DIRECTIVE 2020-056

November 2, 2020

Re: CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST BY KENT STATE UNIVERSITY TO CONTINUE TO WAIVE STANDARD TUITION RATES REDUCING THE NON-RESIDENT SURCHARGE FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE PROGRAM TO $10 PER CREDIT HOUR.

§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 the biennium.

Pursuant to §381.170 of Am. Sub. H.B. 166 of the 133rd as well as Directive 2009-011, Kent State University (“KSU”) has requested that the non-resident surcharge be reduced to $10 for students enrolled in the English as a Second Language program.

KSU has demonstrated the following:

- KSU’s Board of Trustees approved a resolution authorizing this tuition waiver at its meeting on May 9, 2019. A copy of the resolution is attached.

- KSU has submitted a specific request to reduce the non-resident surcharge to $10 per credit hour for students enrolled in the English as a Second Language (ESL) program. This is a reduction of $360 from the current undergraduate per credit hour surcharge rate.

- The specific per-credit hour amount being waived may change depending on KSU’s tuition rates, but in any event, $10 per credit hour for the non-resident surcharge is applicable. And in the event of a tuition increase, the amount waived will increase accordingly, such that the surcharge will remain $10 per credit hour.

- KSU proposes that the duration of the continued waiver be for academic years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021, including all summer terms beginning prior to June 30, 2021.

- It is estimated that the proposed waiver will affect approximately 200 students each semester. This amount was found by looking at currently eligible students. Also, in fall 2014, 538 students were eligible, and in fall 2018, 160 students were eligible.
The goal of this tuition waiver is to maintain current enrollment in this program for the biennium.

- The goal of the previous waiver was the same. The goal of the waiver was not met as enrollment declined by half. However, KSU seeks to continue the waiver to encourage students into the program.

- KSU will measure the attainment of this goal by tracking student enrollment in the program.

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 Kent State University which allows KSU for academic years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021, including all summer terms beginning prior to June 30, 2021, to reduce the non-resident surcharge for students enrolled in the English as a Second Language program as set forth above.

This directive will take immediate effect.

Randy Gardner
Chancellor
KENT STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
May 9, 2019

Resolution 2019-19

APPROVAL OF SPECIAL SURCHARGE RATES FOR NON-OHIO RESIDENTS

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees is responsible for approving fees for instruction and other education services; and

WHEREAS, reductions from instructional and general fees, as well as out-of-state surcharge rates are allowable if approved by the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education; and

WHEREAS, Kent State University currently has three approved reductions in the regular out-of-state surcharge assessed to non-Ohio residents described below and set to expire at the end of this fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, an 80% waiver of the out-of-state surcharge rate currently applies for students attending regional campuses from specific counties in Pennsylvania and West Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the university currently applies a reduced special fee of $10 per credit hour for non-Ohio residents enrolled in fully online programs; and

WHEREAS, a special reduced fee of $10 per credit hour for non-Ohio residents currently enrolled in the English as a Second Language program is applied; and

WHEREAS, the university has reviewed the enrollment impact of the special rates and recommends that they be continued; and

WHEREAS, Kent State University proposes to add a waiver of the out-of-state surcharge, not to exceed 97.5%, for students who have completed the two-year dual enrollment program with PUCPR and now wish to complete a bachelor's degree at Kent State University; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent State University Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the continuation of the three out-of-state surcharge rates as noted above and the addition of an out-of-state surcharge rate for students completing the dual-enrollment program through the American Academy in Brazil through Spring Semester 2021 and any summer terms that begin prior to June 30, 2021, subject to any required approvals from the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education.

Adopted May 9, 2019, at Kent State University by its Board of Trustees present this date:

Virginia Addicott  Todd Davidson  Donald Mason  Michael Solomon (non-voting trustee)
Margot Copeland  Robert Frost  Stephen Perry  Catherine Ross (non-voting trustee)
Ralph Della Ratta  Robin Kilbride  Shawn Riley  Jessica Peck (non-voting trustee)

Nick Kollar (non-voting trustee)

Dr. Charlene K. Reed
Vice President and University Secretary