y	<i>Senator Sorvaag</i>	Y
<i>Senator Dever</i>	Y	<i>Senator Heckaman</i>	Y
<i>Senator Erbele</i>	Y	<i>Senator Mathern</i>	Y

Motion Passes 14-0-0.

**Senator Dever** will carry the bill.

**Chairman Holmberg** closed the hearing at 9:04 a.m.

*Rose Laning, Committee Clerk*

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**SB 2225, as engrossed: Appropriations Committee (Sen. Holmberg, Chairman)**  
recommends **DO NOT PASS** (14 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING).  
Engrossed SB 2225 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.