# PART C, CHAPTER 10.2:POSTSECONDARY: COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY TRAINING

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| **Policy Number** | **Authority** | **Scope**  | **Effective Date** |
| Part C, Chapter 10.2 | 34 CFR [§361.48(b)(6)](https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-34/part-361#p-361.48(b)(6)) and TWC Rule [§856.45](https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac%24ext.TacPage?sl=R&app=9&p_dir=&p_rloc=&p_tloc=&p_ploc=&pg=1&p_tac=&ti=40&pt=20&ch=856&rl=45) | All TWC-VR staff | 04/01/2025 |

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### Maximum Payment for College or University

TWC-VR may pay for training when the customer is enrolled in a public, private, or out-of-state institution. To determine the institution’s classification, refer to the [Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board-Program Search](https://apps.highered.texas.gov/program-inventory/?view=ProgSearchForm) website. The VR Counselor must verify the institution is one of the following:

* Two-Year Community College;
* Four-Year College or University;
* Technical College;
* State College; or
* Health-Related Institution.

TWC-VR reviews rates for College and Universities annually, each July.

* Public Training Institutions: TWC-VR pays the entire amount for in-state tuition and required fees at public training institutions in Texas for eligible customers after the Pell Grant, needs-based financial aid, and any required customer financial participation costs are applied.

TWC-VR pays the Texas resident tuition rate.

* Private or Out-of-State Training Institutions: When a customer chooses to attend a private or out-of-state college, even though a comparable public training institution is available in Texas, the VR Counselor—
	+ Documents in a detailed case note why the customer chose a private or out-of-state institution instead of a public institution; and
	+ Follows payment procedures to determine the maximum amount that TWC-VR may pay to the private or out-of-state institution.

To calculate the amount that TWC-VR may pay toward the cost of the customer's tuition and required fees at a private or out-of-state college, university, and training institution, the VR Counselor uses the following procedure:

* 1. Multiplies the number of credit hours the customer is taking per semester or grading period by the maximum payment amount listed for the type of training institution;
	2. Calculates the amount of tuition and required fees and deducts the Pell Grant amount and the amount of needs-based financial aid that does not require repayment;
	3. From this amount, if the customer is over the basic living requirement (BLR), deducts BLR;
	4. If the amount in number two is less than the maximum that TWC-VR may pay in number one, issues the service authorization (SA) for the amount determined in number two; and
	5. If the amount in number two is more than the maximum that TWC-VR may pay in number one, issues the SA for the maximum amount determined in number one.
	6. If the amount in number two is zero, TWC-VR does not issue an SA.

TWC-VR staff must provide to the customer in writing the amount that TWC-VR will pay and the amount that is still owed to the institution. The *Tuition Payment Calculation Worksheet for Private or Out-of-State Training (VR3405)* may be used to calculate the amount that TWC-VR may pay toward the cost of the customer's tuition and required fees.

* Private or Out-of-State Training Institutions Rates: TWC-VR staff verify that the private or out-of-state training institution is an established college or university, technical or State college or public health institution by finding its classification on the [Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board-Program Search](https://apps.highered.texas.gov/program-inventory/?view=ProgSearchForm) website.

These rates are based on one standard deviation above the average annual college costs of tuition and fees in Texas.

* Two-Year College: TWC-VR pays—
	+ The maximum rate of $136 per semester hour, which includes the amount of tuition and fees at a two-year private or out-of-state college;
	+ The maximum of $4,080 per year for certificate training at a two-year college that is not on a semester hour schedule.
* Four-Year College or University: TWC-VR pays—
	+ The maximum amount of $394 per semester hour, which includes the amount of tuition and fees at a four-year private or out-of-state university;
	+ The maximum of $11,820 per year for certificate training at a four-year college or university that is not on a semester hour schedule.
* State College: TWC-VR pays—
	+ The maximum rate of $122 per semester hour, which includes the amount of tuition and fees at a state college;
	+ The maximum of $3,660 per year for certificate training at a state college that is not on a semester hour schedule.
* Technical College: TWC-VR pays—
	+ The maximum rate of $240 per semester hour, which includes the amount of tuition and fees at a technical college;
	+ The maximum of $7,200 per year for certificate training at a technical college that is not on a semester hour schedule.
* Health-Related Institutions: TWC-VR pays—
	+ The maximum amount of $466 per semester hour, which includes the amount of tuition and fees at a private or out-of-state health-related institution;
	+ The maximum amount of $13,980 per year for certificate training at a private or out-of-state health-related institution that is not on a semester hour schedule.

The maximum amount for certificate programs through a college or university (two-year college, four-year college or university, State college, technical college, and health-related institutions) is based on established tuition and fee rates for enrollment in 15 credit hours for both the fall and spring semesters.

### Dual Credit Courses

Dual credit offers secondary students at select high schools the opportunity to participate in postsecondary coursework while enrolled in high school. These students can earn up to 60 college credit hours. The list of approved high schools can be found on the [Texas Education Agency (TEA)](https://tea.texas.gov/ECHS/) website.

Comparable services and benefits must be considered before dual credit coursework is purchased by TWC-VR, including benefits that may be available through the school.

Because secondary students are concurrently in postsecondary training, it is allowable for these students to carry less than a full-time course load.

### Graduate and other Post-University Training

When a customer attends graduate and/or other post-university training, TWC-VR staff verify the institution’s classification on the [Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board-Program Search](https://apps.highered.texas.gov/program-inventory/?view=ProgSearchForm) website. Staff must verify private or out-of-state institutions by finding the school’s classification through the school’s website.

Public Texas training institutions are exempt from the maximum rate limitation. TWC-VR may pay for the entirety of tuition and required fees at public Texas institutions for eligible customers.

The maximum amounts TWC-VR pays to a private or out-of-state graduate or other post-university training institution are determined based on the type of institution the customer is attending.

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**REVIEW**

The Policy Planning and Statewide Initiatives Team, or designee, is responsible for reviewing this policy and these procedures and will update the Document History log if necessary.

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| **Date** | **Type** | **Change Description** |
| 9/3/2024 | New | VRSM Policy and Procedure Rewrite |
| 04/01/2025 | Revised | Updated the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board’s website link used to verify an institution’s classification. |