

Tuition Remission

USM Tuition Remission Form

Eligibility Retirees Spouses and Dependents Apply for Tuition Remission
Termination of Employment Daytime Courses

Introduction

FSU encourages and supports University faculty, staff and retirees, to make use of the opportunity to enroll in academic courses at FSU. Tuition remission benefits are also available for the spouse and dependents of regular status and retired faculty and staff members. Tuition remission is available to those choosing to utilize the benefit in accordance with the Board of Regent's Policy VII-4.10 "University System of Maryland Policy on Tuition Remission for Faculty and Staff," and policy VII-4.20 "University System of Maryland Policy Concerning Tuition Remission for Spouses and Dependent Children of Faculty and Staff."

Regular-status faculty and staff have the option of utilizing tuition remission to attend other USM institutions, as well as Baltimore City Community College, St. Mary's College of Maryland, and Morgan State University.

Eligibility

Definition of Regular-Status Faculty and Staff

The terms "regular-status faculty" and "regular-status staff" refer to an employee who is appointed to a position within the University System of Maryland through the approved budgetary and appointment procedures, with the intent that such appointment is for a duration of at least six (6) months. Regular-status faculty and staff members are eligible for tuition remission.

Full-Time Regular Faculty and Staff

Full-time regular-status faculty and staff (100% FTE) are eligible for tuition remission, not to exceed eight (8) credits for the Spring and Fall semesters, not to exceed eight (8) credits for Winter Term, and not to exceed eight (8) credit hours for the Summer Sessions for undergraduate and graduate level courses. Full-time regular faculty and staff are also eligible for tuition remission benefits at any USM institution, as well as Baltimore City Community College, St. Mary's College of Maryland, and Morgan State University, consistent with the tuition remission policy of that campus.

Part-Time Regular Faculty and Staff

Part-time regular-status faculty and staff are eligible for tuition remission benefits equivalent to those of a full-time regular faculty and staff member, but prorated to the employee's percent of employment, not to be less than 50% for undergraduate and graduate level courses. Part-time regular faculty and staff are also eligible for tuition remission benefits at any USM institution, as well as BCCC, St. Mary's College of Maryland, and Morgan State University, consistent with the tuition remission policy of that campus.

Contingent Category 1 (C1)

Contingent Category 1 employees are not eligible for tuition remission benefits.

Contingent Category 2 (C2)

Contingent category 2 employees are eligible for tuition remission benefits at FSU only.

How Do I Apply for Tuition Remission?

FSU Tuition Remission Requests

To apply for Tuition Remission, complete the [Tuition Remission application form](#) and submit with all required signatures to the Office of Human Resources. The Tuition Remission form is available on the Office of Human Resources website. The form should be completed, routed to your supervisor for signature, and sent to your Division Vice President for approval. The Vice President's Office will forward the form to the Office of Human Resources for final approval and processing.

What Issues Should I be Aware of?

Termination of Employment

In order to be eligible for the tuition remission benefit, an employee must have an active appointment until the University's official last day of class. If an employee resigns, or is terminated from the University prior to the end of a semester or summer session, the tuition remission benefit will be rescinded and all tuition and mandatory fees will be charged back to the employee's student account. This includes employees who have been granted tuition remission prior to their appointment end date.

Daytime Courses

Faculty or staff employees who wish to utilize tuition remission by taking courses during the day must receive the approval of their immediate supervisor and department head, who will ensure that daytime coursework does not interfere with the employee's assigned responsibilities, and does not have operational impact.

Retirees

Retirees of the University System of Maryland are also eligible for tuition remission. For the purposes of acceptance of the tuition remission requests, a "University of Maryland System Retiree" must be receiving State of Maryland retirement checks and/or optional retirement plan checks, and have earned at least five (5) years of USM service credit, inclusive of the former University of Maryland and Board of Trustees of State Universities and College institutions. Verification of retiree status may be obtained by contacting the Human Resources Office from which the employee has retired. Retirees are eligible for tuition remission benefits equivalent to that of an active employee based on the retiree's FTE at the date of retirement. In other words, if at retirement an employee was in a full-time (100%) status, the tuition remission benefits shall be equivalent to that of a regular full-time active employee. If an employee retires from a part-time regular position, the tuition remission benefits shall be equivalent to that of a part-time regular employee.

Spouse and Dependents

Spouse and Dependents of Regular-Status Faculty and Staff

Spouses and dependents of regular faculty and staff are eligible for tuition remission for full tuition, prorated to the percentage of employment (FTE) of the employee. Tuition remission policy provisions and restrictions are based on the employee's date of hire (below).

Who qualifies as a "Dependent Child?"

The term "child" shall include a son, daughter, stepson, stepdaughter, legally adopted son and legally adopted daughter. A "dependent child" is a child who is "financially dependent," as that term is defined by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). According to IRS regulations, a dependent child is eligible for tuition remission benefits if they are receiving more than 50% of their financial support from the employee and are under the age of 24, and are a full time student.

Conditions of Eligibility

Employees hired prior to January 1, 1990 are eligible for undergraduate and graduate level courses at any USM institution, as well as Baltimore City Community College, St. Mary's College of Maryland, and Morgan State University. The spouse and/or dependent child of the employee must be admitted as a student through the normal admission process.

Employees hired between January 1, 1990 and June 30, 1992 are eligible for tuition remission benefits for their spouse and/or dependents for the first undergraduate degree only. Coursework must be done at the employee's home campus unless the program is not offered at the home campus. In that situation, with the approval of the Director of Human Resources and the President, the spouse or dependent may receive fifty percent (50%) tuition remission for courses taken at another USM institution, as well as Baltimore City Community College, St. Mary's College of Maryland, and Morgan State University.

For employees hired after July 1, 1992, tuition remission benefits for their spouse and or dependent children become available after they have worked for the University for two (2) years. Tuition remission benefits will be paid for the first undergraduate degree and courses must be taken at the home institution of the employee. Course work must be done at the employee's home institution unless the program is not offered at the home campus. In that situation, with the approval of the Director of Human Resources and the President, the spouse or dependent may receive fifty percent (50%) tuition remission for courses taken at another USM institution, as well as Baltimore City Community College, St. Mary's College of Maryland, and Morgan State University.

Spouse and Dependents of Retirees of Frostburg State University

Spouse and dependent children of retirees are eligible for tuition remission benefits in accordance with the guidelines for that of spouses and dependents of regular active employees. The employee must be receiving a monthly State of Maryland retirement check and/or an Optional Retirement Program retirement check. The Office of Human Resources may verify retirement from the State of Maryland. Tuition remission for the spouse or dependents of a retiree is not available at St. Mary's College.

Spouse and Dependents of Deceased Employees

Spouse and dependent children of employees who die in service are eligible for tuition remission benefits equivalent to that of spouse/dependents of regular active employees in accordance with the following guidelines:

1. If the deceased employee's length of service was less than three (3) years, the spouse/dependent is eligible for one (1) academic year.
2. If the deceased employee's length of service was between three (3) and five (5) years, the

- spouse/dependents are eligible for two (2) academic years.
3. If the deceased employee's length of service was between five (5) and seven (7) years, the spouse/dependents are eligible for three (3) academic years.
 4. If the deceased employee's length of service was between seven (7) and nine (9) years experience, spouse/dependents are eligible for four (4) academic years.
 5. If the deceased employee's length of service was more than nine (9) years, the spouse/dependents are eligible for five (5) academic years.

Eligibility for tuition remission for spouses shall expire at the end of seven (7) years following the death of the full-time employee, and on the twenty-second (22nd) birthday for dependent children. For spouse/dependents of deceased part-time regular employees who were employed at least fifty percent-time (50%) or more, the percentage of remission shall be proportional to the percentage of employment (FTE), averaging the three (3) years immediately preceding the employee's death.