



Non-Resident Tuition Waivers for Graduate Students

A limited number of non-resident tuition waivers are available for graduate students. The waivers may be used as a means to help attract highly qualified applicants from outside the State of California. Requests for waivers should be made by the program or the student's prospective advisor (with the endorsement of the graduate coordinator). The request should be in the form of a memo, addressed to the Dean of Research and Graduate Programs, that summarizes the basis for the nomination of the student for a tuition waiver. Among the criteria that should be addressed in the memo are:

1. scholastic achievement including GPA, standardized tests such as GRE, GMAT, etc., and honors/awards (only students with at least a 3.0 GPA overall will be considered);
2. other significant accomplishments such as research or work experience;
3. contribution the student would make to the program (e.g. bring ethnic, gender, geographical diversity or unique background and skills);
4. significance of the waiver in the student's decision to enroll (e.g. personal circumstances, competitive offers from other universities).

The memo should be accompanied by copies of the application to Cal Poly, undergraduate (and other graduate, if applicable) transcripts, and other documentation in support of the nomination.

Tuition waivers will normally be for four consecutive quarters, beginning with the first term of enrollment and are non-renewable. Most students should be able to establish California residency during that period.

Nominations may be submitted at any time but must be received by August 1 for admission to Fall Quarter; December 1 for admission to Winter Quarter; March 15 for admission to Spring Quarter; and May 1 for admission to Summer Quarter. While requests may be made for admission to any academic quarter, it is anticipated that most waivers will be awarded to students whose initial enrollment is in Fall Quarter.

Questions may be addressed to Becky Powell at bpowell@calpoly.edu or 6-2328.