

For Immediate Release
Chemeketa Community College

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Chemeketa to Waive Tuition for Dependents of Officers Who Die in the Line of Duty

Chemeketa Community College will waive tuition in credit classes beginning fall term 2009 to the spouse and children of Oregon police officers, firefighters, and emergency medical providers who die in the line of duty. President Cheryl Roberts noted that, in the last two years, three police officers from the college district have been killed in service to the community.

“While we pray no one else will be in a position to accept this offer, we want these public safety officers to know that if they are called upon to give their lives for us, we will be there for their families,” said Roberts.

Officers eligible for the Chemeketa tuition waiver are police and firefighters that are accredited by the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training as well as emergency medical providers recognized by the State of Oregon Health Division, who die as the result of injuries suffered in the line of duty serving a public agency in the state of Oregon. This offer is open to both paid and volunteer personnel.

The purpose of Chemeketa’s waiver is to help the dependents of fallen public safety officers, earn their first associate degree. Therefore, the waiver is offered for up to 100 credits or a degree (whichever comes first). The waiver for the dependent spouse ends seven years after the death of the Oregon police officer or firefighter. The waiver for the dependent children ends at the end of the college term in which the dependent child’s 23rd birthday occurs. Continuation of tuition waiver benefits is subject to satisfactory academic progress. Applicants should contact the Chemeketa Business Services Office at 503-399-5011 to apply for the tuition waiver.

Chemeketa Community College is a publicly-funded Oregon higher education institution serving Oregon’s Mid-Willamette Valley. Chemeketa is dedicated to improving the lives of its students and strengthening the local workforce. For more information, visit www.chemeketa.edu.