



Southwestern Michigan College

Board Policy – Students – Tuition and Fees - Tuition

Last Reviewed	Last Updated	Effective Date
08/17/2020	08/17/2020	08/17/2020

DIVISION IV – STUDENTS

IV.4 TUITION AND FEES

IV.4.1 Tuition

Tuition rates will be established each fiscal year by the Board of Trustees. For the purpose of establishing tuition rates at Southwestern Michigan College, residency is defined as follows:

A. In-District Student

1. A student who holds or, in the case of a dependent student, whose parents or legal guardians hold, real taxable property in the Southwestern Michigan College district (all of Cass County plus Keeler and Hamilton Townships in Van Buren County).
2. A student who has resided in the aforementioned governmental units six (6) months before the first day of the semester or session in which he/she initially registers for classes.
3. A student who qualifies for Veteran's Education Benefits.
4. A student who enrolls in a program in which the College is a member of a consortium or for which the College serves as a fiscal agent may be charged resident rates.

B. In-State Student

1. A student holding or a dependent student whose parents or legal guardians hold real taxable property within the state of Michigan but outside the in-district areas defined as In-District.
2. Active duty military personnel and dependents are considered Michigan residents for tuition purposes if Michigan is the active duty member's legal state of residence or if the active duty member is stationed in Michigan.

C. Out-of-State Student

1. Students who are permanent U.S. residents and do not qualify as in-district or as in-state students.

D. International Student

1. A foreign national in non-immigrant alien status.

E. Change of Residency Status

The College reserves the right to require documentation acceptable to the College in all cases of residency determination and verification.

Documentation is required of any student changing to a reduced tuition status but may be asked of others. All acceptable proof of residency documents must clearly indicate name and permanent address. All documents must be originals or copies certified with a raised seal or stamp.

1. If requested, the following forms of proof are acceptable:

- A. Valid current driver's license OR state issued ID card, AND

- B. One of the following pieces of documentation verifiable and related at least six months* prior to the start of the term:

- i. Most recent property tax receipt
- ii. Utility bill or credit card bill
- iii. Account statement from a bank or other financial institution
- iv. Life, health, auto, or home insurance policy that clearly identifies the permanent address
- v. Federal, state or local government documents, such as receipts, licenses, or assessments
- vi. Vehicle title AND registration
- vii. Mortgage, lease or rental agreement including the landlord's telephone number

Note: in the case where the property tax receipt or mortgage, lease, or rental agreement is in the student's parents' name(s), the student must also provide proof of dependency)

*Six months proof is only required if changing residency to a reduced tuition status

2. These documents must be presented to the office of Records and Registration prior to the first day of the term in order to have the residency code adjusted. After the first day of the term, the codes will not be adjusted until the next academic term.

F. High School Guest Student

In recognition of the College's desire to support area high schools and students, all high school guest students participating in dual-enrolled,

academy or Early Middle College programs, whether funded via a third party (e.g. a local or intermediate school district) or paid directly to the College (self-pay), will be charged a reduced tuition rate for the courses included in those programs.