

# **\$1,000 Tuition Rebate for Certain Undergraduates**

## **Application Process**

Each school administers the tuition rebate program on its own campus. Students must apply for the tuition rebate prior to receiving their bachelor's degree, using forms provided by their college or university. Most universities provide application forms to students as part of the final degree check.

## **Eligibility Requirements**

- First college course must be taken in Fall 1997 or later;
- Student must have been a Texas resident at all times while pursuing the degree;
- Student must have been entitled to pay in-state tuition at all times while pursuing the degree; and
- Student must not have graduated yet.

### **Key eligibility requirements:**

Students qualify for the \$1,000 rebate if they have attempted no more than three semester credit hours in excess of the minimum number of hours required for their degree. For example, a student who completes a bachelor's degree that requires 120 credit hours with no more than 123 credit attempted may qualify for this rebate. Attempted hours include every course for which the student has registered, as of the official Census Date, in every semester, including: developmental courses taken for credit, repeated courses and courses from which the student withdraws (dropped courses as well as withdrawal from the college or university). If a student has dropped more than one course after the official Census Date, he or she will probably not qualify for the rebate. All credit earned by examination was previously counted, but a recent change in the law allows the first nine hours of credit earned by examination—for example, credit earned through AP courses, CLEP exams or high SAT or ACT scores—to be exempted; Those first nine credit hours do not count as hours attempted. Another change in the law effective August 2011 exempts (1) course credit that is earned to satisfy requirements for a Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) program but that is not required to complete the degree program; and (2) course credit, other than course credit earned exclusively by examination, that is earned before graduating from high school. Students who were admitted for the first time in fall 2005 or later must also graduate in a timely manner to earn the tuition rebate. According to the most recent revision of the rebate program, a student who wants to receive the rebate must graduate with in four calendar years for a four-year degree program or within five calendar years "if the degree is in architecture, engineering or any other program determined by the Board to require more than four years to complete." Currently the Board has not identified any other five-year degree programs. Although there are certain exceptions for hardship situations, most part-time students will no longer be eligible to receive the tuition rebate.

## **Eligible Institutions**

Applies only to public universities in the state of Texas