

Contact: Brad Berg

PROPOSED 2026-2027 TUITION AND MANDATORY FEES

Recommended Action: Consider approval of:

1. The proposed tuition and mandatory fees for the 2026-27 academic year as outlined in this memorandum and in the appendix beginning on page 19, effective with the Fall 2026 session.
2. The allocation of the Regent universities mandatory student fees for the 2026-27 academic year as provided in the appendix on page 31.
3. The proposed Common and University / Program Specific Fees for the 2026-27 academic year as provided in the appendix on page 31.

Issue Overview: While considering state support, operating costs that may be absorbed through efficiencies and reallocations, and the expected inflationary impact to higher education budgets, the proposed tuition rates in this memorandum for the 2026-27 academic year includes base undergraduate resident increases of 3.0% for each university (\$287 at SUI; \$286 at ISU; \$262 at UNI). The universities also propose varying tuition rates for nonresident, graduate and professional students as well as differential rates for certain higher cost programs.

Fiscal Impact: Funding from the proposed tuition increases will help address growing financial challenges including inflationary cost increases, uncertainty surrounding other primary revenue sources, recruiting and retaining faculty and staff in national markets, health care, meeting collective bargaining terms, deferred maintenance needs in academic facilities and student financial aid to provide higher education opportunities to more students.

Key Background or Context: The Board received the first reading of the proposed tuition and fee rates at its February 2026 meeting. All proposed tuition and fee rates remain unchanged from those received in February. Board policy limits the annual increase to the base undergraduate resident tuition to an amount that does not exceed the average of the three most recently established HEPI fiscal year inflation indexes. The proposed 3.0% increase to the base undergraduate resident rate is below the three-year HEPI average of 3.67%.

Key Data: The proposed 2026-27 base tuition and mandatory fee rates for undergraduate resident and nonresident students are provided below. A complete list of each mandatory fee is provided in the appendix on page 31.

**Proposed Regent Tuition and Mandatory Fees
Academic Year 2026-27**

UNDERGRADUATE	Base Tuition				Mandatory Fees				Total Base Tuition and Mandatory Fees			
	2025-26	2026-27	Incr	% Incr	2025-26	2026-27	Incr	% Incr	2025-26	2026-27	\$ Incr	% Incr
UNIVERSITY OF IOWA												
Resident	9,565.00	9,852.00	287.00	3.0%	2,057.00	2,119.00	62.00	3.0%	11,622.00	11,971.00	349.00	3.0%
Nonresident	31,653.00	32,128.00	475.00	1.5%	2,057.00	2,119.00	62.00	3.0%	33,710.00	34,247.00	537.00	1.6%
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY												
Resident	9,530.00	9,816.00	286.00	3.0%	1,560.90	1,585.40	24.50	1.6%	11,090.90	11,401.40	310.50	2.8%
Nonresident	28,578.00	29,864.00	1,286.00	4.5%	1,560.90	1,585.40	24.50	1.6%	30,138.90	31,449.40	1,310.50	4.3%
UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA												
Resident	8,792.00	9,054.00	262.00	3.0%	1,409.00	1,451.00	42.00	3.0%	10,201.00	10,505.00	304.00	3.0%
Nonresident	20,950.00	21,578.00	628.00	3.0%	1,409.00	1,451.00	42.00	3.0%	22,359.00	23,029.00	670.00	3.0%

The proposed 2026-27 base tuition and mandatory fee rates for graduate resident and nonresident students are provided below.

GRADUATE	Base Tuition				Mandatory Fees				Total Base Tuition and Mandatory Fees			
	2025-26	2026-27	Incr	% Incr	2025-26	2026-27	Incr	% Incr	2025-26	2026-27	\$ Incr	% Incr
UNIVERSITY OF IOWA												
Resident	12,000.00	12,360.00	360.00	3.0%	1,829.00	1,884.00	55.00	3.0%	13,829.00	14,244.00	415.00	3.0%
Nonresident	30,947.00	31,411.00	464.00	1.5%	1,829.00	1,884.00	55.00	3.0%	32,776.00	33,295.00	519.00	1.6%
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY												
Resident	11,838.00	12,194.00	356.00	3.0%	1,500.90	1,525.40	24.50	1.6%	13,338.90	13,719.40	380.50	2.9%
Nonresident	29,976.00	30,876.00	900.00	3.0%	1,500.90	1,525.40	24.50	1.6%	31,476.90	32,401.40	924.50	2.9%
UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA												
Resident	10,536.00	10,854.00	318.00	3.0%	1,409.00	1,451.00	42.00	3.0%	11,945.00	12,305.00	360.00	3.0%
Nonresident	22,238.00	22,908.00	670.00	3.0%	1,409.00	1,451.00	42.00	3.0%	23,647.00	24,359.00	712.00	3.0%

Risks and Considerations: The Board considers the total resources necessary to maintain and strengthen the Regent universities. Regent institutions need adequate support from all sources, while promoting the effective use of resources to meet institutional missions and to maintain the quality of education lowans expect. The Board considers the two main resources supporting Regent higher education – tuition and state appropriations – as well as the reallocations and efficiencies necessary to strengthen Iowa’s public universities. To lower the tax burden on lowans, the legislature passed the Income Tax Rate Reduction and Exemptions Act and the Individual Income Tax Rate Act. The tax changes have resulted in reduced state general fund receipts and may strain state support for public higher education resulting in greater reliance on tuition revenue and cost savings.