



**DIRECTIVE 2019-044**

October 31, 2019

Re: CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST BY EASTERN GATEWAY COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO WAIVE STANDARD TUITION RATES FOR STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE UNION EDUCATION ACHIEVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM AND CONTINUE THE TUITION WAIVER TO OTHER STUDENTS AFFECTED BY THE GENERAL MOTORS LORDSTOWN PLANT CLOSURE.

§375.30.30 of Am. Sub. H.B. 119 of the 127<sup>th</sup> 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. Section §381.170 of Am. Sub. H.B. 166 of the 133<sup>rd</sup> 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, Eastern Gateway Community College (“EGCC”) has requested for academic years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021, and any 2021 summer term that begins prior to June 30, 2021 to continue to reduce standard tuition for students participating in the Union Education Achievement Grant Program (the “Grant”) and students affected by the General Motors Lordstown Plant Closure. EGCC will first apply any state and federal financial aid dollars and employer tuition reimbursements. Remaining tuition costs will be waived as described below up to \$3,200 per year for each eligible in-state student and up to \$5,800 for each eligible out of state student.

EGCC has demonstrated the following:

- EGCC’s Board of Trustees approved a resolution authorizing this tuition waiver at its meeting on May 13, 2019. A copy of the resolution is attached. The programs are described below.
  - Union Education Achievement Grant Program parameters and eligibility are as follows
    - a list of eligible unions will be developed by EGCC’s President and Chief Financial Officer. Eligibility will include union members in Ohio, members of national affiliates, whether public or private, including but not limited to, union members employed at the GM Lordstown plant such as the United Auto Workers. A full list of unions and national affiliates that are eligible to participate will be listed on EGCC’s website.

- Lordstown Plan Closure waivers parameters and eligibility are as the follows:
  - EGCC will establish guidelines and financial parameters for eligibility and participation and such guidelines and parameters will be posted on EGCC's website.
  - EGCC will also establish a screening and review committee to consider applicant eligibility for participation.
  - Eligible students are:
    - Employees who work(ed) at Lordstown;
    - Individuals who work at the auto supplier companies around Lordstown and their families;
    - Individuals who own or work at retail businesses or are service providers in the Lordstown area and their family members;
    - Non-union governmental employees who are impacted by the loss of tax dollars coming into the community.
  
- EGCC has submitted a specific request to provide up to a \$3,200.00/\$5,800.00 tuition waiver for each student participating in either program in each of the two academic years covered by this request. Tuition will be waived as follows:
  - Up to \$126 per credit hour of instructional and general fees will be waived for Jefferson County residents after other aid is applied first.
  - Up to \$131 per credit hour of instructional, general fees and out of county surcharge will be waived for Ohio residents\* who are not residents of Jefferson County after other aid is applied first. These students will be charged an out of county surcharge of \$1 per credit hour.
    - Standard tuition for these students is \$132/credit hour minus \$131 waived = \$1/credit hour.

\*Ohio resident includes an out of state student participating in this program that is receiving the in-state tuition rate under a tuition reciprocity agreement entered into pursuant to section 3333.17 of the Revised Code.
  
  - Up to \$238 per credit hour of instructional, general fees and out of county and out of state surcharges will be waived for nonresident students after other aid is applied first. These students will be charged an out of county rate of \$1 per credit hour and an out of state surcharge of \$1 per credit hour.
    - Standard total tuition for these students is \$240/credit hour minus \$238 waived = \$2/credit hour.

- Any increase in the out of state surcharge in any term or academic year will result in increasing the amount being waived by an equal amount such that the in-county, in-state students have the entire amount waived after other aid is applied first. The out of county, in state student have only \$1 out of county surcharge to pay after other aid is applied first, and the out of state students are assessed a \$1 out of county surcharge and an additional \$1 out of state surcharge after other aid is applied first.
- EGCC proposes that the duration of the waiver be academic years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021, and any 2021 summer term that begins prior to June 30, 2021.
- It is estimated that the proposed waiver will affect approximately 6,500 students each academic year.
- The goals of this tuition waiver are as follows:
  - Provide in-seat and distance learning educational opportunities for students impacted by the plant closure.
  - Increase student academic success and retention by eliminating any financial obstacles to success and working with state and local employers to create environments supportive of increased educational attainment.
    - In academic year 2018-2019, EGCC measured distance learning Ohio students receiving waivers to have a persistence rate of 73% and course completion rate of 78%. For our non-Ohio on-line students, the Spring student success percentage as measured by a grade of C or above was 76.9%.
- EGCC will measure the attainment of these goals by collecting data on academic success including completion, persistence and retention as well as career and salary advancement.

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. Several public comments in support were received.

Based upon my review of staff recommendations and public comments received, I hereby approve the tuition waiver request from Eastern Gateway Community College be granted for academic years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021, and any 2021 summer term that begins prior to June 30, 2021 as set forth above.

This directive will take immediate effect.



Randy Gardner  
Chancellor, Ohio Department of Higher Education

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## EASTERN GATEWAY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

At the May 13, 2019 meeting of the Board of Trustees of Eastern Gateway Community College, moved and seconded the motion that the Board adopt the following resolution for the Tuition Waiver Ohio Online Collaboration.

### **Resolution #2019 - 12**

**WHEREAS**, on April 10, 2018 and March 12, 2019 (amended) the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education approved a tuition waiver for Eastern Gateway Community College (the "College") for a free college benefit program, the **Ohio Public Service Union Education Achievement Grant (the "Achievement Grant")**, it established in conjunction with Ohio unions and their national affiliates to provide post-secondary degree opportunities for a diverse group of working men and women including policemen, firefighters, correctional service officers; whether public or private, including members of the area building trades unions to participate in the Achievement Grant. A full list of all Ohio unions and national affiliates who are eligible to participate will be listed on the College's website at [www.egcc.edu](http://www.egcc.edu); and

**WHEREAS**, the Achievement Grant leverages certain state and local government tuition reimbursement programs with federal Title IV Pell grants to insure that these opportunities can be afforded by all our citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, to fully implement and expand the Achievement Grant, the College needs to pursue a tuition waiver renewal from the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) for this population to continue in the Achievement Grant program in its current form for the new State of Ohio biennium beginning July 1, 2019; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees of Eastern Gateway Community College (the "Board") authorizes the College's Vice President for Academic Affairs and Chief Financial Officer to establish the guidelines and financial parameters for eligibility and participation the in Achievement Grant; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, to cover the cost of the tuition assistance portion of the Achievement Grant, the Board authorizes the College President to request the following tuition waivers from the Chancellor of the Ohio Department Higher Education effective for Fall semester 2019 through Summer semester 2021:

- **\$121 per credit hour will be waived for eligible students who are residents of Jefferson County. This is a complete waiver of tuition (instructional and general fees)**

- \$126 per credit hour will be waived for eligible students who are Ohio residents but not Jefferson County residents. These students will be charged \$1 per credit hour.
- \$233 per credit hour will be waived for eligible students who are not Ohio residents. These students will be charged \$2 per credit hour.
- Whatever tuition credit hour increases are included in the FY20-21 State Biennium Budget Bill – House Bill 166 - the above current tuition rates would be appropriately adjusted.

The maximum waiver will be \$2,750 per student per academic year for a projected 3,200 students.

The roll was called as follows:

Ayes: Mr. Lewis, Ms. Maguschak, Dr. Meredith, Mr. Coy, Ms. Dennison,  
Sr. McNicholas, Ms. Mastros, Ms. Mills, Mr. Nurczyk, Chair Gasior

This I certify as Board Liaison of the Eastern Gateway Community College District as adopted by motion of the Board this 13<sup>th</sup> day of May 2019.

  
Georgette M. Kamarados, Board Liaison  
Eastern Gateway Community College District

Moved: Mr. Lewis  
Second: Ms. Maguschak

Roll Call:  
Ayes: 10  
Nays: 0  
Abstain: 0  
Carried: Yes or No