



Board of Regents

University System of Ohio

John R. Kasich, Governor

John Carey, Chancellor

DIRECTIVE-016

Re: CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST BY THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON TO REDUCE NON-RESIDENT SURCHARGE FOR NON-OHIO RESIDENTS ENROLLED IN ONLINE COURSES.

§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. On April 17, 2009, the Chancellor signed Directive 2009-011 establishing procedures for institutions to follow when requesting to waive standard tuition rates. §363.230 of Am. Sub. H.B. 59 of the 130th General Assembly continues the authority of the Chancellor until June 30, 2015.

Pursuant to the continued authority in §363.230 of Am. Sub. H.B. 59 and Directive 2009-011, The University of Akron has requested that for academic year 2014-2015 the non-Ohio resident surcharge be reduced for students who are enrolled in online classes to \$1 per credit hour. The University has demonstrated the following:

- The University's Board of Trustees approved a resolution authorizing the tuition waiver at its meeting on June 11, 2014. A copy of the resolution is attached.
- The University has submitted a specific request to reduce the non-Ohio resident surcharge for students enrolled in online courses to \$1 per credit hour.
- The University proposes that the tuition waiver become effective beginning with the 2014 Fall semester and continue through Spring 2015 and any Summer 2015 term that begins prior to June 30, 2015.
- The proposed waiver is anticipated to affect approximately 500 student per year in which the waiver is in effect.
- The University's goal is to expand its online offerings with the expectation that enrollments will increase and complement traditional enrollments, rather than replace them. The current non-resident surcharge can be a major deterrent to increasing

online enrollments in unique programs that the University has created. Thus, reducing that surcharge is expected to increase non-resident enrollment in online courses and generate positive net revenue.

- The University will track enrollment of non-resident students in online courses and compare any changes with current enrollment patterns. The University will review enrollment data to see whether the increase in enrollment offsets the loss of revenue currently generated by the non-resident surcharge paid for online courses. The waiver policy will be re-evaluated if it is deemed to have a negative fiscal impact on tuition revenue.

Agency staff reviewed the request and posted its recommendations to the Regents' 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 of staff recommendations, I hereby approve the tuition waiver request from The University of Akron to reduce the non-Ohio resident surcharge to \$1 per credit hour for academic year 2014-2015 for students who are enrolled in online courses.

This Directive will take immediate effect.



John Carey
Chancellor, Ohio Board of Regents

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