

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

REVISIONS TO THE BOARD OF REGENTS POLICY MANUAL – CHAPTER 8

Action Requested: Consider, as a second and final reading, the proposed revisions to §8.02D of the Board of Regents Policy Manual to align tuition charges for part-time Iowa undergraduate and all graduate students with the current fee structure.

Executive Summary: Board of Regents tuition policy requires that part-time students who enroll for 1-2 credits must be charged for a minimum of two credits. The proposed change will align the tuition charge for part-time students with the actual number of credits undertaken. This request has been reviewed by the Board Office and the Council of Provosts and is recommended for approval. If approved, the policy change will take effect in FY 2016.

This request addresses the Board of Regents Strategic Plan priority to pursue “educational excellence and impact” and Goal #8 – “Iowa’s public universities and special schools shall be increasingly efficient and effective.”

Background:

The minimum two-credit tuition rule was created when there was no separate mandatory fee structure; therefore, a “designated portion of the tuition collected was required to support a variety of student services and activities.” During the period of “designated tuition,” the one-credit tuition amount was insufficient to support the targeted services and activities. The Mandatory Fees were created to support student activities and services; provide benefits such as student admission rates to concerts, cultural and athletic events; provide access to campus recreational facilities and campus/public transportation; and provide funding for organizations and services allocated by the student government. Therefore, the need for “designated tuition” no longer exists and the two-credit minimum rule can be eliminated.

The availability of one-credit courses has the potential to result in increased enrollment and tuition revenue. It would also result in eliminating the need for a workshop fee which allows one-credit courses to be categorized as workshops and assessed the equivalent of the one-credit tuition rate.

The current and proposed language to the Regent Policy Manual §8.02D is identified on the following page:

Current language:

- D. Tuition for Students.
1. Undergraduate Part-Time Tuition – Resident Rates.
 - a. A fixed amount for 0 through 2 credits per term.
 - b. An additional amount for each credit per term from 3 credits per term through 11 credits per term.
 - c. A fixed amount for 12 credits per term and over as established by the Board of Regents.
 2. Undergraduate Part-Time Tuition – Nonresident Rates.
 - a. Rates are to be identical to resident rates for 0 through 4 credits per term.
 - b. Follow the above pattern for undergraduate resident rates for 5 credits per term and over as established by the Board of Regents.
 3. Graduate Part-Time Tuition.
 - a. A fixed amount for 0 through 2 credits per term.
 - b. An additional amount for each credit per term from 3 credits per term through 9 credits per term for each university.
 - c. A fixed amount for 9 credits per term and over as established by the Board of Regents.
 - d. Rates for nonresident students are to be identical to resident rates for 0 through 4 credits.

Proposed language:

- D. Tuition for Students.
1. Undergraduate Part-Time Tuition – Resident Rates.
 - ~~a. A fixed amount for 0 through 2 credits per term.~~
 - ~~b. An additional amount for each credit per term from 3 credits per term through 11 credits per term.~~
 - a. A per credit charge for credits 1-11.
 - b. A fixed amount for 12 credits per term and over as established by the Board of Regents.
 2. Undergraduate Part-Time Tuition – Nonresident Rates.
 - a. Rates are to be identical to resident rates for 0 through 4 credits per term.
 - b. Follow the above pattern for undergraduate resident rates for 5 credits per term and over as established by the Board of Regents.
 3. Graduate Part-Time Tuition.
 - ~~a. A fixed amount for 0 through 2 credits per term.~~
 - ~~b. An additional amount for each credit per term from 3 credits per term through 9 credits per term for each university.~~
 - a. A per credit charge for credits 1-8.
 - b. A fixed amount for 9 credits per term and over as established by the Board of Regents.
 - c. Rates for nonresident students are to be identical to resident rates for 0 through 4 credits.