Executive Summary
The summer tuition program at BMCC continues to be a successful way to support students and help them gain momentum toward their degree completion. In summer 2018, more individuals received waivers than in the prior two years, with continued good results overall. Over 60% of summer students still took just one course. The largest number of tuition waivers were given for STEM courses, with an 86% pass rate for waiver students in those courses. In several subjects with the large number of waivers granted, pass rates for those with waivers exceeded the rate for those without waivers, notably English, Psychology, Math, and Spanish.

Graduation and retention outcomes for students with tuition waivers were generally higher than for those without waivers, with 11.3% of all summer students with waivers graduating compared to 4.3% of those without waivers. Retention at BMCC was also strong for waiver recipients. Among non-graduates, 88% of waiver students returned to BMCC in the fall, compared with 72% of those without waivers.

Summer Enrollment
BMCC offers four summer sessions of 5, 6, 7, and 12 weeks, as well as immersion workshops and freshmen orientation programs for students in the summer that are tracked in the Institutional
Research Database. More individual students enrolled for summer sessions in 2018, and the number of students taking immersion workshops (covered by funds from CUNY’s University Skills Immersion Program) continued the decline begun in summer 2017. This is consistent with the lower number of students placing in developmental math, reading, or writing after the replacement of the ACT Compass Tests with the Accuplacer Tests and the policy change at the same time that allowed students to retake the test without going through a 20-hour intervention.

The Tuition Waiver program has been an important way to encourage students to enroll in summer classes, which have not always been covered by the students’ Pell Grants or other financial aid. Summer enrollment is also seen to be an important way for students to gain momentum toward graduation. In many courses, summer session offerings also have shown higher pass rates than for the regular fall and spring semesters. In summer 2018, BMCC was able to provide waivers and one-month MetroCards to 42% of the students enrolled, a nice increase over the past two years.

While immersion enrollment decreased substantially, there was a slight uptick in enrollment in the non-credit developmental courses (477 in summer 2018 compared to 432 in summer 2017), which comprised about 4% of the regular course enrollments, compared to 3.4% of the enrollments in summer 2017. Just over 96% of course enrollments in summer 2018 were credit bearing, including 119 enrollments (less than 1%) in credit-bearing co-requisite courses.

1 These equated credit courses include MAT 56 and its non-credit co-requisite 56.5 which includes developmental algebra support. MAT 56 is a pre-requisite for some majors, but does not offer college credit.
Figure 1. BIO 108 and 109 are counted as separate courses. Other lab and lecture combinations with the same catalog number are considered one course.

Online and hybrid course accounted for 26.1% of the course work without waivers, and 28.4% of course work supported by tuition waivers.

**Types of Waivers Received**

The chart below shows the number of student enrollments covered by each type of waiver offered in summer 2018. Students could receive more than one waiver, but only one waiver per session. Generally there is a limit of 2 waivers for each student, although 22 students taking both BIO 108 and 109 in the 7 week session also received a waiver for the 5 week session. For the waiver criteria, taking BIO 108 and 109 together was considered as one course. Since students received separate grades for each of these courses, however, they are considered separately in this report.

As in prior years, STEM waivers were received by the largest number of students. Over 28% of the summer 2018 courses were eligible for STEM waivers. These included credit-bearing math, science,
and computer science courses as well as introductory courses in psychology, multimedia
programming, and logic. To receive a waiver, the student must be able to apply the course to their
degree program. While Momentum and Part-time Momentum waivers require a 2.0 average, other
waivers, including STEM, do not have GPA or credit requirements.  

Patterns in Course Pass Rates
In general, students with tuition waivers did as well or better than students without waivers in passing
their courses. While in summer 2017 pass rates for science and math courses were slightly less high
for the students with waivers, this is no longer true for summer 2018, and for non-STEM courses,
there is a much higher pass rate among students with waivers. In all cases, these rates are substantially
higher than is found during the fall and spring regular semesters.

Breaking this down to specific subjects for those with at least 500 enrolled summer students, the
trend is similar (with the exception of Biology), with notably higher pass rates for those who have
waivers compared to those who do not.  Excluding immersion workshops, among the regular
courses only Math included a large number remedial level and co-requisite courses in summer 2018,
involving over 500 student with 283 receiving tuition waivers. This includes students taking MAT 56
and 56.5, which are not credit bearing. Only 25 students took the English co-requisite 100.5 course,
only 16 took the Academic Reading course 95, and 29 students were enrolled in a regular ESL 95

2 Only in Non-STEM Courses is there a significant difference between those with waivers and those without.

2 A description of each waiver type and its requirements is included in the appendix in the letters sent to faculty
and students and in the “Frequently Asked Questions” document which was available on line.

3 Some students received a waiver for some of their courses but not for all of them. These students are tracked
as individuals with waivers in terms of retention and graduation. When looking at pass rates, however, they are
counted as waiver students only for the courses for which they received a waiver.
course, 19 of whom had tuition waivers. Students with waivers in English, Psychology, Math, and Spanish showed significantly higher pass rates than those without waivers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Pass Rate (Students with Waivers)</th>
<th>Pass Rate (Students without Waivers)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>81.9%</td>
<td>85.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>85.5%</td>
<td>84.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>89.2%</td>
<td>76.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>83.4%</td>
<td>82.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>92.5%</td>
<td>83.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>89.6%</td>
<td>81.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Subjects</td>
<td>87.2%</td>
<td>75.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On the other hand, at the individual level, GPA calculations suggest a slightly higher summer term GPA earned by non-waiver students (2.97) compared to the 2.90 average summer GPA for students with at least one tuition waiver.

Retention and Graduation

Previous studies conducted by the OIEA have demonstrated that summer enrollment is normally a predictor of one-year retention and three-year graduation at BMCC. Though the group in this report is not a cohort, we still measure retention for summer students by their status in the fall. Re-enrolling is the norm for those who attended in the summer. In summer 2018, among all students who did not already graduate by the end of the summer, 84.3% continued their education in the fall at BMCC or at another CUNY college. Even with this good result, among those who received a waiver 88.1% of those who had not graduated yet returned to BMCC or CUNY in the fall, compared with 72.1% of those who received no waivers. This difference is significant and unlikely to be the result of chance factors.

Graduation

Students attending summer session are at all stages of their academic program. With a maximum possibility of earning 12 credits, most students in the summer are not close enough to graduation to be able to finish their degree at the end of the summer. Still, 629 students who attended summer 2018 classes did complete their degree program by the end of the summer. This constituted 6.7% of the summer population. Again, waivers seem to contribute to the graduation level, with 11.3% (427) of the students with a waiver graduating at the end of the summer, compared to 3.6% of all other students. In addition to this group, 18 non-degree or permit students (without waivers) attended courses taken in summer 2018 at BMCC and completed a Bachelor’s or higher degree at another CUNY at the end of the summer. These students are excluded from the analysis of individual

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4 See: Identifying Factors that Predict 3-Year Graduation.
outcomes, but were included in the analysis of pass rates for courses taken in summer 2018 at BMCC.

Among graduates, receiving a tuition waiver may have been the reason that over 45% of these students took a second or a third course. In contrast, over 70% of those who graduated without a waiver apparently had just one course they needed to complete. The chart below compares the credits completed in summer 2018 for these graduates.

Over half of the 2018 summer-session graduates continued with their education in the fall: 58% of those graduates who had received waivers compared to 50% of graduates who did not receive a tuition waiver.

Up to now, the analysis has focused on graduation and retention among all waivers. In the sections below, the report will address the success of Completion waivers given to students within 10 credits.
of graduation, and a similar look at all students in the summer sessions who started with at least 50 credits.

**Completion Waiver Recipients**

The “Completion” waiver was available to students with 10 or fewer credits left to complete their associate degree. Of the 534 2018 summer students with Completion waivers, 54% (287 students) graduated at the end of the summer. This is the same rate as was found in 2017 summer Completion waiver students.

**On to 4-Year Colleges**

Over half (55.6%) of the 628 summer graduates were enrolled in a CUNY four-year college by the fall semester, but having a waiver made a significant difference, allowing a larger percentage of students overall to make it to graduation and transfer. By fall 2018, 245 summer graduates who had any type of tuition waiver were enrolled in a CUNY four-year college, compared to just 104 of those who had not received a waiver.
Of these graduates, 2 who had received tuition waivers and 4 without waivers had re-enrolled in BMCC in the fall either for another degree or to earn additional credits for a transfer that seemed to be planned for the spring. Among those who didn’t graduate and transferred out after the summer sessions, those who did not receive waivers are slightly more represented (5.2% versus 3.9%). Additionally 29 non-waiver students and 5 students who had received waivers transferred out to another community college.

**Status in Fall 2018**

BMCC students who received summer tuition waivers demonstrated significantly different outcome statuses in fall 2018 compared to students without waivers. The chart below provides three main categories of successful outcomes, graduation, retention at BMCC, or early transfer out to another CUNY school. These three categories include 93% of the students who received waivers, and just under 79% of those without waivers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome:</th>
<th>With Waiver</th>
<th></th>
<th>Without Waiver</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>% of all with Waivers</td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>% of all without Waivers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total completing and/or continuing their education</td>
<td>3,502</td>
<td>93.0%</td>
<td>4,469</td>
<td>78.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduated BMCC</td>
<td>426</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
<td>202</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retained at BMCC</td>
<td>2,942</td>
<td>78.1%</td>
<td>3,953</td>
<td>69.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transferred out (without graduating)</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td>314</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not graduated and not enrolled in fall 18</td>
<td>264</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
<td>1218</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>3766</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>5687</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX:
Summer 2018 Tuition Waiver
Descriptions and Frequently Asked Questions
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waiver Type</th>
<th>Eligibility Requirements</th>
<th>Course must be credit-bearing?</th>
<th>Minimum GPA needed by 5/1/18 for classes that begin May 30</th>
<th>Minimum GPA needed by 6/15/18 for classes that begin July 18</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Completion</td>
<td>Eligible students who have ten (10) or fewer credits left to complete their associate degree requirements will be able to receive a tuition waiver for one of their remaining courses at BMCC.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Momentum</td>
<td>Eligible students who have a minimum BMCC GPA of 2.0 and earned at least 12 credits by the registration deadline and were enrolled full-time in spring 2018 will be able to receive a tuition waiver for a summer 2018 course that counts toward their listed BMCC degree.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-Time Momentum</td>
<td>Eligible students who have a minimum BMCC GPA of 2.0 and earned at least 12 credits by the registration deadline and were enrolled at least half-time (6 credits) in spring 2018 will be able to receive a tuition waiver for a summer 2018 course that counts toward their listed BMCC degree.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STEM</td>
<td>Eligible students who enroll in a credit-bearing mathematics, computer programming, science, Introduction to Psychology (PSY 100), Introduction to Multimedia (MMP 100) or Logic (PHI 110) course that counts toward completion of their listed BMCC degree in summer 2018 will be able to receive a tuition waiver for the course and any associated lab course.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developmental</td>
<td>Eligible students who enroll in a developmental course required for BMCC degree completion in summer 2018 will be able to receive a tuition waiver for the course. Please note, enrolling in a developmental course in the regular summer session is different than enrolling in a Free Summer Immersion course.</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acceleration</td>
<td>Incoming students who have no remedial requirements are invited to get a head start on their degree completion and receive a tuition waiver for their first credit-bearing course at BMCC.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jump-Start</td>
<td>Eligible students who have successfully completed the CUNY Start or CLIP program in spring 2018 will be able to receive a tuition waiver for a credit-bearing summer session course that counts toward their BMCC degree completion.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. Q: How do I know if I qualify for the tuition waiver?
   A: The tuition waivers are offered to eligible students who are New York State residents (U.S. Citizens or permanent residents) and matriculated students enrolled at BMCC.

2. Q: Do I need to apply for a tuition waiver?
   A: No. Once you register for a course during the summer session, an evaluation will be done to determine if you qualify for the summer tuition waiver program.

3. Q: How do I know if I received the tuition waiver?
   A: Students who have been granted the tuition waiver will receive official notification to their BMCC email address only from the Bursar’s Office once eligibility has been confirmed.

4. Q: How long would it take for me to be notified?
   A: Students who have been granted the tuition waiver will receive official notification to their BMCC email address only during the week of May 21 for the first summer session and the week of July 9 for the second summer session.

5. Q: Who do I contact if I have questions regarding the tuition waiver?
   A: If you have any questions, please contact the Academic Advisement and Transfer Center via your BMCC email ONLY at advisementandtransfer@bmcc.cuny.edu.

6. Q: Can I receive more than one tuition waiver?
   A: Students are eligible to receive one (1) waiver for a class that begins on May 30 and one (1) waiver for a class that begins on July 18.

7. Q: What happens if I register for a course during the summer session and I do not receive the tuition waiver?
   A: If you do not receive the tuition waiver and you do not drop the course before the first day of the session, you will be liable for the tuition and fees associated with the course.

8. Q: How do I know find out the deadline date?
   A: The deadline date to drop a summer 2018 session course without being charged is Tuesday, May 29 for the first session and Tuesday, July 17 for the second session.

9. Q: If I receive the tuition waiver, are there other costs that I am responsible for?
   A: Yes. Only the tuition for the course will be waived and students will be responsible for all fees and materials, such as textbooks.

10. Q: How do I know the fees owed?
    A: You can view the total amount related to the fees on your CUNYfirst account or you can contact the Bursar’s Office for more information.
11. **Q:** What happens if I drop the course during the summer session?
   **A:** If you drop or fail to attend the course, the waiver may be revoked and you will be responsible for the tuition.

12. **Q:** Do I get any other benefits if I receive the tuition waiver?
   **A:** Students will also receive one 30-day MetroCard to assist them in commuting to their classes. To receive a 30-day MetroCard, students must complete their registration for the summer course(s) no later than May 1 for classes that begin on May 30 and June 15 for classes that begin on July 18.

13. **Q:** Can I get a tuition waiver for a course that I previously failed?
   **A:** If the course that you previously failed is required for degree completion and you qualify for one of the various tuition waiver types, you may be eligible to receive a tuition waiver.

14. **Q:** Can I get a tuition waiver for a course that I want to repeat because I have a passing grade of C- or lower?
   **A:** Unfortunately, a tuition waiver cannot be applied to a course for which you have already received a passing grade.