



October 10, 2022

Dear Faculty and Staff,

SMU has officially joined the **Tuition Exchange** (TE), a network of colleges and universities that operates a competitive, reciprocal tuition assistance award program for dependents of eligible employees at more than 670 colleges and universities around the U.S. The exchange is a balanced import/export system whereby SMU provides tuition assistance to as many qualified undergraduate students as we export to other institutions, so the award opportunities are limited.

### **Who is eligible to apply for a TE award?**

Dependent children of SMU benefits-eligible faculty and staff can apply for a TE tuition assistance award. More information about the eligibility requirements and the application process is available on the **SMU HR website**.

Students must apply and be offered admission to the participating institution and meet all the admission requirements like any other student. The student must also **apply for a TE award** through the TE website. TE awards are offered based on policies set by each member institution and often are only for students seeking a bachelor's degree and may have a maximum value.

Information for dependents of employees at other TE institutions who wish to apply for undergraduate admission to SMU will be available on the Office of Financial Aid website in the coming weeks.

### **When does the new tuition benefit start?**

The first cohort of qualified undergraduate applicants can enroll as soon as this spring (January 2023). We expect most qualified applicants to enroll next summer or fall given where we are on the admission timeline with most colleges and universities preparing to offer regular decision admission notifications in early 2023.

### **Where can I review a list of participating institutions?**

The list of TE member institutions is updated as new members join the award program network; the current list is available on the **TE website**.

### **Where can I learn more information?**

The **TE website** includes several resources for prospective applicants and their families, including the **scholarship award process** and **application instructions**. You can also monitor the status of your application.

The TE Liaison Officer at SMU is Barbara Goss in Human Resources. She is happy to help answer any questions from SMU employees about the program. She can be contacted by phone at (214) 768-3311 or **tuitionbenefits@smu.edu**.

SMU's participation in the Tuition Exchange is the latest in several new employee benefits that we hope enhance the overall employee experience at SMU. We excel as a premier research university in North Texas and the region in large part because of the extraordinary contributions of you, our faculty and staff. Thank you for your hard work and dedicated service to SMU.

Sincerely,

Sheri Starkey  
Associate Vice President  
and Chief Human Resources Officer

Wes K. Waggoner, Ed.D.  
Associate Vice President  
for Enrollment Management