

UAMS Academic Affairs Policy - 3.1.7



UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS
FOR MEDICAL SCIENCES

Policy: University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Division of Academic Affairs
Subject: Veteran Non-Resident Tuition Residency Exception
Number: 3.1.7

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Date Effective: July 15, 2015

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Purpose

In 2014, Congress enacted legislation that provides for in-state tuition to certain veterans, spouses and dependents (hereafter referred to as ‘veteran students’), who ordinarily would not qualify as state residents for tuition purposes. Arkansas’ 90th General Assembly passed companion legislation in 2015. Accordingly, UAMS establishes the Veteran Non-Resident Tuition Residency Exception for the following purposes:

1. To help defray rising educational costs for UAMS students who are veterans of the US military, or who are the children or spouse of a veteran, of the armed forces.
2. Meet State of Arkansas and US policies requiring that no qualifying veterans or their families pay out-of-state tuition.

Policy

Veteran students, their spouses or dependent children who present documentation of their service in any of the branches of the armed forces, who are legal residents of other states, and who meet the following eligibility requirements will be granted a tuition residency exception and pay in-state tuition. Students who are veterans must pay all the applicable fees for the course of study that they have chosen. The official residency (state of legal residence for fee purposes) of the veteran student, spouse or dependent child will not be affected and will be categorized as out-of-state (non-resident) for admissions and all other classification purposes.

Eligibility

Applicants must meet ALL of the following requirements to be eligible for this tuition residency exception*:

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1. The veteran, spouse or dependent child must be accepted by, or enrolled in, a UAMS college or the Graduate School for the period for which he/she is applying for the tuition residency exception;
2. The veteran, spouse or dependent child must live in the State of Arkansas while attending UAMS;
3. The veteran must have been honorably discharged or released from *at least 90 days of active service*; and the veteran must have been honorably discharged before his/her date of enrollment, or the spouse's or dependent child's date of enrollment, in the applicable course/program*.

*A spouse or dependent child using benefits under the Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship who lives in the state of Arkansas (regardless of his/her formal state of residency) and enrolls in the school after the Service Member's death in the line of duty, following a period of active duty service of 90 days or more, is eligible for the Veteran Tuition Residency Exception.

Application and Processing

1. The applicant must submit a completed Veteran Non-Resident Tuition Residency Exception Application to the Office of the Registrar by the published deadline for the term for which the applicant is requesting the tuition residency exception.
2. The applicant must provide an acceptable form of legal documentation regarding veteran status, which establishes eligibility (a minimum of 90 days of service and honorable discharge).
3. The spouse or dependent child must provide documentation of marriage or dependent status to the veteran (e.g., marriage license or copy of income tax return showing dependent status).
4. The Registrar will verify the application and documentation and may request clarifying documentation, if needed.

Impacts of the Residency Exception

The tuition residency exception will be valid for every term in which the student enrolls until she/he completes or leaves the program, provided the student remains in good academic standing. The tuition residency exception will reduce the amount of tuition from the non-resident tuition rate to the resident tuition rate for the program to which the applicant has been accepted. If the student begins a new academic program after completing the program for which the tuition residency exception was initially granted, she/he may be required to resubmit documentation to verify continued eligibility in the new program. This tuition residency exception cannot be used as cash or as a credit to a student's account. The tuition residency exception cannot be applied retroactively to prior terms of enrollment.

REFERENCES

UA System Policy 520.7 Fees for Veterans and Military Personnel

UA System Policy 520.8

Section 702, Veterans Access, Choice and Accountability Act of 2014