

Dear Registrars-

I was asked to provide more clarification on what 'fees' can be included in the Veteran's Waiver. The topic of fees has been addressed in the attached Attorney General's memo regarding Running Start fees. The confusion occurs when the word 'fee' is used in different contexts.

The 'tuition and fees' language in the Running Start legislation is the same as in the Veteran's Waiver legislation. On page two of the attached memo the document explains "consumable supplies, textbooks, and other materials to be retained by the student does not constitute the assessment of tuition or a fee....Charges for such consumables are deemed **not** to be fees." The last two paragraphs explain how to analyze a particular charge. If a 'fee supports a service that is necessary for full participation' and is not solely for consumable supplies or materials that the student would otherwise be required to supply, then it would be waived under this statute.

Below are a few (not all) examples of fees that would be waived for eligible Veteran's Waiver recipients:

- tuition (this will be addressed by SBCTC for the system)
- application fees
- lab fees when fee covers more than materials recovery charges
- testing fees
- matriculation and graduation fees
- transcript fees

Below are a few (not all) examples of charges that would **not** be waived for eligible Veteran's Waiver recipients:

- lab fees solely for materials recovery charges
- charges for goods and services of the bookstore
- optional parking pass (a student could choose to ride the bus and not buy a pass)
- returned check fees
- fines and forfeitures
- event fees such as sporting or performing arts

Dave Stolier, Senior Assistant Attorney General, suggests that colleges that are contemplating whether a fee should be waived or passed on to the student should consult with their assigned assistant attorney general.

Please let me know if you have any further questions-

Ronelle Funk

Policy Associate, Student Services

Opportunity Grant Program

Washington State Board for Community & Technical Colleges

1300 Quince St SE | PO Box 42495 | Olympia, Washington 98504

p: 360.704.4397 | f: 360.704.4415

rfunk@sbctc.edu | www.sbctc.edu