



DIRECTIVE 2017-084

August 15, 2017

Re: CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST BY CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY TO WAIVE STANDARD TUITION RATES FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE ONLINE AND BLENDED-DELIVERY REGISTERED NURSE TO BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING (RN TO BSN) PROGRAM

§375.30.30 of Am. Sub. H.B. 119 of the 127th General Assembly required any waiver of tuition for a student or class of students not otherwise permitted by law at a state-assisted institution of higher education be approved by the Chancellor of Higher Education (the "Chancellor"). On April 17, 2009, the Chancellor signed Directive 2009-011 establishing procedures for institutions to follow when requesting to waive standard tuition rates. §381.170 of Am. Sub. H.B. 49 of the 132nd General Assembly continues this authority of the Chancellor for the biennium.

Pursuant to §381.170 of Am. Sub. H.B. 49 as well as Directive 2009-011, Cleveland State University ("CSU") has requested for academic years 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 to continue to waive standard tuition rates for students enrolled in the online and blended-delivery registered nurse to Bachelor of Science in Nursing (RN to BSN) Program. CSU has demonstrated the following:

- CSU's Board of Trustees approved a resolution authorizing a continuation of the tuition waiver at its meeting on June 20, 2017. A copy of the resolution is attached.
- CSU has submitted a specific request to waive standard tuition rates for students in the RN to BSN program. For Ohio residents the standard undergraduate tuition rate of \$401.50 per credit hour will be reduced to \$215.00 per credit hour. For nonresident domestic students, the standard undergraduate tuition rate of \$570.30 per credit hour will be reduced to \$218.00 per credit hour.
- CSU proposes that the duration of the continued waiver be academic years 2017-2018 and 2018-2019.
- CSU expects the tuition waiver will affect approximately 50 students per academic year.

- CSU's goals pursuant to this tuition waiver are to assist the transition from RN programs to BSN programs by helping facilitate the enrollment of students from Cuyahoga Community College RN program and offer tuition rates that are in line with other similar programs.
- The previous tuition waiver for RN to BSN students was very effective. Prior to the implementation of the tuition waiver the program had an average of 13 students. In FY 2016 48 students started the program and 58 students started in FY 2017.
- CSU will continue to track student enrollment including enrollment in the program from Cuyahoga Community College.

Agency staff reviewed the request and posted its recommendations to the Ohio Department of Higher Education's website for purposes of providing a period of public comment before final approval by the Chancellor. No public comments were received.

Based upon my review and staff recommendations, I hereby approve the tuition waiver request from Cleveland State University as set forth above for academic years 2017-2018 and 2018-2019.

This directive will take immediate effect.



John Carey

Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education



Cleveland State University

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

June 20 2017

RESOLUTION 2017-57

APPROVAL FOR CONTINUING REDUCED TUITION FOR THE RN-BSN PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the University's Board of Trustees passed a resolution on September 23, 2014 authorizing a reduction in the tuition amount charged for its regular undergraduate programs (waiver request) for the undergraduate on-line BSN (Bachelors of Nursing) degree for students who participate in the RN (Registered Nursing) to BSN program (RN-to-BSN); and

WHEREAS, the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education approved the University's request to lower the undergraduate tuition for the RN-to-BSN program for academic years 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 by issuing Directive 2015-19, dated May 15, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the University has determined that the following factors have aided the significant growth in enrollment: 1) the lower tuition for the RN-to-BSN program – the program averaged 13 students annually over the period FY11-FY15, compared to the current enrollment of 71 students; and 2) the integration of classroom instruction into the program's delivery method which has assisted RN students remain on track to earn a BSN degree; and

WHEREAS, the demand for nurses with BSN degrees continues to grow in northeast Ohio as health systems require RNs to earn a BSN degree within specified periods from the date of initial employment; and

WHEREAS, in order to continue the existing lower tuition for the RN-to-BSN program at the FY17 level beyond June 30, 2017, the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education requires the University to (1) formally request a continuation the program's lower tuition, (2) provide a Board of Trustees' resolution approving the program's lower tuition, and (3) supply data on the previous two-year performance of the program; and

WHEREAS, the Financial Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees has reviewed this matter and recommends full Board approval.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Cleveland State University Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the University Administration to implement, effective Fall 2017, the attached tuition schedule for its RN-BSN program which continues the lower tuition level that was authorized by the Board and approved by the Chancellor on May 15, 2015.



**Department of
Higher Education**

John R. Kasich, Governor
John Carey, Chancellor

TUITION WAIVER REQUEST FOR APPROVAL

The following request has been posted for a 2-week public comment period and is recommended for approval. No public comments were received.

Recommender: *Amy Shaffer* August 15, 2017

Cleveland State University

- CSU has submitted a specific request to waive standard tuition rates for students in the RN to BSN program. For Ohio residents the standard undergraduate tuition rate of \$401.50 per credit hour will be reduced to \$215.00 per credit hour. For nonresident domestic students, the standard undergraduate tuition rate of \$570.30 per credit hour will be reduced to \$218.00 per credit hour.

Comments received:
None