

Board Meeting
January 21, 2016

APPROVE TUITION RATES, ACADEMIC YEAR 2016-17

Action: Approve Tuition Rates for Academic Year 2016-17

Funding: No New Funding Required

Tuition adjustments are meant to aid in sustaining the high quality of the education provided to students, but must also recognize the increasing financial pressures facing many students and their families. In consideration of tuition recommendations for the next academic year, the University is recognizing the current fiscal realities while at the same time protecting affordability and upholding academic quality for students. Concurrent with the recommended tuition changes, as per the revised Board policy, the University may allocate additional funds to need-based student aid. Currently, more than one-half of all University of Illinois undergraduate students receive some form of need- or merit-based aid. In November the Board reviewed tuition and affordability at the Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting.

Following extensive reviews and recommendations from the Chancellors/Vice Presidents and Provosts at each campus, and with the concurrence of the Vice President for Academic Affairs and the Vice President/Chief Financial Officer,

all of whom expressed strong concerns about college affordability for Illinois residents and the University's competitive position for students, the President recommends that there be no change in the general tuition rate for Illinois resident undergraduate students admitted to the fall 2016 class. These tuition rates apply to students who will be enrolling for the first time in the general undergraduate degree programs, and will not increase for four years for these students to comply with the tuition guarantee mandate found in Section 25 of the *University of Illinois Act*, 110 ILCS 305/25, which ensures that an incoming student will pay a fixed tuition rate for four years. Thus, continuing undergraduate students will be covered by the guaranteed tuition policy and will be subject to tuition charges appropriate for their cohort of matriculation. This does not include selected undergraduate differential tuition rates, graduate rates, or non-resident rates. The new tuition rates for Academic Year 2016-17 apply to the cohort of undergraduate students who enter in May of 2016 or after.

Non-resident rates at UIC will include the following: (1) the general rate for non-resident domestic students, to which there will be no adjustment; (2) a new UIC Grant Rate effective for fall 2016, which will be 50 percent higher than the Illinois resident rate, and which will be targeted toward high-achieving non-resident domestic students who meet specific merit standards; and (3) an increase of \$1,000 in the base rate for non-resident international students. The Urbana campus will increase the general rate for non-residents by 1.7 percent, with special increases to the Engineering and Business international rates. There will be no adjustment to the UIS non-resident tuition rates.

The President also recommends tuition increases for several specific programs at the graduate and professional levels and full cost recovery programs, as well as undergraduate tuition differentials in applicable curricula. All resident tuition recommendations are summarized in the attached tables.

The recommendation that there be no change in the general tuition rate for Illinois resident undergraduate students comes at a time when the State budget stalemate requires the University to operate nearly seven months into fiscal year 2016 without a State appropriation. This tuition freeze, along with the modest increases that are being recommended for certain non-resident students and for certain graduate and professional programs, demonstrates the unequivocal commitment of the University to affordability and access for students from Illinois families.

The Board action recommended in this item complies in all material respects with applicable State and federal laws, University of Illinois *Statutes*, *The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*, and Board of Trustees policies and directives.