



# HOUSE BILL 97: In-State Tuition Pilot Program.

2023-2024 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	<b>Date:</b>	March 21, 2023
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Reps. Gillespie, Willis, Torbett, Hardister	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Samantha Yarborough
<b>Analysis of:</b>	First Edition		Staff Attorney

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**OVERVIEW:** *House Bill 97 would require the State Board of Community Colleges to create a four-year pilot program granting residents of certain border counties in Georgia in-State tuition at Tri-County Community College.*

**CURRENT LAW:** G.S. 116-143.1 states that to qualify as a resident for tuition purposes, a person must have (i) established legal residence (domicile) in North Carolina and (ii) maintained that legal residence for at least 12 months immediately prior to his or her classification as a resident for tuition purposes.

G.S. 115D-39(a) applies the legal residence requirements of G.S. 116-143.1 to students attending community colleges. Students attending community colleges who have not established domicile in the State may be eligible to receive the in-State tuition rate if they are participating in certain training for employees paid for by employers, or training for law enforcement or certain other emergency personnel whose duty station is within the State.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** House Bill 97 would require the State Board of Community Colleges to create an in-State tuition pilot program for residents of Georgia counties bordering North Carolina beginning with the 2023-2024 academic year and expiring at the end of the 2026-2027 academic year. The pilot program would allow out-of-state students to pay in-State tuition at Tri-County Community College if they are residents of one of the following Georgia counties: Fannin County, Rabun County, Towns County, or Union County. Out-of-state students qualifying for in-State tuition as a result of the pilot would be prohibited from displacing a North Carolina resident seeking enrollment at Tri-County Community College.

The State Board of Community Colleges would be required to report annually on the outcomes of the pilot to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee and the Fiscal Research Division.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** House Bill 97 would be effective when it becomes law and apply beginning with the 2023-2024 academic year.

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