

(Required: Print this form with your agency's letter head)

West Texas A&M University
FIREFIGHTER TUITION WAIVER FORM

To be filled out by the applicant	
Name of Applicant:	Position/Title:
Date of Birth:	Years of Service:
WTAMU Buff ID:	
I, _____ hereby declare that I am currently employed as a firefighter by a political subdivision of the State of Texas; or I am currently an active member of an organized volunteer Department, and have been for one year, which meets the requirements established in Texas Education Code 54.353.	
Applicant's signature:	Date:
To be filled out by applicant's supervisor	
Date of the applicant's employment with current agency:	
I, _____ hereby confirm that the applicant above qualifies for the tuition waiver program as outlined under <i>Texas Education Code 54.353</i> .	
Supervisor's signature:	Date:

Please submit this completed form to Dr. Darrell Lovell, MPA Program Director.

Email Submission: dlovell@wtamu.edu

Mail Submission: Dr. Darrell Lovell, MPA Program Director, WTAMU Box 60807, Canyon, TX 79016

Appendix (do not attach): [Texas Education Code 54.353](#)

Sec. 54.353. FIREFIGHTERS ENROLLED IN FIRE SCIENCE COURSES.

- (a) The governing board of an institution of higher education shall exempt from the payment of tuition and laboratory fees any student enrolled in one or more courses offered as part of a fire science curriculum who:
- (1) is employed as a firefighter by a political subdivision of this state; or
 - (2) is currently, and has been for at least one year, an active member of an organized volunteer fire department participating in the Texas Emergency Services Retirement System or a retirement system established under the Texas Local Fire Fighters Retirement Act (Article [6243e](#), Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes) and who holds:
 - (A) An Accredited Advanced level of certification, or an equivalent successor certification, under the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas volunteer certification program; or
 - (B) Phase V (Firefighter II) certification, or an equivalent successor certification, under the Texas Commission on Fire Protection's voluntary certification program under Section [419.071](#), Government Code.
- (b) An exemption provided under this section does not apply to deposits that may be required in the nature of security for the return or proper care of property loaned for the use of students.
- (c) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), a student who for a semester or term at an institution of higher education receives an exemption under this section may continue to receive the exemption for a subsequent semester or term at any institution only if the student makes satisfactory academic progress toward a degree or certificate at that institution as determined by the institution for purposes of financial aid.
- (d) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), the exemption provided under this section does not apply to any amount of additional tuition the institution elects to charge a resident undergraduate student under Section [54.014](#)(a) or
- (e) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), the exemption provided under this section does not apply to any amount of tuition the institution charges a graduate student in excess of the amount of tuition charged to similarly situated graduate students because the student has a number of semester credit hours of doctoral work in excess of the applicable number provided by Section [61.059](#)(1)(1) or (2).
- (f) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall adopt:
- (1) rules governing the granting or denial of an exemption under this section, including rules relating to the determination of a student's eligibility for an exemption; and
 - (2) a uniform listing of degree programs covered by the exemption under this section.

Added by Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., R.S., Ch. 359 (S.B. [32](#)), Sec. 17(b), eff. January 1, 2012.

Reenacted and amended by Acts 2013, 83rd Leg., R.S., Ch. 1316 (S.B. [220](#)), Sec. 3.01(a), eff. June 14, 2013.