

**UNIT G
NEW ARTICLE**

TUITION REIMBURSEMENT

1.0 The District may grant tuition reimbursement to permanent Unit employees under the conditions specified below:

a. Programs eligible for reimbursement shall include, but not be limited to, courses of study at approved academic institutions, seminars and training institutes conducted by recognized professional associations, conferences, meetings and such other training programs designed to upgrade the classified service or encourage retraining of employees who may otherwise be subject to layoff as the result of technological change.

b. Approval for reimbursement shall be obtained on the appropriate form signed by the Region Superintendent/Division head or designee before commencement of the course or program. Approval shall be at the sole discretion of the District. If a request for reimbursement is not approved, the employee shall be entitled, upon request, to know the reasons(s) for the disapproval.

c. The course(s) or program must be directly related to the employee's service to the District and must be for the purpose of increasing the employee's knowledge, understanding and skills as related to the employee's employment by the District.

d. The course(s) or program shall not be taken during the employee's assigned duty hours.

e. Reimbursement shall be made as soon as practicable following presentation of official receipts and satisfactory evidence of successful completion of the approved course(s) or program. If grades are received, successful completion shall be defined as a grade of C or passing.

f. Tuition reimbursement shall be limited to a maximum of \$1,400, effective July 1, 2025, for any individual employee during any twelve (12) month period.

g. The course(s) or program for which tuition reimbursement is requested shall be completed within the period for which it was approved, or the employee must submit a new request.

2.0 Provisions of this Article shall not apply to any employee eligible for reimbursement by any other governmental agency, organization or association.

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3.0 An employee who terminates employment with the District within six (6) months of receiving tuition reimbursement pursuant to this Article, shall refund the amount of the reimbursement to the District, or it shall be deducted from the employee's final warrant. In the event that the employee's financial obligation exceeds the amount of their last pay warrant, then the employee shall be liable for any remaining amount and be required to repay all amounts due in accordance with procedures established by the District. This requirement shall be waived in the event of the employee's death or physical or mental disability which precludes the employee from returning to District employment.