

McLennan  
Community  
College

**POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

Subject: Hazlewood Act Exemption Reference: G-X-e

Source: V.P., Student Success Eff. Date: July 15, 2015

Approval Auth.: Board Approved: July 15, 2015

Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: July 15, 2015

McLennan Community College shall exempt eligible Texas Veterans and/or eligible Dependents from the payment of tuition and fees, other than property deposit and student service fees as required in the Texas Education Code §54.341. All eligibility information and definitions given below (including those of "Veterans," "Dependents," and "Legacy Dependents") are defined by and in accordance with Texas Education Code §54.341.

Veteran and Dependent Eligibility for Hazlewood Exemption

A Texas Veteran can generally be defined as a veteran who served in the armed forces of the United States for a minimum of 181 days of active duty (not including any training time) who was a Texas resident at the time of entry into military service. For those veterans who completed all of their required active duty prior to the conclusion of the Korean War, or for a person who is the dependent child of an eligible service member who died in the line of duty, the active duty time of the service member may be fewer than 181 days.

Dependents of Veterans who are killed in action, whose death is directly service related, or who are considered by the Veterans Administration to have 100% total and permanent service-connected disability, are eligible for Hazlewood Exemption in their own name, not to exceed 150 credit hours. "Dependents" in this case refers to spouses; biological, adoptive, or step-children; or dependents claimed on the veteran's tax return in the year in which the benefit is claimed.

Hazlewood Legacy Eligibility

Veterans who are themselves eligible for the Hazlewood Exemption may choose to give their own Hazlewood eligibility to eligible children or dependents under the Hazlewood Legacy program (spouses are excluded from eligibility for Legacy benefits). Eligible Legacy dependents include children (biological, adoptive, or step-children) and/or those claimed on the veteran's tax return in the year in which the benefit

is claimed.

#### LIMIT ON EXEMPTION

The exemptions provided for in this policy shall not exceed a cumulative total of 150 credit hours.

#### EXTRAORDINARY FEES EXCLUDED FROM EXEMPTION

The exemptions provided for in this policy shall not apply to the fees associated with the Truck Driving Program or travel fees associated with travel courses, as authorized by Texas Education Code § 54.203(g).

#### APPLICATION PROCESS

Each applicant requesting the exemption must submit satisfactory evidence that he/she fulfills the necessary citizenship and residency requirements as well as completing the appropriate Hazlewood Act Exemption Application for each school year in which the exemption is sought. This application is available in the Office of Financial Aid.

#### Eligibility Criteria

For each semester of an academic year in which the veteran or dependent requests a Hazlewood Act Exemption, the following criteria must be met:

1. has not exhausted his or her 150 hours of eligibility through the program,
2. is classified as a resident of Texas,
3. has exhausted or is not eligible for his or her federal veterans or survivor's education benefits,
4. is not in default on a loan made or guaranteed by the state of Texas or the federal government, and
5. is in compliance with federal financial aid standards of satisfactory academic progress (Institutional Policy G-X-a).
  - a. Exclusion from the SAP policy may be granted to ex-prisoners of war and/or children or spouses killed in action, missing in action, or who died as a result of a service-related illness or injury.

#### REPORTING

The College shall report to the Texas Veterans Commission information relating to each individual receiving an exemption from tuition and mandatory and discretionary fees and charges not later than December 31 of each year for the fall semester, May 31 of each year for the spring semester, and September 30 of each year for the summer session. This report shall be in a manner outlined by the Texas Veterans Commission.

#### ADMITTANCE TO DEGREE PROGRAMS

In determining whether to admit a person to any certificate program or any baccalaureate, graduate, postgraduate, or professional degree program, an institution of higher education may not consider the fact that the person is eligible for an exemption under this section.