



DIRECTIVE 2019-039

September 17, 2019

Re: CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST BY NORTH CENTRAL STATE COLLEGE TO WAIVE TUITION FOR STUDENTS SELECTED FOR THE “TUITION FREEDOM” SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM AS ESTABLISHED BY NORTH CENTRAL STATE COLLEGE.

§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. 166 of the 133rd General Assembly continues this authority of the Chancellor for this biennium.

Pursuant to the continued authority in §381.170 of Am. Sub. H.B. 166 and Directive 2009-011, North Central State College (“NCSC”) has requested that the standard tuition rates continue to be waived for academic year 2019-2020 for eligible students that have earned at least nine college-level or articulated credits while in high school and have at least a cumulative 2.75 GPA in those courses.

NCSC has demonstrated the following:

- NCSC's Board of Trustees approved a resolution authorizing to continue the tuition waiver at its meeting on May 22, 2019. A copy of the resolution is attached.
- NCSC has submitted a specific request to continue to reduce tuition as follows: Eligible students (defined below) will have \$166.60 per credit hour (instructional fee of \$134.06 and general fee of \$32.54 only) up to 36 credit hours per year waived until they have completed 64 credit hours, including credits earned in high school. Therefore, if a student completes the minimum of nine credit hours in high school, he or she would be eligible for the tuition waiver for 55 hours at NCSC.
 - Eligible student is defined as a student that has completed nine or more college-level or articulated credits while in high school and has a minimum GPA of 2.75 in that course work, and is one of the following:
 - A student graduating from a NCSC partnering high school or residing in a partner school jurisdiction if that student is home schooled or online schooled. Partner schools include standard and career-technical secondary institutions that have formal agreements for services with NCSC, or

- Students who reside in or graduate from secondary schools in the following counties: Ashland, Crawford, Richland, Knox, Morrow, Marion, Wyandot, Seneca, Huron, Lorain, Medina, Wayne or Holmes.
 - In order to maintain eligibility the student must maintain full-time status (12-18 credit hours per semester with summer enrollment optional) and a 2.75 cumulative GPA.
 - NCSC will first apply any federal, state or private monies that the student is awarded for their post-secondary education before giving the waiver.
 - The specific amount being waived per credit hour may change depending on NCSC's tuition rates, but in any event, the specific amount waived will increase by the amount tuition is increased.
- NCSC proposes that the duration of the continued waiver be for academic year 2019-2020. NCSC intends to continue the waiver during the next biennium, and it will communicate to students that the waiver is only guaranteed for the 2019-2020 academic year.
 - It is estimated that the proposed waiver will affect approximately 100 students this academic year.
 - The goal of this waiver is to give an equal chance to all students throughout NCSC's service area in term of access to affordable higher education opportunities as well as increasing completion.
 - NCSC reports that the goals of this waiver are being met as the enrollment of graduating seniors increased and the college's two-year graduation rate has increased to 21% as of August 2019.

Agency staff reviewed the request and posted its recommendations to the ODHE website for the purpose of providing a public comment period before final approval by the Chancellor. No public comments were received.

Based upon my review of staff recommendations and public comments received, I hereby approve the tuition waiver request from North Central State Community College as set forth above for academic year 2019-2020.

This directive will take immediate effect.



Randy Gardner
Chancellor, Ohio Department of Higher Education



Office of the President

June 12, 2019

Chancellor Randy Gardner
Ohio Department of Higher Education
25 S. Front St.
Columbus, OH 43215

Re: Consideration of approval of North Central State College "Tuition Freedom" Scholarship Program to waive tuition for students selected for the program as allowed by Section 375.30.30 of Am. Sub. H.B. 119 of the 127th General Assembly.

Chancellor Gardner,

Section 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 the Ohio Department 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. Section 381.170 of Am. Sub. H.B. 49 of the 132nd General Assembly continues the authority of the Chancellor for the current biennium.

Pursuant to the continued authority in §381.170 of Am. Sub. H.B. 49, as well as Directive 2009-011, North Central State College (NCSC) requests to waive tuition for students selected for NCSC "Tuition Freedom" Scholarship Program. Students selected for the program will have tuition (instructional fee of \$134.06 and general fee of \$32.54 which combined amounts to \$166.60 per credit hour) waived so long as the student completes 12 to 18 credit hours per semester. College-level or articulated career-technical credits earned in high school shall be counted against a credit maximum for this scholarship even if these credits do not apply to the college major. Including such credits earned in high school, scholarship funds are limited to 64 credit hours.

North Central State College has demonstrated the following:

- NCSC's Board of Trustees approved a resolution authorizing the tuition waiver at its meeting on May 22, 2019. A copy of the resolution is attached.
- Eligible students must be graduating students from NCSC's partnering high schools, or residing in a partner school jurisdiction, if they are home-schooled or online-schooled. Partner schools include standard and career-technical secondary institutions that have formal agreements for services with NCSC.

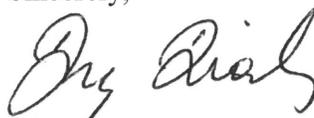
However, even without an agreement, districts within the following counties are also considered partners as new agreements are continually being executed: Ashland,

Crawford, Richland, Knox, Morrow, Marion, Wyandot, Seneca, Huron, Lorain, Medina, Wayne and Holmes.

- Scholarships will be awarded by the North Central State College Scholarship Committee consisting of NCSC staff who will evaluate the College Credit Plus transcripts of its high-school based students, as well as applications and transcripts for students with other potential applicable credit. The student must have earned at least nine college-level or articulated credits while in high school with a cumulative GPA of at least 2.75 in this coursework. Articulated credits are defined as career-technical high school coursework that can be transcribed toward a college credential by virtue of a bi-lateral agreement or a statewide Career-Technical Assurance Guide (CTAG).
- After initial entry, students must maintain successful NCSC full-time status (12-18 credit hours per semester) unless course availability or program requirements prevent them. They must also maintain a 2.75 cumulative GPA.
- The scholarship will only waive tuition (instructional fee of \$134.06 and general fee of \$32.54, which combined amounts to \$166.60 per credit hour); other applicable fees will still apply and be charged to the student.
- Any federal, state or private monies granted to the student based on need or talent intended to help pay tuition will be applied to the bill first.
- NCSC proposes that the waiver be in effect for academic year 2019-2020.
- The proposed waiver is anticipated to affect approximately 100 students per year in which the waiver is in effect.
- NCSC believes this waiver will give equal chance to all students throughout its service area to have access to affordable higher education opportunity. NCSC shall annually measure and report cohort progress toward credential completion and/or transfer to a university. It shall do so in the context of the state SSI formula measuring course completion, intermediate success milestones and credential completion/transfer.

Thank you for your consideration of NCSC's tuition waiver request. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Dr. Dorey Diab
President

Cc: via email to Sara Molski at smolski@highered.ohio.gov

**CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF NORTH CENTRAL STATE COLLEGE
“TUITION FREEDOM” SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM TO WAIVE TUITION FOR
STUDENTS SELECTED FOR THE PROGRAM**

R-2019-21

***WHEREAS**, North Central State College (NCSC) wishes to increase course and degree completions and to provide opportunities for qualified students to attend college full-time without financial barriers.*

***WHEREAS**, the administration has recommended the North Central State College “Tuition Freedom” Scholarship Program annually provide a tuition waiver covering tuition only (i.e. instructional and general fees) in an amount up to \$5,997.60 per year (up to 36 credit hours each year) to eligible graduating students from partnering high schools. Eligibility will be based on prior successful completion of at least nine College Credit Plus (CCP) credits at NCSC and/or Career Technical credits that articulate to NCSC and a 2.75 cumulative GPA. Including college or articulated credits completed during high school, the scholarship student shall be eligible for up to 64 total waived credit hours from NCSC.*

***WHEREAS**, under this scholarship model, NCSC anticipates approximately 100 entering students each academic year will have the opportunity to further their education.*

***WHEREAS**, any federal, state or private monies granted to the student based on need or talent intended to help pay tuition shall be applied to the bill first.*

***WHEREAS**, NCSC’s initial goals related to the “Tuition Freedom” scholarship program include the following: encouraging local students to aspire to academic excellence and workforce preparedness by completing a major certificate in one year or associate's degree in two years; and, encouraging local students to transition to the workforce or to a four-year college program.*

***WHEREAS**, the administration has recommended that the scholarship be awarded by the North Central State College Scholarship Committee consisting of NCSC staff. In determining eligibility, the Committee will evaluate CCP transcripts of its high-school based students, as well as applications and transcripts for students with other potential applicable credits. Students must maintain successful NCSC full-time status (12 to 18 hours) and have a 2.75 cumulative GPA to remain eligible for the scholarship. All students who meet the minimum qualifications will receive the waiver.*

***WHEREAS**, NCSC proposes that the duration of the tuition waiver for the scholarship program be academic year 2019-2020. NCSC shall annually review the academic and financial impacts of the scholarship to determine continuance or adjustment of the scholarship for future graduating high school cohorts.*

**CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF NORTH CENTRAL STATE COLLEGE
"TUITION FREEDOM" SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM TO WAIVE TUITION FOR
STUDENTS SELECTED FOR THE PROGRAM (CONTINUED)**

WHEREAS, the impact and success of this scholarship program will be reviewed annually.

WHEREAS, §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 the Ohio Board of Regents (the "Chancellor"), and on April 17, 2009, the Chancellor signed OBR Directive 2009-011 establishing procedures for institutions to follow when requesting to waive standard tuition rates.

WHEREAS, §381.170 of Am. Sub. H.B. 49 of the 132nd General Assembly continues the authority of the Chancellor for the current biennium.

WHEREAS, consistent with the procedures set forth in OBR Directive 2009-011 NCSC will submit a tuition waiver request to the Chancellor of Higher Education.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCSC Board of Trustees does hereby approve the NCSC "Tuition Freedom" Scholarship Program for the 2019-2020 academic year.

ROLL CALL – Aye: 9
Nay: 0

Certified by:

North Central State College
Board of Trustees
May 22, 2019

