Non-Employee Tuition Assistance Program
Effective January 1, 2020

The Ohio State University offers tuition assistance to non-employees in certain limited circumstances.

Eligibility

To be eligible for tuition assistance benefits for an individual’s own enrollment, the individual must:

- Be an active duty member of the U.S. armed forces, or a civilian employee of the U.S. Department of Defense, assigned to a Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) program at Ohio State and recognized by Ohio State as having an ROTC appointment; or
- Have a university appointment as a non-employee postdoctoral fellow (e.g., a non-MBI NRSA Fellow).

To be eligible for tuition assistance benefits for a dependent’s enrollment, an individual must:

- Be an active duty member of the U.S. armed forces, or a civilian employee of the U.S. Department of Defense, assigned to a Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) program at Ohio State and recognized by Ohio State as having an ROTC appointment.

Benefit Details

Eligible individuals may receive a tuition assistance benefit equivalent to the benefit available to eligible Ohio State faculty and staff under The Ohio State University Faculty and Staff Tuition Assistance Plan and The Ohio State University Dependent Tuition Assistance Plan, subject to the terms and conditions of such plans. The tuition assistance benefit available under this Non-Employee Tuition Assistance Program shall further be subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this document. Failure to meet any of the terms and conditions of this Program will require payment by you to the Office of the University Bursar for all costs, including instructional, general and non-Ohio resident fees, associated with course enrollment. Ohio State reserves the right to modify or terminate this Program at any time and for any reason.

Enrollment

Eligible individuals receiving tuition assistance benefits for their own enrollment (i.e., participating as if under the Faculty and Staff Tuition Assistance Plan) are not required to complete an application. After the Office of the University Bursar verifies your eligibility information, the tuition assistance benefit will reflect as a credit against the eligible fees assessed for that academic term on your fee statement.

Eligible individuals receiving tuition assistance benefits for their dependent(s)’ enrollment (i.e., participating as if under the Dependent Tuition Assistance Plan) must enroll in the Program for each academic term that assistance is requested. Online enrollment may not be available. To enroll in the Program for an academic term, complete the Non-Employee Dependent Tuition Assistance Application. Dependents must have their Social Security Number on file within Buckeye Link before dependent tuition assistance enrollment can be processed.

The deadline for submitting a Non-Employee Dependent Tuition Assistance Application for a particular academic term is based on the university academic calendar. For each academic term, all applications must be submitted by the 100% Refund date, which currently is the first Friday of classes during that academic term. No applications will be accepted for an academic term after the 100% Refund date. Retroactive applications for previous terms will be denied.
Taxation of Tuition Assistance Benefits

The university does not provide individual tax advice to participants in the Program; however, general information regarding the federal tax treatment of benefits under the Program is summarized below. Individuals with questions about the tax treatment of benefits provided under the Program should contact their personal tax consultant or advisor.

All tuition assistance benefits provided under this Program are considered taxable income to the participant and are subject to federal taxation. **Program participants are fully responsible for any tax liability resulting from benefits provided under the Program.**

For More Information

If you have additional questions, please contact the following for more information:

- Office of Distance Education and eLearning at 614-292-8860 or odee.osu.edu/extended-education
- Graduate and Professional Admissions at gpadmissions@osu.edu or gpadmissions.osu.edu
- Office of Human Resources Customer Service Center (see below)
- Payroll Services for general information regarding the tax treatment of tuition assistance benefits, 614-292-2311
- Undergraduate Admissions at 614-292-3980, askabuckeye@osu.edu, or undergrad.osu.edu
- Buckeye Link at 614-292-0300 or buckeyelink@osu.edu or buckeyelink.osu.edu