UMass Welcome Home Fee Waiver Program

The purpose of the Board of Trustee Policy is to recognize the service of Massachusetts veterans who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan by extending a partial fee waiver or scholarship to those seeking a degree at the University. The following guidelines are issued to assist campuses in implementing the policy.

Award Value:

- The Welcome Home award may be granted as a mandatory fee waiver or as a scholarship.
- Campuses shall award an annual mandatory fee waiver or scholarship of up to $2,000 to eligible students.
- Waivers (or scholarships) are to be granted for a maximum of eight semesters, or $8,000 in total to eligible students.

Eligibility Criteria:

- The Welcome Home award shall be granted regardless of need. However, if a student receives state and/or federal veterans benefits (Post 911 GI Bill) that cover the full cost of tuition, fees, room and board (if student lives on campus) at the University, then the student shall not be eligible for this award.
- Only Massachusetts resident student veterans who have served in the Iraq and Afghanistan combat areas since September 11, 2001 are eligible. Students who have received the so-called “Welcome Home” bonus of $1,000 authorized by Subsection (1) of Section 16 of Chapter 130 of the Acts of 2005 are eligible.
- Students must provide official documentation from the Office of the State Treasurer that they have received the bonus authorized by Subsection (1) of Section 16 of Chapter 130 of the Acts of 2005 to be eligible to receive an award.
- Recipients must be enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate degree program.
- Recipients must maintain good academic standing while taking twelve or more credits each semester in state supported courses as an undergraduate student or nine or more credits each semester as a graduate student.
- Continuing, corporate education and online courses are not eligible courses.