DIRECTIVE 2020-043

August 10, 2020

CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST BY WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY TO REDUCE THE NON-RESIDENT GRADUATE SURCHARGE FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS WHO HAVE COMPLETED AN UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE IN OHIO FROM AN OHIO INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR THE 2020-2021 ACADEMIC SCHOOL YEAR.

§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, Wright State University (“WSU”) requests to reduce the non-resident graduate surcharge by ninety-nine percent for non-resident graduate students who have completed a bachelor’s degree in Ohio from an Ohio institution. This request applies to non-resident students who apply for graduate programs, except for the M.D. and Psy. D. programs.

WSU has demonstrated the following:

- WSU’s Board of Trustees approved a resolution authorizing this tuition waiver at its meeting on June 19, 2020. A copy of the signed resolution is attached.

- WSU has submitted a specific request to reduce the non-resident surcharge to $4.65 per credit hour for students who have completed a bachelor's degree in Ohio from an Ohio institution and enroll in a graduate program at WSU. This waiver does not include M.D. and Psy. D. programs.
The specific amount being waived per credit hour may change depending on WSU’s tuition rates, but in any event, the 99% reduction in the non-resident surcharge per credit hour for the state surcharge to nonresidents is applicable.

- WSU proposes that the duration of the waiver be for academic year 2020-2021, starting with fall session 2020 and including all summer sessions beginning before June 30, 2021.

- It is estimated that the proposed reduction will affect 30 students based on enrollments over the past two years.

- The goals of this tuition waiver are to encourage non-resident graduates of Ohio undergraduate programs to apply for graduate programs at Wright State University. WSU will monitor enrollment and graduation rates of students in this program with the goal of increasing the enrollment and graduate rates annually of this eligible group.

- WSU will measure the attainment of these goals by collecting the following data:
  - Annual enrollment of non-resident students with a bachelor’s degree from an Ohio college or university in the eligible graduate programs.
  - Retention of non-resident students with a bachelor’s degree from an Ohio college or university in graduate programs except for the M.D. and Psy. D. programs.
  - Graduation rates of non-resident students with a bachelor’s degree from an Ohio college or university in the eligible graduate programs.

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, I hereby approve the tuition waiver request from Wright State University be granted for academic year 2020-2021, and any summer term that begins prior to June 30, 2021, as set forth above.

This directive will take immediate effect.

Randy Gardner
Chancellor
In-State WSU Graduate Tuition for OH Bachelor’s Graduates

RESOLUTION 20-

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Ohio and the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education have asked colleges and universities to adopt policies to provide in-state tuition rates to graduate students who received their bachelor’s degrees in Ohio; and

WHEREAS, a reduction in the current nonresident surcharge will help to attract and retain graduate students in the State of Ohio and contribute to the State’s economic future; and

WHEREAS, §381.170 of Am. Sub. House Bill 166 of the 133rd General Assembly requires 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; and

WHEREAS, Wright State University has determined that all of its graduate programs, excluding the professional degrees of the M.D and Psy.D., are suited to satisfy the Governor’s and Chancellor’s request; and

WHEREAS, the University desires to request a fee reduction of 99% of the non-Ohio-resident surcharge for graduate students who completed their bachelor’s degrees in Ohio and are enrolled in the eligible graduate programs, a group that has included an average of 30 students per semester over the past three years; and

WHEREAS, the University in 2020-2021 charges a $465 per-credit-hour surcharge for non-Ohio-resident students in graduate programs, meaning a 99% reduction would result in an adjusted per-credit-hour surcharge of $4.65; and

WHEREAS, Wright State University is requesting the non-Ohio-resident surcharge reduction for graduate students who completed their bachelor’s degrees in Ohio be approved beginning in the Fall 2020 semester, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that, beginning Fall 2020, the Board of Trustees of Wright State University authorizes the administration to offer a 99% reduction of the non-Ohio-resident surcharge (currently from $465 per credit hour to $4.65 per credit hour) to non-Ohio-resident students who completed their bachelor’s degrees in Ohio and are enrolled in the eligible graduate programs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the administration will seek prior approval from the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education for the associated fee waiver, as required by law.

Shari Mickey-Boggs
Secretary to the Board of Trustees

Date 6/19/20